843rd Plenary meeting

Wednesday, 25 November 1959, at 10.30 a.m.

NEW YORK

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FOURTEENTH SESSION Official Records

United Nations -



Page

CONTENTS

Agenda items 19, 20 and 21:

- Guestion of amending the United Nations Charter, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, to increase the number of non-permanent members of the Security Council and the number of votes required for decisions of the Council Guestion of amending the United Nations
- Charter, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, to increase the membership of the Economic and Social Council
- Question of amending the Statute of the International Court of Justice, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter of the United Nations and Article 69 of the Statute of the Court, with respect to an increase in the number of judges of the International Court of Justice

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

AGENDA ITEMS 19, 20 AND 21

- Question of amending the United Nations Charter, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, to increase the number of non-permanent members of the Security Council and the number of votes required for decisions of the Council
- Question of amending the United Nations Charter, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, to increase the membership of the Economic and Social Council
- Question of amending the Statute of the International Court of Justice, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter of the United Nations and Article 69 of the Statute of the Court, with respect to an increase in the number of judges of the International Court of Justice

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/4256)* (concluded)

1. Mr. TETTAMANTI (Argentina), Rapporteur of the Special Political Committee, (translated from Spanish): I have the honour to present to the General Assembly, on behalf of the Special Political Committee, the report contained in the document before us [A/4256], relating

to agenda items 19, 20, and 21 on the question of amending the United Nations Charter to increase the membership of the Economic and Social Council, the Security Council and the International Court of Justice.

2. The report deals adequately with the course of the debates and the draft resolutions and amendments which were considered. Without referring to these matters, therefore, I should like to stress that the Committee studied the items in question with renewed vigour and special attention, as is evidenced by the fact that no less than thirteen meetings were devoted to them.

3. Generally speaking, the strong feeling of the Committee, reflected in the two draft resolutions which it adopted, was that the Charter should be amended as soon as possible to increase the membership of the organs of the United Nations. One of the draft resolutions approved by the Committee recommends that a committee consisting of the representatives of five States should be set up to study the possibility of arriving at an agreement which will facilitate the amendment of the Charter along the lines indicated.

4. Both draft resolutions provide that the items relating to an increase in the membership of the Security Council and of the Economic and Social Council shall be included in the agenda of the next session. I have consulted the authors of both draft resolutions, and they both confirm it as their intention that only items 19 and 20, relating to the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, should be placed on the agenda of the fifteenth session.

5. I accordingly formally submit draft resolutions I and II, which the Special Political Committee recommends for adoption by the General Assembly.

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

6. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): An amendment to draft resolution I has been submitted by El Salvador and Japan [A/L.269]. Under this amendment, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Special Political Committee's draft resolution would be replaced by a new paragraph 2.

7. Mr. MATSUDAIRA (Japan): My delegation wishes to propose, together with the delegation of El Salvador, an amendment [A/L.269] to draft resolution I contained in the report of the Special Political Committee to the General Assembly. My delegation is cosponsoring this amendment for the sake of harmony and concord in the debates of the General Assembly. The proposed amendment is to substitute for paragraphs 2 and 3 of the operative section, a new operative paragraph which reads:

"2. <u>Declares</u> that if progress is not made during the fifteenth session of the General Assembly towards the achievement of an increase in the membership

^{*}Resumed from the 841st meeting.

of the Security Council and of the Economic and Social Council, the Assembly should set up at that session a committee to study the possibilities of arriving at an agreement which will facilitate the amendment of the Charter to achieve the increase of membership referred to above."

8. As you may see, this is a declaration of intention to be made by this Assembly. The legal effect of this declaration could be interpreted in the light of the juridical value of any recommendations made by the General Assembly under the Charter. I wish to emphasize on this occasion that this amendment was made possible by the co-operation of all concerned who were responsible for formulating the draft resolutions I and II contained in the report. It is the earnest hope of my delegation that the compromise formula here introduced will have the unanimous support of this Assembly. I am appealing to the Assembly in the name of harmony and concord. It is our understanding also that draft resolution II contained in the report of the Special Political Committee to the General Assembly will not be pressed for a vote-of course, on the condition that such a course will meet with the consent of this Assembly. Draft resolution II will not be pressed for a vote because, in adopting this amendment, the substance of the operative section of the said draft resolution will have been achieved.

9. Mr. SMITH (Canada): The Canadian delegation did not make a statement in the Special Political Committee when that body was discussing the three items now before us—items which concern a possible enlargement of the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, and the International Court of Justice. However, my delegation listened to this important debate with sympathetic and very close attention. We should like at this stage to make a few brief remarks.

10. In the Committee, the Canadian delegation found itself in the fortunate position of being able to vote in favour of both the draft resolutions before the Committee. We believe that the views expressed by the representative of El Salvador reflected an obvious and general interest in the Committee for their desire to enlarge the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council and thus allow for the r pid growth in Such a move the membership of the United Nati Ø would enable the newer Membe Les, particularly those of Asia and Africa, to play their full role in the deliberations and decisions of these two major organs of the United Nations. The draft resolution presented by El Salvador, however, went beyond the recognition of the need for expanding the Councils and the simple, though important, recommendation to the Assembly to continue to give this problem its earnest attention. The El Salvador draft resolution called for the establishment of a small committee empowered and instructed to study the possibility of arriving at an agreement which would facilitate amendment of the Charter so as to increase the membership of these two Councils.

