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UNITED NATIONS

RESOLUTIONS

adopted by the General Assembly

at its

SEVENTH SESSION

during the period from 24 February to 23 April 1953



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: SEVENTH SESSION
SUPPLEMENT No. 20 A (A/2361/Add.1)

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NOTE I

The present volume covers action taken by the General Assembly from the resumption of the meetings of the seventh session on 24 February to 23 April 1953 when the session was recessed in accordance with resolution 705 (VII).

For action taken by the General Assembly during the period from 14 October to 21 December 1952, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventh Session, Supplement No. 20*.

NOTE II

The text of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Trusteeship Council to which reference is made in the present volume, can be found in the printed volumes of resolutions published separately for each session or part of a session of each of these organs.

The arabic and roman numerals identifying each resolution indicate, respectively, the chronological position of the resolution in its series and the number of the session at which it was adopted.

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All United Nations documents are designated by symbols, i.e., capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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APPOINTMENT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On the recommendation¹ of the Security Council, the General Assembly appointed as Secretary-General of the United Nations:

His Excellency Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld.

423rd plenary meeting,
7 April 1953.

¹ See document A/2380.

ALLOCATION OF AGENDA ITEMS¹

Plenary Meetings

1. Appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (item 74).²
2. Report of the Secretary-General on personnel policy (item 75).³

First Committee

POLITICAL AND SECURITY

(INCLUDING THE REGULATION OF ARMAMENTS)

1. Korea (item 16):
 - (a) Reports of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea;
 - (b) Reports of the Agent General for Korean Reconstruction.⁴
2. Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments; report of the Disarmament Commission (item 17).
3. Methods which might be used to maintain and strengthen international peace and security in ac-

¹ All the above items were dealt with during the resumed meetings of the seventh session from 24 February to 23 April 1953 and, unless otherwise indicated, formed part of the agenda approved by the General Assembly at its 380th and 381st plenary meetings on 16 and 17 October 1952. The General Assembly decided at its 382nd plenary meeting on 17 October 1952 to deal with certain of the items in plenary meetings while allocating the remainder to the relevant committees. For the full agenda see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventh Session, Plenary Meetings*, prefatory fascicule.

² Included in the agenda at the 396th plenary meeting on 13 November 1952.

³ Included in the agenda at the 406th plenary meeting on 18 December 1952. At the 413th plenary meeting on 10 March 1953, the General Assembly decided to deal with this item in plenary meetings.

⁴ Allocated to the Second Committee at the 382nd plenary meeting on 17 October 1952 and reallocated to the First Committee at the 406th plenary meeting on 18 December 1952.

cordance with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter: report of the Collective Measures Committee (item 18).

4. Complaint of non-compliance of States still detaining members of the Greek armed forces with provisions of resolution 382 A (V), adopted by the General Assembly on 1 December 1950, recommending "the repatriation of all those among them who express the wish to be repatriated" (item 70).⁵
5. Interference of the United States of America in the internal affairs of other States as manifested by the organization on the part of the Government of the United States of America of subversive and espionage activities against the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the People's Republic of China, the Czechoslovak Republic and other People's Democracies (item 71).⁶
6. Measures to avert the threat of a new world war and measures to strengthen peace and friendship among the nations (item 72).⁷
7. Question of impartial investigation of charges of use by United Nations Forces of bacteriological warfare (item 73).⁷
8. Complaint by the Union of Burma regarding aggression against it by the Government of the Republic of China (item 77).⁸

⁵ Allocated to the Third Committee at the 382nd plenary meeting on 17 October 1952 and reallocated to the First Committee at the 406th plenary meeting on 18 December 1952.

⁶ At the 425th plenary meeting, on 8 April 1953, the General Assembly considered the report of the First Committee (A/2377) which did not recommend any resolution for adoption.

⁷ Included in the agenda and allocated to the First Committee at the 386th plenary meeting on 21 October 1952.

⁸ Included in the agenda and allocated to the First Committee at the 420th plenary meeting on 31 March 1953.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON THE REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

700 (VII). Credentials of representatives to the seventh session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly

Approves the third report¹ of the Credentials Committee.

