



Fourteenth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN
THE AGENDA OF THE FOURTEENTH REGULAR SESSION: ITEM
PROPOSED BY THE FEDERATION OF MALAYA AND IRELAND

THE QUESTION OF TIBET

Letter dated 28 September 1959 from the Permanent
Representatives of the Federation of Malaya and Ireland
to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-
General

On the instructions of our Governments we have the honour to propose, under rule 15 of the rules of procedure, the inclusion in the agenda of the fourteenth regular session of the General Assembly of the following item:

"The Question of Tibet".

An explanatory memorandum as required by rule 20 of the rules of procedure is attached.

(Signed) Dato Nik Ahmed KAMIL
Permanent Representative of the
Federation of Malaya

(Signed) Frederick H. BOLAND
Permanent Representative of Ireland

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Governments requesting the inscription of this item are convinced that under the Charter the United Nations cannot ignore the present situation in Tibet, as described in reliable and consistent reports over a long period culminating in the official statements of the Dalai Lama dated 18 April, 22 April and 20 June 1959, and his appeal to this Organization of 9 September 1959. After study of the material available, the conclusion is inescapable that there exists prima facie evidence of an attempt to destroy the traditional way of life of the Tibetan people and the religious and cultural autonomy long recognized to belong to them, as well as a systematic disregard for the human rights and fundamental freedoms set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In such circumstances, the United Nations has both a moral obligation and a legal right to discuss the situation.

The Governments concerned further consider that this Assembly has a duty to call for the restoration of the religious and civil liberties of the people of Tibet.

To these ends the inscription is requested on the agenda of the General Assembly at this fourteenth session of an item to be entitled "The Question of Tibet".
