



Sixth session
Agenda item 18

Dual Distribution

METHODS WHICH MIGHT BE USED TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN
INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER: REPORT OF THE
COLLECTIVE MEASURES COMMITTEE

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Thor THORS (Iceland)

1. By its resolution 377A (V) of 3 November 1950 on "Uniting for peace", the General Assembly established a Collective Measures Committee composed of Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Egypt, France, Mexico, the Philippines, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. The Committee was directed to study and make a report to the Security Council and to the General Assembly at its sixth session on methods which might be used to maintain and strengthen international peace and security in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter, taking account of collective self-defence and regional arrangements (Articles 51 and 52 of the Charter).
2. The Committee stated in the introduction to the report it submitted in accordance with this mandate^{1/} that the studies of the Committee had been concentrated on the preparedness of States and on techniques, machinery and procedures relating to the co-ordination of national and international action in regard to collective measures. The Committee recommended, among its conclusions, that further study was needed in regard both to economic and financial and to military collective measures in order to carry out its task.
3. The report included among its annexes a tabular summary of replies received from a number of Member States in response to the invitation, contained in part C of the "Uniting for peace" resolution, that Member States should inform the Collective Measures Committee of the measures taken in order to arrange for the maintenance of elements within their national armed forces for service as a

^{1/} A/1891, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth session, supplement No. 13.

United Nations unit or units. Likewise annexed to the report was a study adopted by the Committee regarding the nature and general functions of the panel of military experts provided for in the "Uniting for peace" resolution.

4. The General Assembly, at its 342nd meeting on 13 November 1951 decided to include the report of the Collective Measures Committee in its agenda and referred it for consideration and report to the First Committee under the title "Methods which might be used to maintain and strengthen international peace and security in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter: report of the Collective Measures Committee".

5. The report was introduced in the First Committee by the Chairman of the Collective Measures Committee, Mr. Muniz (Brazil), at the 462nd meeting on 3 December 1951. The First Committee discussed the item at its 477th to 486th meetings inclusive, from 3 to 9 January 1952.

6. The following draft resolutions were submitted:

(a) A draft resolution circulated at the 462nd meetings, sponsored by Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, the Philippines, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia (A/C.1/676) which (1) took note of the report of the Collective Measures Committee and approved its conclusions; (2) recommended to Member States that they (a) take the necessary action to maintain in their national armed forces elements for service as United Nations units; (b) take the necessary steps in accordance with their constitutional processes to provide assistance and facilities for United Nations forces engaged in collective measures; (c) examine their legislation and administrative regulations to ensure that they promptly and effectively can carry out collective measures in accordance with their constitutional processes; (d) continue to survey their resources as provided for in paragraph 7 of resolution 377 (V); (e) seek, in addition to their individual participation in the collective security system of the United Nations, within such international bodies or arrangements to which they belong, to obtain maximum support for United Nations collective measures; (3) invited non-Member States to consider by which means they can contribute effectively to collective measures undertaken by the United Nations; (4) requested the Secretary-General to appoint the members of the panel of military experts (paragraph 10 of resolution 377 (V)) as soon as possible; and (5) directed the Collective Measures Committee to continue its studies for another year and report thereon to the Security Council and to the General Assembly at its seventh session.

(b) A draft resolution submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/C.1/688) at the 478th meeting, according to which the General Assembly would decide to abolish the Collective Measures Committee and recommend the Security Council to call without delay a periodic meeting under Article 28 of the Charter to consider measures to remove the present international tension and to examine in the first place the measures which the Security Council should take to help to bring the armistice negotiations in Korea to a successful conclusion.

7. The following amendments were presented to the joint eleven-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/676):

(a) By Colombia, Chile and Mexico (A/C.1/689) at the 479th meeting (i) to re-phrase the eighth paragraph of the preamble regarding the importance of regional and collective self-defence arrangements; (ii) to re-phrase the first operative paragraph so that the General Assembly would take note of, instead of approve, the conclusions in the report of the Collective Measures Committee; (iii) to add words to paragraphs 3 and 4 to the effect that the contributions of Members should be without prejudice to their internal security and within what in their judgment was their capacity; (iv) to re-phrase the fourth operative paragraph, recommending the Member States to determine, in the light of their legislation, appropriate steps for carrying out effectively United Nations collective measures in accordance with their constitutional rules.

(b) By Afghanistan, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Yemen (A/C.1/690) at the 480th meeting to add a paragraph to the operative part, recognizing that nothing in the resolution should be construed to permit any measures to be taken in any State without its consent.

(c) By Chile and Colombia (A/C.1/692) at the 481st meeting to re-phrase the sixth operative paragraph, inter alia deleting the words "in addition to their individual participation in the collective security system of the United Nations".