*425th plenary meeting,
8 April 1953.*

¹ See document A/2374.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

701 (VII). Korea: reports of the United Nations Agent General for Korean Reconstruction

The General Assembly

1. *Reaffirms* the objective of the United Nations, adopted in General Assembly resolution 410 (V) of 1 December 1950, to provide relief and rehabilitation in assisting the Korean people to relieve their sufferings and to repair the great devastation and destruction in their country;

2. *Recognizes* that the need of such relief and rehabilitation continues to be most urgent;

3. *Takes* note of the reports¹ of the Agent General on the work of the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency for the period February 1951 to 15 February 1953;

4. *Notes with approval* that the Agent General has now undertaken, in co-operation with the Government of the Republic of Korea and the United Nations Command, and in consultation with the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea, a programme of relief and rehabilitation projects for the period ending June 1953, which has received the approval of the United Nations Advisory Committee to the Agent General, and looks forward to its successful execution;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* of the contributions which have been made by governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations;

6. *Requests* those governments which have made pledges to the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency to make prompt payment of such pledges;

7. *Further requests* all governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to assist, within the limits of their financial possibilities and in accordance with the provisions of their constitutions and statutes, in meeting the great and continuing need of the Korean people for relief and rehabilitation assistance.

*414th plenary meeting,
11 March 1953.*

¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventh Session, Supplements Nos. 19 and 19 A.*

702 (VII). Complaint of non-compliance of States still detaining members of the Greek armed forces with the provisions of resolution 382 A (V), adopted by the General Assembly on 1 December 1950, recommending "the repatriation of all those among them who express the wish to be repatriated"

The General Assembly,

Confirming its resolution 382 A (V) of 1 December 1950 recommending the repatriation of all those members of the Greek armed forces detained outside Greece who express the wish to be repatriated,

Noting with deep appreciation the continued efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross with a view to implementing the afore-mentioned resolution,

Recalling the latest communication² of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the national Red Cross societies of the governments concerned,

1. *Addresses an earnest appeal* to these governments to conform their attitude in this question with General Assembly resolution 382 A (V);

2. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to consult to this end with the governments in question and to report back to the General Assembly before the close of its current session;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to keep this humanitarian issue under constant review and to notify the Member States of important developments as appropriate.

*415th plenary meeting,
17 March 1953.*

703 (VII). 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

The General Assembly,

Having received the second report³ of the Collective Measures Committee,

² See document A/2365.

³ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventh Session, Supplement No. 17.*

Affirming the need for strengthening further the system of collective security under the authority of the United Nations,

Finding that to this end further steps could be taken by States and by the United Nations in accordance with the Charter and in conformity with the "Uniting for peace" resolution (377 A (V)) and with resolution 503 (VI),

1. *Takes note* of the second report of the Collective Measures Committee and expresses appreciation of the constructive work done by the Committee during the past year, particularly in the economic field, including the preparation of lists of arms, ammunition and implements of war and of strategic items for consideration by the Security Council or the General Assembly in the application of a selective embargo;

2. *Requests* the Collective Measures Committee to continue its work until the ninth session of the General Assembly, as directed in paragraph 4 below, for the maintenance and strengthening of the United Nations collective security system;

3. *Recommends* to States Members, and invites States not Members of the United Nations:

(a) To give careful consideration to the reports of the Collective Measures Committee;

(b) To continue and intensify their efforts to carry out the recommendations of the "Uniting for peace" resolution and of resolution 503 (VI);

(c) To keep the Collective Measures Committee currently informed of the progress they are making in this respect;

4. *Directs* the Collective Measures Committee:

(a) To pursue such studies as it may deem desirable to strengthen the capability of the United Nations to maintain peace, taking account of the "Uniting for peace" resolution, resolution 503 (VI) and the present resolution;

(b) To continue the examination of information received from States pursuant to the "Uniting for peace" resolution, resolution 503 (VI) and the present resolution;

(c) In the light of its studies, to suggest to the Security Council and to the General Assembly such specific ways and means as it may deem appropriate to encourage further preparatory action by States;

(d) To report to the Security Council and to the General Assembly not later than the ninth session of the Assembly.

