GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FOURTEENTH SESSION
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838th PLENARY MEETING

Tuesday, 17 November 1959, at 10.30 a.m.

NEW YORK

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President: Mr. Víctor A. BELAUNDE (Peru).

AGENDA ITEM 38

Question of South West Africa:

- (a) Report of the Good Offices Committee on South West Africa;
- (b) Report of the Committee on South West Africa;
- (c) Study of legal action to ensure the fulfilment of the obligations assumed by the Union of South Africa in respect of the Territory of South West Africa

REPORT OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE (A/4272)

Mr. Kennedy (Izeland), Rapporteur of the Fourth Committee, presented the report of that Committee.

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the report of the Fourth Committee.

1. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): Those representatives wishing to speak may refer, if they wish, to any of the seven draft resolutions before the Assembly. I have at present no list of speakers, and there have been no requests to speak. I will therefore now put to the vote draft resolutions I to VII recommended by the Fourth Committee in its report [A/4272].

Draft resolution I was adopted by 57 votes to 1, with 10 abstentions.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 57 votes to 1, with 12 abstentions.

2. The PRESIDENT: (translated from Spanish): A separate vote has been asked for on paragraph 3 of the operative part of resolution III. I now call for a vote on this paragraph.

Paragraph 3 was adopted by 63 votes to 1, with 8 abstentions.

Draft resolution III as a whole was adopted by 62 votes to 1, with 12 abstentions.

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 56 votes to 1, with 13 abstentions.

Draft resolution V was adopted by 55 votes to 5, with 11 abstentions.

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 55 votes to 4, with 16 abstentions.

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 65 votes to 9, with 2 abstentions.

3. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I call on the representatives who wish to explain their votes.

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- 4. Miss BROOKS (Liberia): I hope that the President will not rule me out of order if I make a brief reference to one or two of the resolutions that have just been voted on, but I feel it is more appropriate to make this statement after the vote on the resolutions.
- 5. I should like to stress the point that resolution VI does not preclude negotiations in connexion with the Territory of South West Africa, for negotiation is provided for under resolution V. Should the Government of the Union of South Africa enter into negotiations concerning the Territory of South West Africa, as provided in resolution V, then my delegation feels that it would not be necessary to carry on the action provided for in resolution VI.
- 6. Mr. RODRIGUEZ FABREGAT (Uruguay) (translated from Spanish): I should like very briefly to explain my delegation's vote in favour of all the draft resolutions put before us by the Fourth Committee.
- 7. Until this moment I have had the honour of presiding over the Committee on South West Africa, which was set up by this Assembly. I should like to say that the new communications, received by the Committee on South West Africa and the United Nations Secretariat concerning the preparations being made to remove African populations from the lands on which they have long lived and worked, strengthened my delegation's intention to vote for certain of the draft resolutions, especially that one referring to the Hoachanas native reserve and the possible eviction of populations from lands on which they have long resided.
- 8. Accordingly, bearing in mind the fact that this state of affairs persists and that the recently approved report [A/4191] of the Committee on South West Africa contains all the information on these matters, my delegation particularly wished to state the fact of its favourable vote, and to express its fervent hope that the rights of these populations will be respected and that they will not be evicted from lands which, though they may have no formal title to them, have served them as places on which to live and work for many generations.
- 9. At the same time, my delegation reaffirmed its hope that the position of the Government of the Mandatory Power, as reflected in some of the resolutions adopted at the present session, indicates an evolution and that we shall very soon be able to find a solution for this problem, which, under the Charter, is one of fundamental concern to the United Nations.