8. At the 481st meeting, the sponsors of the eleven-Power resolution submitted a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/676 Rev. 1) largely incorporating the amendments submitted by Chile, Colombia and Mexico (A/C.1/689) and the one submitted by Afghanistan and several other countries (A/C.1/690). At the 484th meeting, the same sponsors submitted a new phrasing of the sixth operative paragraph regarding the supporting action of United Nations Members within other international bodies and arrangements (A/C.1/694). This new drafting was replaced at the 485th meeting by a revised draft (A/C.1/694 Rev. 1).

9. An amendment was submitted to the revised joint eleven-Power draft resolution by Guatemala (A/C.1/695) at the 484th meeting, to insert in the second operative paragraph words to the effect that Member States should maintain special United Nations elements within their own forces only to the extent to which, in their judgement, their capacity would permit them.
10. The following amendments were submitted to the draft resolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/C.1/688):
- (a) By Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen (A/C.1/691) at the 480th meeting, to delete the first paragraph abolishing the Collective Measures Committee.
- (b) By Brazil, France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America (A/C.1/693) at the 484th meeting, to delete the words "without delay" in the paragraph recommending the Security Council to call a periodic meeting under Article 28 of the Charter, and to insert words to the effect that the meeting should be called when it would usefully serve to remove international tension. The amendment would also delete the last part of the Soviet draft resolution, referring to the armistice negotiations in Korea.
11. At the 485th meeting, the respective sponsors agreed, in view of the revision of the eleven-Power draft resolution, that the amendment submitted by Afghanistan and several other countries (A/C.1/690) and that submitted by Colombia, Chile and Mexico (A/C.1/689) except the first and last points, should be considered withdrawn. The sponsors of this amendment (A/C.1/689) further accepted a United States proposal that the last words in the amendment should be "constitutional processes" instead of "constitutional rules".
12. At the conclusion of the discussion at the 485th meeting, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics proposed that precedence in the voting be given to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics draft resolution (A/C.1/688) and amendments thereto: The Committee rejected this proposal by 41 votes to 6 with 12 abstentions.
13. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics then submitted the first operative paragraph of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics draft resolution (A/C.1/688), abolishing the Collective Measures Committee, as an amendment to replace the eleven-Power draft resolution.
14. The Committee first proceeded to vote on this amendment, which was rejected by 52 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.
15. The Committee then proceeded to vote on the revised eleven-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/676/Rev.1), with the following result:

/PREAMBLE

PREAMBLE

The Amendment of Chile, Colombia and Mexico to the eighth paragraph (A/C.1/689), point 1 was rejected by 24 votes to 13, with 17 abstentions.
The eighth paragraph was adopted by 44 votes to 9, with 2 abstentions.
The first paragraph was adopted by 52 votes to none with 6 abstentions.
The remaining paragraphs were adopted by 52 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.

OPERATIVE PART

Paragraph 1 was adopted by 52 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.
The Guatemalan amendment to paragraph 2 (A/C.1/695) was adopted by 33 votes to 7, with 18 abstentions.
Paragraph 2, as amended, was adopted by 46 votes to 5, with 7 abstentions.
Paragraph 3 was adopted by 49 votes to 5, with 4 abstentions.
The amendment of Chile, Colombia and Mexico to paragraph 4 (A/C.1/689, point 5) was adopted by 39 votes to 5, with 13 abstentions.
Paragraph 5 was adopted by 51 votes to 6, with 2 abstentions.
The amendment of Chile and Colombia to paragraph 6 (A/C.1/692) was rejected by 34 votes to 6, with 17 abstentions.
Paragraph 6 (A/C.1/694/Rev.1) was adopted by 49 votes to 8, with 2 abstentions.
Paragraph 7 was adopted by 52 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.
Paragraph 8 was adopted with 49 votes to 5, with 5 abstentions.
Paragraph 9 was adopted with 53 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.
Paragraph 10 was adopted by 53 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.
The eleven-Power draft resolution as a whole, as amended was adopted by 51 votes to 5, with 3 abstentions.

16. At the 486th meeting, the Committee proceeded to vote on the Soviet draft resolution (A/C.1/688) and amendments thereto, with the following results:

The preamble was adopted by 43 votes to none, with 13 abstentions.
The amendment of Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia Syria and Yemen (A/C.1/691) to delete paragraph 1 of the operative part was considered voted on by the vote on the Soviet amendment to the eleven-Power resolution at the previous meeting, which was rejected by 52 votes to 5 with 2 abstentions.

The first paragraph of the amendment of Brazil, France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America (A/C.1/693) was

/adopted

adopted by 32 votes to 6 with 18 abstentions.

The second paragraph of the same amendment was adopted by 33 votes to 7, with 16 abstentions.

