



Ninth session
Agenda item 62

APPLICATION, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, OF THE
PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL RIGHTS AND SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES
IN THE CASE OF THE POPULATION OF THE ISLAND OF CYPRUS

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Oscar THORSING (Sweden)

1. By a letter dated 16 August 1954 to the Secretary-General (A/2703) the President of the Council of Ministers of Greece requested that the item entitled "Application, under the auspices of the United Nations, of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples in the case of the population of the Island of Cyprus" should be included in the agenda of the ninth session of the General Assembly.
2. The General Assembly, at its 478th plenary meeting on 25 September 1954, on the recommendation of the General Committee (A/2733), decided to include this question in its agenda, and referred it to the First Committee.
3. The First Committee considered the question at its 749th to 752nd meetings inclusive, on 14 and 15 December 1954.
4. At the 749th meeting on 14 December the First Committee had before it a draft resolution submitted by Greece (A/C.1/L.124) whereby, inter alia, the General Assembly would express the wish that the principle of self-determination be applied in the case of the population of the Island of Cyprus.
5. On a point of order, the representative of New Zealand introduced a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.125) whereby the General Assembly would decide not to consider further the item entitled "Application, under the auspices of the United Nations, of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples in the case of

the population of the Island of Cyprus". He requested, and the First Committee decided, by 28 votes to 15, with 16 abstentions, that the New Zealand draft resolution would have priority in the discussion and in the vote over the draft resolution of Greece.

6. At the 752nd meeting on 15 December 1954 the representative of El Salvador, on behalf of Colombia and El Salvador, introduced an amendment (A/C.1/L.126) to the New Zealand draft resolution whereby, after the words "The General Assembly", a paragraph would be inserted as a preamble, reading as follows: "Considering that, for the time being, it does not appear appropriate to adopt a resolution on the question of Cyprus". The representative of New Zealand accepted this amendment on the understanding that the draft resolution would not be amended further. At the same meeting the representative of the Philippines proposed, and subsequently withdrew, an amendment (A/C.1/L.127) whereby a first introductory paragraph would be inserted in the proposed preamble to the New Zealand draft resolution which would read as follows: "Having in mind the principles and purposes of the Charter".

7. At the same meeting the Committee voted on the draft resolution of New Zealand, as amended, as follows:

- (1) The preamble was put to the vote by roll-call and was approved by 44 votes to none, with 16 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Syria, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Yemen.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chile, Czechoslovakia, France, Luxembourg, Poland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of South Africa, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Yugoslavia.

- (2) The operative part of the resolution was adopted by 49 votes to none, with 11 abstentions.
- (3) The draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was approved by 49 to none, with 11 abstentions.

3. The First Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

APPLICATION, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS,
OF THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL RIGHTS AND SELF-DETERMINATION
OF PEOPLES IN THE CASE OF THE POPULATION OF THE ISLAND
OF CYPRUS

The General Assembly,

Considering that, for the time being, it does not appear appropriate to adopt a resolution on the question of Cyprus,

Decides not to consider further the item entitled "Application, under the auspices of the United Nations, of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples in the case of the population of the Island of Cyprus".