AGENDA ITEM 42

Financial reports and accounts and reports of the Board of Auditors:

- (a) United Nations (for the financial year ended 31 December 1958);
- (b) United Nations Children's Fund (for the financial year ended 31 December 1958);
- (c) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (for the financial year ended 31 December 1958);
- (d) United Nations Refugee Fund (for the financial year ended 31 December 1958)

AGENDA ITEM 45

Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly:

- (a) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions:
- (b) Committee on Contributions;
- (c) Board of Auditors;
- (d) Investments Committee: confirmation of the appointment made by the Secretary-General;
- (e) United Nations Administrative Tribunal;
- (f) United Nations Staff Pension Committee

REPORTS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/4246, A/4248, A/4273, A/4247, A/4274, A/4255)

AGENDA ITEM 47

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: report of the Committee on Contributions

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/4270)

AGENDA ITEM 48

Audit reports relating to expenditure by specialized agencies of technical assistance funds allocated from the Special Account

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/4275)

Mr. NAIK (Pakistan), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, presented the reports of that Committee, and then spoke as follows:

10. Mr. NAIK (Pakistan), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee: With regard to agenda item 47, the Fifth Committee in its report [A/4270] recommended two draft resolutions the second of which deals with the desirability of making available to Member States the statistical and other information at the disposal of the Committee for Contributions when it prepares the scale of assessments. During the course of the discussion of this particular problem, some delegations referred to the practical difficulties which the Committee on Contributions has pointed out in the way of general disclosure of the information in question. They however noted with approval the suggestion by the Committee on Contributions that all statistical and other factual information pertaining to the assessment of any individual Member State should, on its request, be made available to that Member. Other delegations, while considering this new arrangement as a step forward, felt that it did not fully meet the request to acquaint themselves with the whole of the material at the disposal of the Committee on Contributions. In the end, the delegations agreed to recommend that this matter be reviewed periodically by the Committee on Contributions so that, at the discretion of that Committee, any future requests for pertinent information from representatives of Member States wishing to acquaint themselves with other statistical information and supplementary factual material used by the Committee as a basis for its recommendations may be granted.

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee.

- 11. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): If no representative wishes to explain his vote on any one of the draft resolutions submitted by the Fifth Committee on items 42, 45, 47 and 48 of the agenda, we will proceed to the vote.
- 12. The General Assembly now has before it for decision the four draft resolutions on agenda item 42, recommended by the Fifth Committee in its report [A/4238]. I now put to the vote draft resolution I.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 63 votes to none, with 9 abstentions.

13. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): Draft resolution II was unanimously adopted by the Fifth Committee. If there are no objections, I shall consider this draft resolution as adopted, also unanimously, by the General Assembly.

Draft resolution II was adopted unanimously.

14. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): Draft resolution III was also unanimously adopted by the Fifth Committee. If there are no objections, I shall consider it as adopted unanimously by the General Assembly.

Draft resolution III was adopted unanimously.

15. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I now put draft resolution IV to the vote.

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 61 votes to none, with 10 abstentions.

16. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): We shall now consider agenda item 45, on which the Fifth Committee has submitted six reports corresponding to sub-items a to f, and each containing a draft resolution. I shall first invite the Assembly to take a decision on the draft resolution on agenda item 45 a [A/4246]. In the absence of any objection, I shall take it that the General Assembly adopts the araft resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted.

17. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): We will now take a decision on the draft resolution contained in the report on agenda item 45 b [A/4248]. In the absence of any objection, I shall take it that the draft resolution has been adopted by the General Assembly.

The draft resolution was adopted.

18. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): We will now take a decision on the draft resolution contained in the report [A/4273] concerning agenda item 45 c. In the absence of any objection, I shall consider the draft resolution as having been adopted by the General Assembly.

The draft resolution was adopted.

19. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I now invite the Assembly to take a decision on the draft resolution on agenda item 45 d contained in the report [A/4247]. If no one wishes to comment, I shall regard the draft resolution as adopted by the General Assembly.

The draft resolution was adopted.

20. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I now invite the Assembly to take a decision on the draft resolution contained in the report [A/4274] on agenda

item 45 e. If there is no objection, I shall take it that the General Assembly has adopted the draft resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted.

21. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I now invite the Assembly to take a decision on the draft resolution contained in the report [A/4255] on agenda item 45 ± 1 . If no one wishes to speak, I shall take it that this draft resolution has been adopted by the General Assembly.

The draft resolution was adopted.

22. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): We now come to agenda item 47. The Fifth Committee has submitted two draft resolutions in its report relating to this agenda item [A/4270]. I now put to the vote draft resolutions A and B.

Draft resolutions A and B were adopted by 64 votes to none, with 11 abstentions.

23. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): We now come to agenda item 48. The Fifth Committee unanimously adopted the draft resolution contained in its report [A/4275]. In the absence of objections, I shall take it that the Assembly has adopted the draft resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 61

Question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of "apartheid" of the Government of the Union of South Africa

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/4271)

Mr. Tettamanti (Argentina), Rapporteur of the Special Political Committee, presented the report of this Committee.

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the report of the Special Political Committee.

24. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I invite the Assembly to vote on the draft resolution recommended by the Special Political Committee in its report [A/4271]. A roll-call vote has been requested.

A vote was taken by roll-call.

Indonesia, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India.

Against: Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France.

Abstaining: Italy,* Luxembourg, Netherlands, Belgium, Canada, Dominican Republic, Finland.

he draft resolution was adopted by 62 votes to 3, with 7 abstentions.

AGENDA ITEM 23

Interim report of the Secretary-General evaluating the Second United Nations International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in relation to the holding of similar conferences in the future

- 25. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): You will recall that the Assembly decided to deal with agenda item 23 in plenary meeting without allocating it to any of the Main Committees. Therefore, there is no report of any committee to consider.
- 26. I now call on the representative of the Secretary-General who wishes, on Mr. Hammarskjold's behalf, to make a statement on the interim report [A/4261].
- 27. Mr. BUNCHE (Under-Secretary): The Secretary-General, in pursuance of a suggestion by the United Nations Scientific Advisory Committee, had intended to make to the General Assembly a short clarifying statement in connexion with item 23, on which, as has been explained, no action is required.
- 28. Owing to his unavoidable absence, the Secretary-General has asked me to read to you the statement he had planned to present. The statement is as follows:

"A few words may be called for in elaboration of the Interim Report [A/4261]. That report, as you will note, regards it as premature at this time to present conclusions about a third general conference on the peaceful uses of atomic energy, particularly since the consultations with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the interested specialized agencies which are a necessary factor in reaching conclusions, are still in process and will not be completed before next spring.

"I feel, however, that I should inform the General Assembly that, in their first discussion of the matter at their meeting at United Nations Headquarters on 28 October 1959, all the members of the Scientific Advisory Committee were in accord on the desirability of holding a third international conference on the peaceful uses of atomic energy under United Nations sponsorship, but, of course, with fullest possible co-operation of and assistance from the IAEA and the interested specialized agencies. In this regard, some stress was placed on the impracticability of divided sponsorship and executive responsibility. They were further of the view that 1962 would seem to be a desirable year in which to hold such a conference, and that Geneva would again be the most likely site for it. Questions concerning the scope and organization of a conference were only touched upon and will be further studied and discussed. Members of the Committee have agreed to prepare and make available to me, prior to its next meeting, memoranda covering the particular points which they consider important to bear in mind in the organization of a third conference.

"In the course of the coming months, consultations will be undertaken with the IAEA and the interested specialized agencies, and in greater detail with the Committee, in connexion with the report on this matter which is to be presented to the General Assembly at its fifteenth session, and which will be finally considered at a spring meeting of the Committee to which representatives of the IAEA and the other interested agencies will be invited.

"What I have now said, however, will indicate the trend of thinking in the Scientific Advisory Committee, which wished me to clarify their preliminary views when presenting the Interim Report."

29. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): If no representative wishes to speak, I shall take it that the Assembly takes due notice of this statement on the Interim Report.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 11.55 a.m.

^{*}The representative of Italy subsequently requested the President to record his vote as being in favour of the draft resolution.