11. We considered it unrealistic to expect any progress to be achieved in this field by the proposed committee, consideringth, circumstances under which the latter would operate. Several representatives in the Committee debate shared cur views in this respect. We believe it is not necessary here to repeat the various arguments which they set out. It was for these reasons that we abstained in the vote of the Special Political Committee on whether the proposed smaller unit should be retained or dropped. Our opinion proved

not to be that of the majority, and it became apparent during that voting that no less than thirty-five delegate tions favoured setting up this small committee, partly in the expectation that it could be of practical use and partly, it seemed to us, in order to demonstrate in some way dissatisfaction with the existing state of affairs with regard to Security Council and Economic and Social Council membership, and their hope of breaking out of the deadlock which has prevailed in the Assembly for so long. We sympathize with the natural desire to take some concrete steps, even if their chances of success appear tenuous. Since so considerable a group of conscientious delegations wished to establish a body to study the possibility of amending the Charter so as to expand the Councils, my delegation, though with some mental reservation, in the final vote of the previous debate did not oppose the establishment of such a committee, and we are prepared to vote in the same sense today.

12. Similarly, we were able to support the draft resolution submitted by twelve delegations representing nations in Africa and Asia. We were not unmindful of the cogency of the arguments that this twelve-Power proposal in some substantial respects duplicated the provisions of the El Salvador draft resolution already adopted. On the other hand, we recognized that the principal purpose of enlarging the Councils was to provide for a more adequate representation for the new Member countries. My delegation was, therefore, inclined to support the measures sponsored by the twelve Members from the Asian and African group, since this draft resolution in no way conflicted with the El Salvador proposal, and could have been regarded as a testimonial to the sincerity with which its authors are pursuing the objective of contributing more fully to the operations and activities of the United Nations. Considering that there was a substantial divergency of opinion in the Committee on the merits of the texts of each of the draft resolutions presented, we thought there was some virtue in accepting both, which, considered together, in our view, faithfully reflected the general consensus in the Committee—and I believe in the Assembly-that the membership of the two Councils should be enlarged and that the Assembly should go on endeavouring to find ways and means of enlarging them.

13. Now we have before us an amendment [A/L.269]to draft resolution I which, we understand, brings together in closer proximity the divergent views of the proponents of both the proposals referred to. We congratulate the respective sponsoring representatives in that they have apparently been able to reconcile their differences in presenting what would appear to be an acceptable compromise. As we have already registered our one reservation with respect to the advisability of establishing a Committee to achieve such an important objective, it is unnecessary for us to make any other comment on the amendment itself. The Canadian delegation is prepared to support any reasonable move that will produce a small increase in the two Councils, but we would oppose a large expansion of them as we feel that this would be such an important step that its consideration must await the expected general review and revision of the United Nations Charter.

14. I ask leave to add a word in regard to the third of the three items grouped together on our present agenda: the question of increasing the number of judges of the International Court of Justice. Although it appears in neither of the draft resolutions before us, there was some advocacy, at the Committee stage, for increasing the number of judges of the International Court of Justice. I can only say that if such a proposal had been formally presented my delegation would have opposed it. We should have done so for the same reasons put forward by many delegations speaking on this proposal in the Special Political Committee. It is necessary for me now merely to mention them. The first is that the membership of the International Court of Justice under its Charter is based upon wholly different principles from those which determine the membership of the Councils. In our view, these two principles—the adequate representation of the different forms of civilization and the principal legal systems of the world, and, secondly, the high personal qualifications of the individual judges-are quite capable of being carried out under the existing avrangements. Our second reason for opposing the expansion of the Court is that, in our view, it is large enough now for its efficient operation. To increase it would, in the opinion of my delegation, hinder rather than assist it in its performance.

15. As to the amendment, submitted by El Salvador and Japan, I repeat that my delegation will take pleasure in supporting it, or either of the two draft resolutions, should they be brought to a vote.

16. Mr. SOBOLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (translated from Russian): In the report submitted by the Special Political Committee [A/4256] it is proposed that consideration of questions relating to the amendment of the Charter of the United Nations should be postponed until the next session of the General Assembly. The General Assembly has already taken similar decisions in the past. That very fact clearly shows that the overwhelming majority of States Members of the United Nations consider that discussion of questions relating to amendment of the Charter is inadvisable at the present time.

17. It is the firm conviction of the Soviet delegation that, in its present form, the Charter is in complete conformity with the basic purposes of the United Nations, which are to reinforce peace throughout the world and to promote international co-operation. The Charter now in force offers every opportunity for the United Nations to be a real centre for harmonizing the actions of all its Members and ensuring cooperation among States with different social and political systems. That is why the United Nations Charter has lost none of its original significance and has received the approval and support of all the peoples of the world.

18. In the interests of improving United Nations activities and strengthening the Organization's authority, what is needed is not a revision of the Charter but, on the contrary, its strict observance. The point is not that the Charter is bad but that its principles are frequently not observed.

19. The whole past history of the work of the United Nations convincingly shows that only those decisions and actions which were undertaken in conformity with the Charter have contributed to improving United Nations activities and strengthening the Organization's authority. Those decisions and actions which were undertaken in contravention of the Charter, in violation of its principles and purposes, have been seriously detrimental to the authority of the United Nations. 20. Those who now seek a revision of the Charter are endeavouring to give the impression that an increase in the membership of the principal organs of the United Nations is a purely technical matter which involves no issue of principle and does not affect the foundations on which the United Nations rests.

21. The Sov It delegation considers it necessary to draw the General Assembly's attention once more to the fact that a revision of the Articles of the Charter relating to membership in the principal organs of the United Nations and consequently to the voting procedure in those organs is an issue of great political importance, on which an acceptable solution was reached only with considerable difficulty even at the time the Charter was drafted.