*415th plenary meeting,
17 March 1953.*

704 (VII). Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments: report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that:

Under the Charter of the United Nations all States are bound to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered, and to

refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

The aim of a system of world-wide disarmament is to prevent war and release the world's human and economic resources for the purposes of peace,

1. *Takes note* of the report⁴ of the Disarmament Commission;

2. *Reaffirms* General Assembly resolution 502 (VI) of 11 January 1952 and requests the Disarmament Commission to continue its work for the development by the United Nations of comprehensive and co-ordinated plans providing for:

(a) The regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and armaments;

(b) The elimination and prohibition of all major weapons, including bacteriological, adaptable to mass destruction;

(c) The effective international control of atomic energy to ensure the prohibition of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only; The whole programme to be carried out under effective international control in such a way that no State would have cause to fear that its security was endangered;

3. *Requests* the Commission to report to the General Assembly and to the Security Council no later than 1 September 1953, and hopes that all the members of the Commission will co-operate in efforts to produce constructive proposals likely to facilitate its task.

*424th plenary meeting,
8 April 1953.*

705 (VII). The Korean question

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its unswerving determination to spare no efforts likely to create conditions favourable to the attainment of the purposes of peace and conciliation embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting, following the United Nations Command initiative for the exchange of sick and wounded prisoners of war, the communication⁵ by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China dated 31 March 1953 to the President of the General Assembly, and the exchange of communications⁶ between the United Nations Command and the Commanders of the Chinese People's Volunteers and the Korean People's Army in regard thereto,

Confident that a just and honourable armistice in Korea will powerfully contribute to alleviate the present international tension,

1. *Notes with deep satisfaction* that an agreement has been signed in Korea on the exchange of sick and wounded prisoners of war;

⁴ See *Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, 1952, Special Supplement No. 1.*

⁵ See document A/2378.

⁶ See document A/2390.

2. *Expresses the hope* that the exchange of sick and wounded prisoners of war will be speedily completed and that the further negotiations at Panmunjom will result in achieving an early armistice in Korea, consistent with the United Nations principles and objectives;

3. *Decides* to recess the present session upon completion of the current agenda items, and requests the President of the General Assembly to reconvene the present session to resume consideration of the Korean question (a) upon notification by the Unified Command to the Security Council of the signing of an armistice agreement in Korea; or (b) when, in the view of a majority of Members, other developments in Korea require consideration of this question.

*427th plenary meeting,
18 April 1953.*

706 (VII). Question of impartial investigation of charges of use by United Nations Forces of bacteriological warfare

The General Assembly,

Noting that accusations have been made by certain governments and authorities charging the use of bacteriological warfare by United Nations Forces, and that the Unified Command has repeatedly denied such charges,

Recalling that when the charges were first made the Unified Command had requested that an impartial investigation be made of them,

Noting that the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China and the North Korean authorities have so far refused to accept an offer by the International Committee of the Red Cross to carry out an investigation,

Noting that the draft resolution⁷ submitted in the Security Council by the Government of the United States of America proposing an investigation of these charges by the International Committee of the Red Cross failed to carry because of the negative vote of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Desiring to serve the interests of truth,

1. *Resolves* that, after the President of the General Assembly has received an indication from all the governments and authorities concerned of their acceptance of the investigation proposed in the present resolution, a Commission, composed of Brazil, Egypt, Pakistan, Sweden and Uruguay, shall be set up and shall carry out immediately an investigation of the charges that have been made;

2. *Calls upon* the governments and authorities concerned to enable the Commission to travel freely throughout such areas of North and South Korea, the Chinese mainland and Japan as the Commission may deem necessary in the performance of its task and to allow the Commission freedom of access to such persons, places and relevant documents as it considers necessary for the fulfilment of its task and to allow it to examine any witness, including prisoners of war, under such safeguards and conditions as the Commis-

sion shall determine: all prisoners of war who are alleged to have made confessions regarding the use of bacteriological warfare shall, prior to examination by the Commission, be taken to a neutral area and remain under the responsibility and custody of the Commission until the end of the Korean hostilities;

3. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to transmit the present resolution immediately to the governments and authorities concerned, requesting them to indicate their acceptance of the investigation proposed in the present resolution;

4. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to report to the General Assembly at the earliest practicable date on the results of his efforts;

5. *Directs* the Commission, when set up, to enlist the aid of such scientists of international reputation, especially epidemiologists, and such other experts as it may select;

6. *Directs* the Commission, after acceptance of the investigation proposed in the present resolution by all the governments and authorities concerned, to report to the Members of the General Assembly through the Secretary-General as soon possible and no later than 1 September 1953;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to furnish the Commission with the necessary staff and facilities.

*428th plenary meeting,
23 April 1953.*

707 (VII). Complaint by the Union of Burma regarding aggression against it by the Government of the Republic of China

The General Assembly,

Having examined the complaint⁸ by the delegation of the Union of Burma regarding the presence, hostile activities and depredations of foreign forces in the territory of the Union of Burma,

Considering that these facts constitute a violation of the territory and sovereignty of the Union of Burma,

Affirming that any assistance given to these forces which enables them to remain in the territory of the Union of Burma or to continue their hostile acts against a Member State is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations,

Considering that the refusal of these forces to submit to disarmament or internment is contrary to international law and usage,

1. *Deplores* this situation and condemns the presence of these forces in Burma and their hostile acts against that country;

2. *Declares* that these foreign forces must be disarmed and either agree to internment or leave the territory of the Union of Burma forthwith;

3. *Requests* all States to respect the territorial integrity and political independence of the Union of Burma in accordance with the principles of the Charter;

4. *Recommends* that the negotiations now in progress through the good offices of certain Member States

⁷ See document S/2671.

⁸ See document A/2375.

should be pursued, in order to put an end to this serious situation by means of the immediate disarmament and withdrawal of the said forces from the territory of the Union of Burma or by means of their disarmament and internment;

5. *Urges* all States:

(a) To afford the Government of the Union of Burma on its request all the assistance in their power to facilitate by peaceful means the evacuation of these forces from Burma; and

(b) To refrain from furnishing any assistance to these forces which may enable them to remain in the territory of the Union of Burma or to continue their hostile acts against that country;

6. *Invites* the Government of the Union of Burma to report on the situation to the General Assembly at its eighth session.

*428th plenary meeting,
23 April 1953.*

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED WITHOUT REFERENCE TO A COMMITTEE

708 (VII). Report of the Secretary-General on personnel policy

The General Assembly,

Recalling the following provisions of Articles 100 and 101 of the Charter:

“Article 100

“1. In the performance of their duties the Secretary-General and the staff shall not seek or receive instructions from any government or from any other authority external to the Organization. They shall refrain from any action which might reflect on their position as international officials responsible only to the Organization.

“2. Each Member of the United Nations undertakes to respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Secretary-General and the staff and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities.

“Article 101

“1. The staff shall be appointed by the Secretary-General under regulations established by the General Assembly.

“ . . .

“3. The paramount consideration in the employment of the staff and in the determination of the conditions of service shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence

and integrity. Due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible.”,

and

Having reviewed and considered the report¹ of the Secretary-General on personnel policy,

1. *Expresses its confidence* that the Secretary-General will conduct personnel policy with these considerations in mind;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its eighth session a report on the progress made in the conduct and development of personnel policy, together with the comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to submit, after appropriate consultations with the administrative heads of the specialized agencies, their recommendations as to any further action that may be required of the General Assembly;

4. *Calls upon* all Members of the United Nations to assist the Secretary-General in the discharge of his responsibilities as chief administrative officer of the United Nations.

*422nd plenary meeting,
1 April 1953.*

¹ See document A/2364.

709 (VII). Terms of appointment of the second Secretary-General of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 11 (I) of 24 January 1946 and paragraph 32 of General Assembly resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946,

Decides that the terms of appointment of the second Secretary-General shall be the same as those of the first Secretary-General.

*423rd plenary meeting,
7 April 1953.*

