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COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS
Fifteenth session, 19 March 1956
New York

ASSESSMENT OF THE NEW MEMBER STATES
FOR THE YEAR OF ADMISSION

Communications received from Member States

In connexion with the assessment of the new Member States for the year 1955, the annexed communications addressed to the Controller of the United Nations by the Missions of Austria, Italy and Spain to the United Nations are submitted to the Committee on Contributions for consideration.

LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE CONTROLLER OF THE UNITED NATIONS
BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AUSTRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

"New York, March 8, 1956

Sir,

With reference to your letter FI 313/1(1) of February 15th, 1956, concerning the next session of the Committee on Contributions (March 19th) for making recommendations to the General Assembly on contributions to be assessed to new Members admitted to the United Nations on December 14th, 1955, I have the honour to submit for the consideration of the Committee on Contributions the following:

(1) Art.V, 8 of the Financial Regulations provides that new Members shall be required to make a contribution for the year in which they become Members and by Resolution of the General Assembly 69 (I) par.4 of December 14, 1946, it was decided that new Members be required to contribute to the annual budget of the year in which they are admitted, at least one third of their percentage of the assessment determined for the following year, applied to the budget for the year of their admission.

These provisos were made assuming that new Members are admitted at the beginning of a regular session of the General Assembly normally convened for the third Tuesday in September, so that these States would be Members for about one third of the year of their admission.

(2) Thailand became a Member by Resolution of the General Assembly 101 (1) of December 16th, 1946 and the General Assembly decided on November 15, 1947 (Resolution 151 (III)) upon recommendation of the Committee on Contributions that no assessment had to be levied on Thailand for the year 1946 because Thailand became a Member only on December 16, 1946, and did not participate in that session of the General Assembly, and because the United Nations was not called upon to contribute to the travelling expenses of the Thailand Delegation.

(3) Israel became a Member by Resolution of the General Assembly 273 (III) on May 11th, 1949, and by Resolution 343 (IV) par.3 the General Assembly decided on October 20th, 1949, that Israel shall contribute for the first year of membership seven twelfths of her percentage assessment for 1950 applied to the budget for 1949. Therefore Israel had to pay a contribution only beginning from the month following her admission.

I trust that, guided by these aforementioned precedents, the Committee on Contributions will proceed to submit a similar recommendation to the General Assembly as far as a contribution to be assessed to Austria for 1955 is concerned.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed) Dr. F. Matsch"

LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE CONTROLLER OF THE UNITED NATIONS
BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS

"New York, 9 March 1956

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your letter FI.313/1(1) of February 15, 1956, informing me that the Committee on Contributions will meet on March 19, 1956, to consider recommendations to the General Assembly on the contributions to be assessed to new Members admitted to the United Nations on December 14, 1955.

In this connexion, I am now writing to submit to the Committee on Contributions the following considerations:

1. - Financial regulations, article V.8, provides that new Members shall be required to make a contribution for the year in which they become Members. By resolution 69 (1), par.4 of December 14, 1946, it is further determined that new Members should be required to contribute to the annual budget of the year in which they are first admitted, at least $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of their percentage of assessment determined for the following year, applied to the budget for the year of their admission.

2. - In applying the foregoing directions to Thailand, the Committee on Contributions, in its report to the Third General Assembly, recommended that, in view of the fact that Thailand became a Member of the United Nations on December 16, 1946, and did not participate in the session of the General Assembly and that the United Nations was not called upon to contribute to the travelling expenses of the Thailand delegation, no assessment had to be levied on Thailand for the year 1946;

3. - The Third General Assembly, by its Resolution 151 (III) of November 15, 1947, approved the above said recommendation of the Committee on Contributions;

4. - It is felt therefore that a principle has been established, whereby Resolution 69 (1) should not apply in the case of a new member admitted to the United Nations at the very end of the financial year. This is also borne out by the decision taken in connexion with the admission of Israel, which took place in May 1949. I understand that in this case, the contribution was assessed on the proportionate basis of the months of actual membership during that year. I trust that the above considerations will be kept in mind by the Committee on Contributions in making its recommendations to the General Assembly on the contribution to be assessed to Italy.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed) (Alberico A. Casardi)"

LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE CONTROLLER OF THE UNITED NATIONS
BY THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SPAIN TO
THE UNITED NATIONS

"New York, 6 March 1956

Sir,

In reply to your communication FI 311(1) of 12 January 1956, I have the honour to state that I have been instructed by my Government to inform you as follows:

1. The Financial Regulations of the United Nations provide, in article 5.8, that new Members shall be required to make a contribution for the year in which they become Members. Resolution 69 (I) of 14 December 1946, paragraph 4, provides that new Members be required to contribute to the annual budget of the year in which they are first admitted at least $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of their percentage of assessment determined for the following year.

2. Nevertheless, the General Assembly, by its resolution 151 (II), of 15 November 1947, regarding the report of the Committee on Contributions, decided that no assessment should be levied on Thailand for the year in which it had been admitted in view of the fact that it had become a Member on 16 December 1946 and had not participated actively in the work of the United Nations during that year and that the United Nations had not been called upon to contribute to travelling or similar expenses of the Thai delegation.

3. A similar situation has arisen in connexion with Spain's recent admission to the United Nations, which took place a few days before the end of 1955. My country was thus unable to participate actively in the work of the Tenth Session of the General Assembly, and the United Nations did not incur any expense through the presence of a Spanish delegation at the last meeting of that session.

4. In view of these considerations, and of the precedent established with regard to Thailand, my Government hopes that the above-mentioned circumstances will be borne in mind by the Committee on Contributions when drawing up its recommendations for approval by the Eleventh Session of the General Assembly and that it will propose that Spain should be exempted from payment of its quota as a Member of the United Nations for 1955.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) José Manuel de Abaroa
Chargé d'Affaires"