22. For that very reason, those who drafted the Charter recognized that any amendment would be an act of such political importance that it would require ratification by at least two-thirds of the Members of the United Nations and application of the rule of the unanimity of all the permanent members of the Security Council.

23. Any amendment or alteration of the Charter can, as we know, be effected only in strict accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, and that Article stipulates, as an essential requirement, that amendments shall be ratified by all the permanent members of the Security Council, that is to say, including the People's Republic of China. It follows that, without the participation of representatives of the People's Republic of China, any discussion of the question of enlarging the principal organs of the United Nations is foredoomed to failure. Only after this supreme injustice to the Chinese people has been rectified and the People's Republic of China has been reinstated in its rights in the United Nations, will the essential requirements have been met for discussion of possible changes in the Charter, including the question of an increase in the membership of the principal crgans of the United Nations.

24. The Soviet Union understands and respects the desire of the new States of Asia and Africa to be more broadly and equitably represented in the various organs of the United Nations and to take a more active part in all aspects of its activities.

Much could be done in this respect on the basis of 25. the Charter as it stands, if all States strictly observed the principles of the United Nations. I am referring primarily to the strict observance of the provision of the Charter which deals with equitable geographical representation in the principal organs of the United Nations. As you know, this principle has been flagrantly infringed time and again. An example of this is the violation of Article 23 of the Charter and of the gentleman's agreement on the distribution of seats in the Security Council, made in London in 1946. Since 1952, representatives of other areas of the world have been elected to the seat belonging to the countries of Eastern Europe. This year again we are witnessing an attempt to deprive those countries of representation in the Security Council.

26. Accordingly, the matter is not so much one of increasing the membership of the principal organs of the United Nations as of observing those provisions that relate to equitable geographical representation which are already contained in the Charter and which are fully in keeping with the principles and purposes of the United Nations. The representation of the countries of Asia and Africa in the Economic and Social Council can even now be improved without increasing the membership of that body, in other words, without revising the relevant article of the Charter.

27. Broader participation by all countries in the activities of the United Nations, including economic and social activities, can also be achieved by increasing the membership of the functional and regional commissions and the governing bodies of the specialized agencies.

28. The Soviet Union, for its part, has always supported and will continue to support proposals which, without involving a breach of the Charter, can lead, here and now, to observance of the principle of equitable geographical distribution and greater participation by new Members of the United Nations in all spheres of the Organization's activities.

29. In view of the foregradient considerations, the Soviet delegation is unable to support the draft resolutions which have been submitted to the plenary of the General Assembly for approval.

30. The Soviet delegation will vote against the amendment [A/L.269] submitted to draft resolution I by the Salvadorian and Japanese delegations as it is completely at variance with operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution. It is unreasonable to place the whole issue on the agenda of the fifteenth session of the General Assembly and at the same time make provision for the establishment of a committee about which no agreement has been reached at this session. Such a procedure is neither logical nor reasonable and is not called for by the circumstances.

31. If the Salvadorian-Japanese amendment is adopted, the Soviet delegation will vote against draft resolution \tilde{I} as a whole.

32. Mr. ROBERTSON (United States of America): My delegation has already explained its vr' on the draft resolutions that were presented to the special Political Committee. As I stated at the time, we were prepared to support either of these draft resolutions. Our principal concern was in being able to effect an enlargement of the membership of two permanent organs.

33. I now want to take only a very few minutes to call your attention to what would ordinarily be termed a truly remarkable situation. It is the opinion of the over-whelming majority of the United Nations membership that the Charter should be amended to provide for the enlargement of certain permanent organs so as to give proper representation to a membership which has increased some sixty per cent since 1945. And yet, this will is being thwarted by the unilateral action of one of its Members. Our membership is bluntly told in effect that unless it accepts the Soviet view on Chinese representation, the Soviet Union will paralyze all efforts to enlarge these organs and to make them effective instruments in the accomplishment of United Nations objectives.

34. I say that the situation would ordinarily be termed truly remarkable were it not for the fact that time and again, down through the years, the Soviet Union has abused its veto power, seeking to impose its minority will upon the majority opinion of this Organization. May I suggest to the representative of the Soviet Union that this international body of eighty-two Members will never accept the principle of blackmail, and will never delegate its authority or its responsibility to any one Member.

35. Mr. RIFA'I (Jordan): The Jordan delegation wishes to explain its position regarding the amendment submitted by the delegations of El Salvador and Japan [A/L.269].

36. Jordan was among the co-sponsors of the twelve-Power draft resolution on the question of amending the United Nations Charter. My delegation, however, did not vote against the revised draft resolution which was sponsored by El Salvador. We abstained and explained our abstention in the Special Political Committee. The difference between the two draft resolutions is that one of them decides to set up a committee to study the possibilities of arriving at an agreement which will facilitate the amendment of the Charter, while the other expresses the hope that the strong desire manifested by a large number of Member States will help to bring about an expansion in the principal organs of the United Nations as early as possible.

37. My delegation holds the view that an increase in membership in the Security Council and in the Economic and Social Council has become very necessary in view of the considerable increase in the United Nations membership. However, we thought that the setting up of a committee this year might not serve the purposes stated in the draft resolution submitted by El Salvador if further progress in the discussions among various members and groups was not made first. I should like to say in this connexion, and in view of the debate which took places in the Special Political Committee that no special consideration or particular affiliation is attached to Jordan's standon the question of amending the Charter. We feel that a general agreement should be reached on how to make possible an increase in the principal organs of the United Nations.

