



# United Nations

GENERAL

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## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fourth session

Item 26 of the agenda

### UNITED NATIONS FIELD SERVICE

#### Report of the Ad Hoc Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Joseph NISOT (Belgium)

1. The General Assembly, at its 200th plenary meeting on 29 April 1949, adopted resolution 270 (III) establishing a Special Committee to study the proposal for the establishment of a United Nations Guard. The Special Committee was instructed to prepare a report embodying its observations and recommendations for consideration during the fourth regular session.
2. In accordance with resolution 270 (III), the Special Committee submitted a report to the General Assembly<sup>1/</sup> including two draft resolutions: one concerning a United Nations Field Service (paragraph 36 of the report of the Special Committee), and the other concerning a United Nations Panel of Field Observers (paragraph 47 of the report).
3. The General Assembly, at its 224th meeting on 22 September 1949, decided to refer the report of the Special Committee to the Ad Hoc Political Committee for consideration and report.
4. The Ad Hoc Political Committee considered this item during its 21st to 24th meetings held on 25, 26 and 27 October 1949.
5. At the 22nd meeting on 26 October 1949, the representative of Israel submitted an amendment (A/AC.31/L.8) to the draft resolution contained in paragraph 36 of the report of the Special Committee, proposing that the Secretary-General be authorized to place personnel of the United Nations Field Service at the disposal of the United Nations missions only in response to a specific resolution of the Security Council or of the General Assembly calling upon the Secretary-General to furnish this personnel.
6. At the 23rd meeting on 27 October 1949, the representative of Lebanon submitted comments on paragraphs 24 and 40 of the report and on the

<sup>1/</sup> See Official Records of the fourth session of the General Assembly, Supplement No. 13 (A/959).

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paragraph in Annex I entitled "Functions of the Panel" of the report of the Special Committee and suggested that these comments be included in the report of the Ad Hoc Political Committee. The first comment specified that those functions of the Field Service necessitating the carrying of side-arms should be utilized only where the use of local services was not practicable, or if, in the opinion of the competent organ, it was not desirable to utilize local services. The second comment provided that the selection of observers made by the Secretary-General should be submitted for the approval of the State in the territory of which those persons would be called upon to serve. The third comment specified that in isolated instances, at the decision of the competent organ or where required by a mission and when permitted by the law or authority of the locality, individual members of the Panel assigned to observation duties would be authorized to carry side-arms.

7. At the 24th meeting on 27 October 1949, the amendment submitted by Israel was withdrawn.

8. At the same meeting, the representative of Poland moved that further study of the whole problem be deferred to the fifth regular session of the General Assembly. The Committee decided, by 28 votes to 10, with 9 abstentions, that the motion submitted by Poland should not be discussed.

9. The Committee then proceeded to vote on the comments submitted by Lebanon and the two draft resolutions recommended by the Special Committee. The results of the voting were as follows:

(a) The first comment submitted by Lebanon was rejected by 23 votes to 10, with 15 abstentions.

(b) The second comment was rejected by 20 votes to 10, with 22 abstentions.

(c) The third comment was rejected by 24 votes to 10, with 16 abstentions.

(d) The draft resolution recommended by the Special Committee concerning the United Nations Field Service was adopted by 38 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions.

(e) The draft resolution recommended by the Special Committee concerning the United Nations Panel of Field Observers was adopted by 28 votes to 7, with 18 abstentions.

10. The Committee accepted the suggestion of the representative of Pakistan that an oath should be administered to all persons employed as Field Observers. The Committee also accepted the suggestion of the representative of Lebanon that the term "300 men" used in the report of the Special Committee in connexion with membership of the Field Service should be

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replaced in future by the term "300 persons", so as to allow the possible inclusion of women in the Field Service.

11. The Ad Hoc Political Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

UNITED NATIONS FIELD SERVICE AND  
UNITED NATIONS PANEL OF FIELD OBSERVERS

A.

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee established by General Assembly resolution 270 (III) of 29 April 1949,

Being of the opinion that the United Nations Field Service, as proposed by the Secretary-General in document A/AC.29/1<sup>1/</sup> and modified by the report of the Special Committee (A/959), will contribute to the more efficient operation of United Nations missions,

Considering that the Secretary-General has authority to establish the United Nations Field Service, subject to budgetary limitations and the normal administrative controls of the General Assembly,

Takes note of the intention of the Secretary-General to establish this proposed unit as modified by the observations contained in the report of the Special Committee.

B.

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee established by General Assembly resolution 270 (III) of 29 April 1949,

Desirous of facilitating the work of the United Nations in the pacific settlement of disputes under the provisions of the Charter,

Being of the opinion that the proposed United Nations Panel of Field Observers will contribute to this end,

Taking note of the intention of the Secretary-General to undertake the administrative arrangements for the proposed Panel with due regard to the observations contained in the report of the Special Committee,

Requests the Secretary-General to establish and maintain a list of persons qualified to assist United Nations missions in the functions of observation and supervision, such persons to be called to service in response to a specific resolution by a competent organ of the United Nations; such

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<sup>1/</sup> See Annex I to the report of the Special Committee.

list shall be known as the United Nations Panel of Field Observers and shall be established and maintained with due regard to the observations contained in the report of the Special Committee and based upon the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

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