

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



GENERAL

T/C.2/SR.41

7 August 1952

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: FRENCH

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FORTY-FIRST MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York
on Thursday, 24 July 1952, at 4 p.m.

DOCUMENTS
INDEX UNIT

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CONTENTS:

Election of the Chairman

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the classification
of T/COM. documents (Conference room paper No. 19)

<u>Temporary Chairman:</u>	Mr. BERENDSEN	Trusteeship Division
<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. YANG	China
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. SCHEYVEN	Belgium
	Mr. QUIROS	El Salvador
	Mr. SCOTT	New Zealand
	Mr. SOLDATOV	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
	Mr. STRONG	United States of America
<u>Secretariat:</u>	Mr. BERENDSEN	Secretary of the Committee

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Temporary CHAIRMAN said that as the Council had changed the Committee's membership a new Chairman would have to be elected.

Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium) nominated Mr. Yang (China).

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) nominated Mr. Quiros (El Salvador).

Mr. QUIROS (El Salvador) thanked the USSR representative, but stated that he could not accept nomination.

Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) and Mr. STRONG (United States of America) supported Mr. Yang's nomination.

The Temporary CHAIRMAN said there was only one candidate as the representative of El Salvador had declined nomination.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) requested a vote.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<u>Number of ballot papers</u>	6
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<u>Number of valid ballots</u>	6
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<u>Required majority</u>	4
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<u>Number of votes obtained :</u>	
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Mr. Yang	4
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Mr. Quiros	2
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Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Yang (China) was elected Chairman.

Mr. Yang (China) took the Chair.

/The CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN thanked the representatives of Belgium, New Zealand, the United States of America and El Salvador for the honour they had paid him.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation objected to the election of a person who did not represent China or the Chinese people. If the Committee had included a member who was a true representative of China and the Chinese people his delegation would have been happy to support his nomination as Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN noted the statement of the USSR representative but recalled that the Committee had to study the question of petitions and not that of the representation of a certain country. The Chinese delegation had already rebutted the USSR delegation's arguments in the Trusteeship Council and he, as Chairman, would not bring up that subject again.

WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT ON THE CLASSIFICATION OF T/COM DOCUMENTS (Conference room paper No. 19)

Mr. BERENDSEN (Secretary of the Committee) introduced the working paper prepared by the Secretariat. During the past two months the Secretariat had circulated under the symbol T/COM. some 45 communications which it had felt ought to be distributed under that symbol in accordance with the procedure which the Trusteeship Council had recently confirmed.

The Secretariat had divided the communications into two categories: (1) those to which the attention of the Council had already been drawn in accordance with rule 24 of the rules of procedure, and (2) petitions of a general nature on which the Council took decisions or made recommendations.

Mr. STRONG (United States of America) was sure that the classification made by the Secretariat was adequate, but the Committee could not take a decision at the present meeting as it had not had time to study conference room paper No. 19. He therefore suggested that the Committee should provisionally approve the classification proposed by the Secretariat, it being understood that members of the Committee who had any comments to make should transmit them to the Secretariat, an arrangement which would enable the classification to be revised at the following meeting of the Committee if necessary.

/Mr. SCHEYVEN

Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium) unreservedly supported the United States representative's view.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that his delegation had on several occasions expressed its opinion of the classification of petitions and communications. It considered that all the communications listed by the Secretariat in the working paper should normally be considered as petitions. The Committee should study each one separately and take a decision on the substance of each one. He would therefore vote against the United States proposal.

Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) supported the United States representative's proposal.

Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium) thought that it would be more simple if members of the Committee submitted their observations at the next meeting. He was reluctant to approve, even provisionally a document of which he knew nothing.

Mr. STRONG (United States of America) pointed out that it was possible that no member of the Committee had any comments to offer on the classification suggested by the Secretariat. In that case, the Committee would not need to hold a special meeting and, further, the documents could be circulated to delegations.

In order to meet the Belgian representative's objections, he suggested that a time limit should be laid down for the transmission to the Secretariat of observations on the classification of communications. Communications on whose classification no observations were received would be considered as definitely classified as from that date. The others would be re-examined at the Committee's next meeting. He suggested that the time limit should be 31 July 1952.

The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the USSR proposal that all communications should be considered as petitions and that they should be examined separately.

The USSR proposal was rejected by 5 votes to 1.

The United States proposal was adopted by 5 votes to 1.

The meeting rose at 4.30 p.m.