38. My delegation has studied the amendment of El Salvador and Japan of 20 November. This amendment will help to bring about a wider field of agreement among Members and groups of the United Nations on the question under consideration and will enable the adoption of a resolution acceptable to the great majority. The amendment assumes that progress can be expected during the fifteenth session as an adequate reply to the strong desire for amending the Charter. If progress is not made during the coming year, then the Assembly may find it advisable to set up a committee to study the question and perhaps to try to discuss how to deal with the difficulties which stand in the way of making the required amendments.

39. My delegation hopes that such progress will be made during the fifteenth session. If, however, efforts fail to achieve any encouraging results, then the Assembly will consider the recommendation for setting up a committee. My delegation will therefore vote in favour of the amendment submitted by El Salvador and Japan.

40. Mr. FOURIE (Union of South Africa): My delegation is not opposed in principle to the purpose of the amendment [A/L.269] moved by El Salvador and Japan. We feel, however, that this session of the Assembly cannot bind the next session. It cannot, therefore, declare—and I repeat, "declare"—that the fifteenth session should set up a Committee "to study the possibilities of arriving at an agreement ...". It would, of course, have been different if the amendment had contained a word such as "recommends"—that is, if the word "recommends" had been used instead of "declares". Because of this, we shall abstain on this particular amendment.

41. Mr. JHA (India): It is not necessary nor is it my intention to enter into a debate on the question before us, which has already been the subject of considerable discussion in the Special Political Committee. The views of my delegation on the substantive aspects of these items before us were made quite clear in that Committee.

42. Our view is that the question of the amendment of the Charter which is involved in any expansion of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council-which expansion my delegation favours-is a matter of basic importance since it brings up questions of great difficulty. It has already been indicated by the representative of the Soviet Union that the matter is bound up with the question of the proper representation of China at the United Nations. It is our view that this matter has to be considered and the objective of the expansion of the membership of these bodies has to be furthered with caution and that no results can be achieved if we try to force an issue which is not merely one of statistical importance and numerical revision but is bound up with certain very difficult questions in the United Nations. In the Special Political Committee, therefore, we favoured the draft resolution moved by twelve African-Asian countries in which expression was given to the consensus of esistion in the Committee as to the expansion of these bodies, but it was decided to leave the matter over to the fifteenth session of the General Assembly. We are still in favour of the approach in that draft resolution.

43. We did not favour in the Committee—and we are not very much enamoured even now of such an idea the setting up of a committee to study the possibilities of arriving at an agreement regarding the amendment of the Charter. We do not think that this will produce very good results. It may be taken, on the contrary, as some kind of pressure on one of the big Powers which, for reasons of its own which it is quite entitled to hold, is not prepared to accept an amendment without certain conditions being fulfilled.

44. In the Committee, we got into a difficult situation. We had two draft resolutions. Both were voted upon and, as is well known, the Committee had to go into very detailed and sometimes acrimonious procedural debates. Since the passage of the two draft resolutions in the Committee, attempts have been made by several delegations to find a <u>modus vivendi</u>. My delegation always favours processes and attempts for settling difficult problems on the basis of a compromise.

45. As regard the amendment proposed by El Salvador and Japan [A/L.269], we welcome it in so far as it seeks to bring about a compromise. It is a good thing in so far as it avoids acute controversy in the Assembly. But the wording of the amendment itself creates certain difficulties.

46. In the first place it is a delcaration of intention. Normally, that is a rather unusual declaration by the Assembly. The Assembly usually decides or recommends or expresses the hope. This is a declaration of intention, and we were glad to hear from the representative of Japan that he does not consider this declaration as having the binding effect of a decision so far as the next session of the General Assembly is concerned.

47. Secondly, the amendment says that "if progress is not made during the fifteenth session of the General Assembly" a committee will be set up "to study the possibilities of arriving at an agreement ...". We are not quite clear as to the exact effect of it. Shall we have to wait until the last days of the fifteenth session of the General Assembly before setting up this Committee? I say this because the words are "if progress is not made during the fifteenth session of the General Assembly".

48. Thirdly, the main part of this amendment, which says that a committee should be set up "to study the possibilities of ... an agreement ...", amounts to taking some sort of a decision—even though it is only a declaration of intention—which should be taken at the fifteenth session of the General Assembly.

49. My delegation has considerable doubt as to the constitutionality of any such decision or even declaration, because we in the Assembly have no mandate to decide anything which is to be discussed, under appropriate procedures, and decided upon at the fifteenth session. It is possible that Governments may change their views; it is possible that Governments may then change; and it is possible that all kinds of difficulties may arise. Therefore, this part of the amendment, so far as we are concerned, cannot have a binding effect. It is our understanding that at the fifteenth session the normal processes and procedures will have to be followed; that is to say, that the matter will have to go on the agenda after being considered by the General Committee. It will have to be discussed in the appropriate Committee of the General Assembly, and it will be subject to adoption in the Assembly by the requisite majority, if it can be secured.

50. Having said all that, I would now like to say that since the amendment represents a compromise as a result of sincere efforts to reach an agreement, and shelves the question of setting up a committee—which was the operative paragraph of the El Salvador draft resolution adopted by the Committee—we will not oppose the amendment, but at the same time we shall not be able to support it. If ``is acceptable to the requisite majority of the members of the General Assembly, we do not want to stand in the way of the passage of this amendment.

51. But I would like to make it clear that when we abstain, it will be on the assumption that nothing in this amendment binds the fifteenth session of the General Assembly or my delegation to any particular course of action. It will have to be considered in accordance with the circumstances then existing and in accordance with the normal constitutional procedures of the General Assembly.

