

Dual Distribution

Third session

PERMANENT MISSIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. J. SPIROPOULOS (Greece)

1. By a letter dated 10 August 1948 the permanent representative of Bolivia to the United Nations requested the Secretary-General to place the following item on the agenda of the third regular session of the General Assembly: "Permanent missions to the United Nations" (A/608).
2. The General Assembly, at its 142nd plenary meeting held on 24 September 1948, referred this matter to the Sixth Committee for consideration and report.
3. The Sixth Committee considered the question at its 124th to 127th meetings. During the general discussion a number of amendments were submitted to the original Bolivian proposal (A/609), on the basis of which the representative of Bolivia, at the 126th meeting of the Committee, presented a revised draft resolution (A/C.6/304). The text of that draft resolution was discussed paragraph by paragraph.
4. At its 127th meeting the Committee adopted the draft resolution as a whole, with a final amendment by the delegation of Ecuador (A/C.6/300), by 38 votes to none, with no abstentions.
5. The Committee also considered a proposal, originally submitted by the delegation of Iran in the form of an amendment (A/C.6/306), to add certain provisions to the Bolivian draft resolution. This proposal, as amended by the representative of the Netherlands (A/C.6/308), was adopted as a separate draft resolution by 23 votes to 3, with 12 abstentions.
6. The Sixth Committee recommends for the adoption of the General Assembly the following resolutions:

PERMANENT MISSIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

A.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING that, since the creation of the United Nations, the practice has developed of establishing, at the seat of the Organization, permanent missions of Member States,

CONSIDERING that the presence of such permanent missions serves to assist in the realization of the purposes and principles of the United Nations and, in particular, to keep the necessary liaison between the Member States and the Secretariat in periods between sessions of the different organs of the United Nations,

CONSIDERING that in these circumstances, the generalization of the institution of permanent missions can be foreseen and that the submission of credentials of permanent representatives should be regulated,

RECOMMENDS

1. That the credentials of the permanent representatives shall be issued either by the Head of the State or by the head of the Government or by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and shall be transmitted to the Secretary-General;

2. That the appointments and changes of members of the permanent missions other than the permanent representative shall be communicated in writing to the Secretary-General by the head of the mission;

3. That the permanent representative in case of temporary absence shall notify the Secretary-General of the name of the member of the mission who will perform the duties of head of the mission;

4. That Member States desiring their permanent representatives to represent them on one or more of the organs of the United Nations should specify the organs in the credentials transmitted to the Secretary-General;

INSTRUCTS the Secretary-General to submit, at each regular session of the General Assembly, a report on the credentials of the permanent representatives accredited to the United Nations.

B.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INSTRUCTS the Secretary-General to study all questions which may arise from the institution of permanent missions, including permanent missions to the European Office of the United Nations, and, if necessary, to report on this subject to the next regular session of the General Assembly.