The first part of the second operative paragraph, as amended, was adopted by 43 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions.

The third paragraph of the amendment of Brazil, France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America was adopted by 40 votes to 6, with 11 abstentions.

The Soviet resolution as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 50 votes to none, with 8 abstentions.

17. The First Committee, consequently, recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following two resolutions:

METHODS WHICH MIGHT BE USED TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL
PEACE AND SECURITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PURPOSES AND
PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER

A

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that it is one of the foremost Purposes of the United Nations to "take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace",

Recognizing that the establishment of an effective collective security system is in harmony with other United Nations Purposes and Principles as embodied in the Charter, in particular those relating to the pacific settlement of disputes, which must be fulfilled if an enduring peace is to be secured,

Reaffirming its desire, as expressed in its resolution 377 (V) entitled "Uniting for peace", to ensure that the United Nations has at its disposal means for maintaining international peace and security pending the conclusion of agreements provided for in Article 43 of the Charter,

Recognizing that the ability and readiness of States to contribute armed forces and other assistance and facilities in support of United Nations collective action are essential to an effective security system,

Having received the report of the Collective Measures Committee rendered in accordance with paragraph 11 of resolution 377 (V),

/Noting

Noting the responses from Member States to its recommendation contained in that resolution that they maintain elements within their national armed forces which could be made available for United Nations service,

Convinced, moreover, that additional action should be taken by States and further study undertaken by the United Nations for the establishment of an effective system of collective security under the authority of the United Nations,

Recognizing that regional and collective self-defence arrangements concluded in accordance with the terms of the Charter can and should constitute an important contribution to the universal collective security system of the United Nations,

Recognizing that United Nations collective action, to be most effective, should be as nearly universal as possible and that in the event of need States not Members of the United Nations should unite their strength with that of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter,

1. Takes note of the report of the Collective Measures Committee and of its conclusions and expresses its appreciation of the Committee's constructive work for the study of collective security;

2. Recommends to Member States that, in accordance with paragraph 8 of resolution 377 (V), each take such further action as is necessary to maintain within its national armed forces elements so trained, organized and equipped that they could promptly be made available, in accordance with its constitutional processes and to the extent to which in its judgment its capacity permits it to do so, for service as a United Nations unit or units without prejudice to the use of such elements in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence recognized in Article 51 of the Charter and without prejudice likewise to internal security;

3. Recommends to Member States that they take such steps as are necessary to enable them in accordance with their constitutional processes and to the extent to which in their judgement, their capacity permits them to do so, to provide assistance and facilities to United Nations armed forces engaged in collective military measures undertaken by the Security Council or the General Assembly;

4. Recommends to Member States that they determine, in the light of their existing legislation, the appropriate steps for carrying out promptly and effectively United Nations collective measures in accordance with their constitutional processes;

/5. Recommends

5. Recommends to Member States that they continue the survey of their resources provided for in paragraph 7 of resolution 377 (V);

6. Recommends to Members of the United Nations which belong to other international bodies, or which are parties to international arrangements concluded in accordance with the Charter, that, in addition to their individual participation in the collective security system of the United Nations, they seek to obtain, when appropriate, in and through such bodies and arrangements within the constitutional limitations and the other provisions of those bodies and arrangements, all possible support for collective measures undertaken by the United Nations.

7. Invites States not members of the United Nations to take note of the report of the Collective Measures Committee and consider ways and means, in the economic as well as in other fields, whereby they could contribute most effectively to collective measures undertaken by the United Nations in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to appoint as soon as possible the members of the panel of Military experts provided for in paragraph 10 of resolution 377 (V), to the end that they can be made available on request to States wishing to obtain technical advice regarding the training, organization and equipment of the United Nations units referred to in paragraph 2 above;

9. Directs the Collective Measures Committee, in consultation with the Secretary-General and with such States as the Committee finds appropriate, to continue for another year its studies on methods which might be used to maintain and strengthen international peace and security in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter, taking account of both regional and collective self-defence arrangements, and to report thereon to the Security Council and to the General Assembly before the seventh session of the General Assembly;

10. Recognizes that nothing in the present resolution shall be construed to permit any measures to be taken in any State without the free and express consent of that State.

B

The General Assembly,

Considering that a basic task of the United Nations is to secure and strengthen international peace and security, and bearing in mind that under the Charter the main responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security has been conferred on the Security Council,

Recommends that the Security Council, in accordance with Article 28 of the Charter, should convene a periodic meeting to consider what measures might ensure the removal of the tension at present existing in international relations and the establishment of friendly relations between countries whenever such a meeting would usefully serve to remove such tension and establish such friendly relations in furtherance of the Purposes and Principles of the Charter.