52. I have one other point to which I should like to make reference. It is also the view of our delegation that draft resolution II, to which no amendment has been moved, should also be put to the vote. We had considerable discussion in the Committee as to whether both draft resolutions were to be put to the vote, and it was decided by a majority that they should both be forwarded to the General Assembly for consideration. We feel that draft resolution II, which is simple but which at the same time expresses the views held by a large number of countries and has some important paragraphs in the preamble, should appropriately also find support in the Assembly.

53. The result would then be, if the El Salvador-Japan sponsored amendment is adopted, that we shall have draft resolution I together with the amendment, as well as draft resolution II adopted by the General Assembly.

54. Sir Claude COREA (Ceylon): I myself do not desire to discuss the whole question involved in the two draft resolutions and the amendment [A/L.269]because we had a very full and complete discussion in the Special Political Committee. The views of my delegation were fully expressed, on several occasions, in the course of the discussion in the Committee. Now that the amendment is coming up for consideration for the first time in the General Assembly, I should just like to make a few observations with regard to that amendment.

55. Before dealing with it, may I point out—and that is the reason I have decided to take the floor during this meeting—that there were two draft resolutions before the Committee which were in a substantial manner mutually exclusive. The twelve-Power draft resolution strongly emphasized the need for an amendment of the Charter to provide for an increase in the membership of two principal organs of the United Nations. The other draft resolution, while emphasizing the same matter, would have appointed a committee to discuss this question and to explore the possibilities of amending the Charter.

56. We ourselves could not accept the suggestion that a committee should be appointed, not because we had any deep-seated objection to the appointment of a committee, but because we felt that it would not be necessary at the present time to take that special step, that it would be sufficient if we emphasized fully, both in the discussions and in the vote, the importance attached to an increase in membership by a very large section of the United Nations.

57. We definitely had in mind the fact that our opinion and our desire would receive careful attention and the fullest consideration on the part of the permanent members of the Security Council whose unanimous ratification was required under 'Article 108 of the Charter. We therefore felt that what was required at the present stage was only to give the greatest possible emphasis to the feelings of a very large section of the United Nations, and to give expression to that in such a manner that there would be no doubt about it and that every effort would be made to give effect to that desire.

58. We do not ourselves think that the appointment of a committee means any kind of pressure being brought to bear on all or any one of the permanent members of the Security Council. The objective which the committee was to fulfil was the consideration of the possibility of an agreement being reached that would result in an amendment of the Charter. But at the Committee stage we did not feel that such a committee should be set up. Therefore, our delegation opposed the draft resolution put forward by the El Salvador delegation.

59. Since the end of the discussion in the Committee, much effort has been expended amongst those who supported the El Salvador draft resolution and those who supported the twelve-Power draft resolution to bring about some agreement or understanding by means of a compromise which would still emphasize the main objective, namely the amendment of the Charter, and minimize the question of the appointment of a committee.

60. I think we owe a debt of gratitude to both the representative of El Salvador and the representative of Japan for making such a compromise arrangement possible. Like all compromises, this compromise is not in every respect completely acceptable or satisfactory. One can raise objections against its form or against its conception with regard to certain details. But I would suggest to the Members of the General Assembly that, inasmuch as our main objective is still being emphasized as a result of this amendment, and inasmuch as no committee is to be appointed at this session, it should be possible for a larger number of representatives of this Assembly to give their support to the resolution of El Salvador and Japan in its amended form.

61. Therefore, I would like to suggest that this point of view might be taken into special consideration on this occasion. There are, of course, certain defects, like the defect already pointed out, namely that it is unsatisfactory that the wording is such that the fourteenth session of the General Assembly "declares" that the fifteenth session should do a certain thing with regard to this matter. But as has been stated, the use of the word "declares" is in itself an indication that no decision has been main by the fourteenth session as to what the fifteenth session must do. The intention is the same if the authors of the amendment had used the words "recommends" or "expresses the hope". As was pointed out by the representative of Japan, it is not intended that the passage of this amendment should bind the fifteenth session of the General Assembly, or that the fourteenth session seeks to bind the fifteenth session in regard even to this particular matter of the appointment of a committee. In fact, the fifteenth session should, and indeed Ithink will, be free not only to consider other alternatives, such, for instance, as the consideration of an actual amendment to the Charter, but any other measure other than the appointment of a committee. As was stated by the representative of Japan, the intention is only to establish a greater degree of concord and harmony so that this expression of opinion in favour of an enlargement of the membership of these organs by an amendment to the Charter may be more fully and forcefully expressed in the plenary sessions of the General Assembly.

62. It would not be correct to imagine that because we decide, in the operative part of both resolutions, to postpone consideration of this matter to the fifteenth session of the General Assembly that it is an indication that we recognize that an amendment to the Charter is not necessary or is not possible. Ithink that anyone who listened to the debate in the Committee could not escape the inevitable conclusion that there was a universal desire so to do. Why we adopted this attitude of postponing a decision until the fifteenth session was only because we were impressed by the point of view expressed by one of the permanent members of the Security Council. That member stated a specific difficulty, namely, the connexion between an amendment to the Charter and the admission of the People's Republic of China to membership of the United Nations. As was pointed out in the Committee, it is not only this particular permanent member of the Security Council which has espoused and strongly supported the case for the admission of the People's Republic of Chinato the

United Nations. There are many delegations which have done so; there are many delegations which strongly want an amendment to the Charter in this r spect which are also strong supporters of the admission of the People's Republic of China. My own delegation is in that position. Therefore, we are not minimizing the importance of the admission of the People's Republic of China, but we do not wish to press that matter on this occasion. We want our views to be considered, and we want this important matter to be taken full account of in the hope that the permanent members of the Security Council will find some way out of this difficulty which confronts us at present.

63. Therefore, while we stand strongly by our own opinion that the People's Republic of China should become a Member of the United Nations, we would still. at the same time, give full support to the view that an amendment to the Charter for the express purpose of increasing the membership of the United Nations should be carried out. The two are not mutually exclusive, and that is the reason why we decided not to call for a decision at the fourteenth session of the General Assembly but to put it off until the fifteenth session. It is our hope that, by the time the fifteenth session comes round or during that session, some way will be found to give effect to this desire. We agree that the Charter is not bad, that we can work this Charter. But we do feel that adequate representation to eighty-two countries is not provided in the manner in which the Charter provides representation for forty or fifty Member States. With increasing membership in view, we feel that, however, satisfactory the Charter may be in other respects, in regard to the question of representation the Charter is unsatisfactory. We cannot be satisfied with having our Member States appointed to functional organs of the various bodies of the United Nations; we want full membership in the principal organs, and until and unless that is provided, there will be a serious grievance against the existing provisions of the Charter.

64. I do regret the fact that the admission of Communist China to the United Nations was considered to amount to a kind of blackmail in order to obtain the revision of the Charter. I want to disclaim any such idea on the part of anyone who was associated with this request for the amendment of the Charter and who was also in support of the admission of Communist China. There is no element involved of trying to force anyone by this means. It is only the expression of a universal desire which is in all our minds.

65. I have tried to explain why my delegation, which in the Committee strongly opposed the position adopted by the delegation of El Salvador, namely the setting up of a committee, should now support the amendment. In the first place, the amendment does not seek to appoint a committee at this session. In the second place, we consider that the wording of the amendment is no more than an indication that the question of setting up a committee at the fifteenth session should be considered; it is no more than a recommendation. We feel that much is to be gained by giving support to the desire to create an atmosphere of harmony and concord between the two groups, both of which believe in the need to increase the membership of these bodies and differ only in regard to the means to be used to secure that end. We therefore propose to support the amendment. For the reasons which we have given, we hope that it may be possible for a large number of Members

of the Assembly, whatever the little difficulties which they may face with regard to the wording of the amendment, to give their support so as to emphasize the strong views prevailing in the Assembly on this question.

66. With regard to draft resolution II—which is also in the report of the Special Political Committee, my dogation believes that if the amendment is carried and the El Salvador draft resolution I as amended is adopted, it would not be necessary to put draft resolution II to the vote. We have no objection, but we feel that no useful prupose would be served by putting that draft also to the vote.

67. In conclusion, may I say that the representative of El Salvador deserves our thanks for the consideration he always displayed in the discussions which were held with a view to reconciling these two draft resolutions so that we might find a compromise more acceptable to a larger number. Between the representatives of Japan and El Salvador, they have succeeded in finding this formula, which my delegation would like to commend to the Assembly.

68. Mr. LIU (China): It is hardly necessary for my delegation to explain our position with regard to the increase of membership of the Councils of the United Nations. We have been consistently in favour of an increase in order to make possible a wider participation in the work of the principal organs. However, much has been said to link the question of amending the Charter to the question of China's representation.

69. As I pointed out in the Committee, the question of representation is entirely irrelevant to the issue of amending the Charter. It would not be appropriate for me at this stage to elaborate on my observations. That irrelevancy has been conceded even by representatives who have spoken in support of the admission of the Chinese Communists.

70. In my statement in the Committee, I likened the present impasse to the situation we had to face a few years ago when the Soviet Union obstructed the will of the General Assembly with regard to the admission of new members by the device of the so-called package deal. By that device, the Soviet Union sought the admission of States which otherwise would have been unqualified for membership. But there is an obvious difference in the situations. In the case of the admission of new members, the necessary recommendation had to come from the Security Council. For our present purpose, the amending of the Charter under Article 108 does not require the prior consent of any of the permanent members of the Security Council. The proper procedure would be for the Assembly to adopt such amendments as it desires, and it is only the coming into effect of the amendments that has to await the necessary ratification by Member States in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

71. It is therefore within the power of the General Assembly, if it so desires, to proceed forthwith to the amending of the Charter. To say that we must have the express consent of the Soviet Union before proceeding to adopt any amendment by the General Assembly is, to put it frankly, in my submission, something like putting the cart before the horse. It is even more of an absurdity to suggest that such amendment involves considerations of the position of any party outside the United Nations. 72. As to the two draft resolutions now before us, both drafts have the effect and serve the same purpose of postponing the question to the next session. We are therefore able to vote for either of them, but we consider that it would be entirely redundant to adopt both. For this reason, my delegation particularly welcomes the amendment [A/L.269] proposed by the representative of Japan and accepted by the representative of El Salvador.

73. Mr. PACHACHI (Iraq): My delegation did not intend to participate in the present debate since our views were repeatedly and fully expounded in the Special Political Committee where the matter received the closest and most thorough attention by the members. Our present intervention, however, has been necessitated by the amendment [A/L.269] presented by the delegations of El Salvador and Japan and by the different interpretations given to its meaning and to the extent to which it would bind the General Assembly at its next session.

74. My delegation opposed the proposal to set up a study committee because in our opinion the matter needs no further study. All the issues and difficulties are well known. Such a committee might have been useful three years ago, when this question was first considered by the General Assembly, but now, after three sessions during which long and exhaustive debates have taken place and in which the position of practically every Member State of the Organization has been studied and reaffirmed, a study group could do nothing of real value. The obstacles to amending the Charter at present will not and, indeed, cannot be solved by a study group, however well meaning and capable its members may be.

75. The position of my delegation with regard to amending the Charter is well known. We favour such an amendment because we believe that the countries of Asia and Africa are hopelessly under-represented in the two principal organs of the United Nations, namely, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council. We believe that this situation will become progressively worse and more iniquitous with the expected increase of membership from these two continents, particularly from the continent of Africa.

76. But amendments of the Charter cannot be forced on any one. The Charter states that such amendments have to be ratified by the five permanent members of the ecurity Council. Such ratification raises a crucial problem of law and politics, particularly for those States which happen to recognize the Government of the People's Republic of China. In these circumstances, it would be both unwise and inopportune, in our view, to force an issue of this kind at the present stage. However, in a spirit of compromise and harmony, we will not vote against the amendment proposed by El Salvador and Japan, but will abstain. If the amendment is carried, we will abstain on the whole draft resolution.

77. However, before concluding I should like to state that our understanding of this amendment is that the next session of the General Assembly would in no way be bound to set up a committee and that the matter would have to be dealt with at the next session on its own merits, and that such a decision would be taken only if it were the desire of the majority of the Member States to have such a committee. But we would in no way be bound to follow this course of action, and our position, therefore, is reserved until the fifteenth session of the General Assembly.

78. Mr. GARCIA ROBLES (Mexico) (translated from Spanish): I should like to sum up very briefly my delegation's position with respect to the agenda items which are before us, and in doing so to cite the statements which I have already had occasion to make in the Special Political Committee.

79. At the meeting of the Special Political Committee held on 19 October 1959, I saidthat in my delegation's view constructive results will be possible only if we start from a dispassionate and impartial analysis of the facts, and went on:

"... As regards the question at present under debate, these factors seem to us to be the following.

"First, the number of Members of the United Nations has increased from fifty-one, which was the original number of Members, to eighty-two, and it is virtually certain that in the near future the number will increase to eighty-six or eighty=seven.

"Secondly, this substantial increase makes it desirable to broaden the membership of some of the organs of the United Nations which have only a limited membership so that more Members of our Organization may have an opportunity to participate in the work of these organs and, also, to the end that the same opportunities for participation which were available to the first founding Members, when these organs were first established fifteen years ago, may continue to be available to all Members at the present time.

"Third, the desirability of broadening the membership in this way is the more important for the Economic and Social Council because, as the Charter itself recognizes, peaceful and friendly relations among nations can have a sound foundation only if the Organization actively undertakes to promote higher standards of living, full employment for all and conditions of economic and social progress and development—and this clearly...falls within the purview of the Economic and Social Council.

"On the other hand, the majority of Members who have been admitted to the United Nations subsequent to the San Francisco Conference can be placed in the group of countries usually described as underdeveloped countries or countries in the process of economic development.

"Fourthly, the increase in the number of members of any principal organ of the United Nations necessarily calls for an amendment of the Charter, even if these amendments are only limited in scope, as would be the case under these proposals.

"Fifthly, these amendments must not be considered unusual. Quite the contrary, such amendments were specifically foreseen in Article 108 of the Charter and were provided for there. We must also bear in mind that, in accordance with the terms of Article 108, the adoption of such amendments is made subject to the principle of unanimity among the five permanent members of the Security Council." $\pm/$

 $[\]frac{1}{1}$ This statement was made on 19 October 1959 at the 132nd meeting of the Special Political Committee, the official record of which is published only in summary form.

80. Later, at the Special Political Committee's meeting of 26 October 1959, Ianalysed in detail the position in which the Committee then found itself and mentioned the point I have just made, namely, that under the terms of the Charter any amendment of the Charter requires not only a vote of two-thirds of all the Members of the United Nations but also ratification by all the permanent members of the Security Council; and after further reminding the Committee that the situation in this respect had unfortunately not changed from that of previous years, I went on to say:

"Let us ask ourselves, therefore, what is the best thing we can do within the existing limitations? When I say 'the best thing', I mean from a practical, constructive point of view.

"In my delegation's opinion, the best thing we can do is to record in a General Assembly resolution that 'strong desire', to which the two draft resolutions refer, and which has been expressed here by so many representatives of Member States, that the membership of the Economic and Social Council and the Security Council should be increased. But if the resolution is to carry all the moral force which is needed, it must be approved by the vast majority of the Members of our Organization—if possible, by all of them". 2/

81. Accordingly, I ventured to suggest in that same statement that an effort should be made, if possible, to reach an agreement of such a nature that the draft resolution put to the vote in the Committee should be certain in advance not to meet the opposition of a large part of the Committee. Unfortunately, that suggestion could not be carried out, and the results of the voting proved, I think, that the fears I had expressed were justified.

82. The nine-Power amendment calling for the deletion of the controversial paragraphs in one of the draft resolutions failed to secure adoption because of an equal vote: 35 in favour, 35 against and 11 abstentions. The Salvadorian revised draft resolution was then adopted with a vote of 47 in favour; but there were as many as 25 votes against, and 10 abstentions. Finally, a vote was taken on another draft resolution, submitted by twelve Powers, which, while it said precisely the same thing, essentially, as the Salvadorian draft resolution, omitted the disputed provisions regarding the setting up of a committee to study the question. This draft resolution was adopted by 39 votes to none, with 43 abstentions.

83. As a result of that anomalous situation, the Committee transmitted to the General Assembly two draft resolutions which are practically identical, apart from the provisions I have referred to, which are included in the first but not in the second.

84. My delegation is glad that in the interval between the completion of the Special Political Committee's work and this plenary meeting it has proved possible, thanks to the efforts of some of the sponsors of the African-Asian draft resolution and the delegation of El Salvador, the sponsor of the other draft resolution, to draft an amendment [A/L.269] which, while it does not appear to meet with the approval of all the Members represented here, at least has that of the great majority. 85. My delegation, as I said in the Special Political Committee, had no objection to the provision for setting up a committee to study the question apart from the fact that it would unquestionably split the vote in the Special Political Committee and thus weaken the moral force of the resolution adopted; accordingly, it will of course have no difficulty at this stage—since the grounds for its objection have disappeared—in voting for the joint amendment submitted by El Salvador and Japan. If, as we hope, this amendment is adopted, it will also vote in favour of draft resolution I, and will hope that the sponsors of draft resolution II will perhaps find it possible not to press for a vote on their text.

86. In the Special Political Committee my delegation voted in favour of the twelve-Power draft resolution being also put to the vote; but we did so precisely because we felt it essential that there should be at least one draft resolution on which all those delegations which had felt obliged for reasons beyond their control to vote against the first one could also express their support of and their agreement with the idea of increasing the membership of the organs in question. This reason, I believe, will no longer exist if the compromise amendment submitted by El Salvador and Japan is adopted and incorporated in draft resolution I.

87. If therefore, draft resolution II is pressed to a vote, my delegation will be obliged to abstain—principally, I repeat, for technical reasons, that is—because we do not believe it desirable that two practically identical resolutions should appear among the printed resolutions of the Assembly.

88. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I give the floor to the representative of the Soviet Union, who wishes to exercise his right of reply.

89. Mr. SOBOLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (<u>translated from Russian</u>): I should like to make use of my right to reply in order to draw attention to certain remarks which were made in the course of the explanations of vote.

90. I do not, of course, intend to reply to the individual who is seated in China's place and who represents no one but himself, but I cannot pass over in silence some of the remarks made by the representative of the United States. The United States representative referred directly to the Soviet Union and described its position in terms which certainly cannot be left unanswered. He used such expressions as "unilateral action", "abuse of veto power", "blackmail" and so forth.

91. Representatives are witnesses to the fact that, in discussing the item on today's agenda, I did not touch upon its controversial aspects, since I did not wish to introduce an acrimonious note into the discussion. I did not, for example, mention the United States by name when I referred to the personal and material responsibility for creating the real obstacles to a constructive discussion of proposals to amend the Charter. I might, however, have pointed out that only the position of the United States is preventing the restoration to the People's Republic of China of its legitimate rights in the United Nations. It is this position which is the real obstacle to a fruitful and effective solution to the question of amending the Charter.

^{2/} This statement was made on 26 October 1959 at the 136th meeting of the Special Political Committee, the official record of which is published only in summary form.

92. The Soviet delegation regrets that the United States representative saw fit to introduce into the discussion of a question of such gravity and importance as that of the revision of the Charter an element of propaganda—cheap propaganda, Imight call it, since he used such hackneyed journalistic expressions as "abuse of veto power", "blackmail" and so forth. By completely distorting the Soviet Union's position, the introduction of such an element into a General Assembly debate certainly does not help to create a situation in the Assembly conducive to the constructive collaboration which the Soviet delegation endeavours to achieve in the discussion of all questions.

93. A few days ago, another United States re_resentative delivered a lecture to the General Committee on the need to use parliamentary language in the General Assembly. After listening to the remarks made by the United States representative today, I can only reply by quoting the well-known saying: "Physician, heal thyself".

94. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): The Assembly has before it draft resolutions I and II recommended by the Special Political Committee and contained in its report [A/4256] together with the amendment [A/L.269] submitted by El Salvador and Japan. Pursuant to the rules of procedure, I will first put this amendment to the vote.

The amendment was adopted by 44 votes to 10, with 25 abstentions.

95. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): We shall now vote on draft resolution I as amended. A roll-call vote has been requested.

A vote was taken by roll-call.

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

In fayour: Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sudan, Thailand, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Federation of Malaya, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras.

<u>Against:</u> Hungary, Poland, Romania, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia.

<u>Abstaining</u>: India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Libya, Morocco, Nepal, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Tunisia, United Arab Republic, Yemen, Afghanistan, Burma, Cambodia, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Guinea.

Draft resolution I as amended was adopted by 48 votes to 10 with 22 abstentions.

96. U ON SEIN (Burma): My delegation understands and appreciates the principles that govern the amendment proposed by the delegations of El Salvador and Japan, but unfortunately I find myself unable to vote in favour of its adoption by the General Assembly.

97. In the Committee my delegation voted against the draft resolution submitted by the delegation of El

Salvador, as we sincerely believed that the committee of study envisaged therein would not serve any useful purpose in view of the statements made by a permanent member of the Security Council.

98. My delegation has always been in favour of amending the Charter and the enlargement of the membership of the Security Council and of the Economic and Social Council. In the Committee my delegation, along with many African-Asian delegations, submitted a draft resolution.

99. The amendment proposed by the delegations of El Salvador and Japan amounts to making decisions in advance for the General Assembly to adopt at its fifteenth session. In addition, it amounts to making commitments in advance for our respective Governments. Such a thing is not within the competence of my delegation.

100. For these reasons, my delegation abstained in the vote on the amendment and, since the amendment was carried, my delegation abstained on draft resolution I as a whole.

101. Mr. BEELEY (United Kingdom): I wish to say a few words in explanation of the vote which my delegation has just cast in favour of the amendment introduced by the delegations of El Salvador and Japan.

102. I need not recall to the Assembly the situation with which we were faced in the Special Political Committee. That has already been done by previous speakers. At the end of the debate there, I expressed the hope that the two groups mainly concerned would find a way of reconciling their views before the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee were brought before the Assembly in plenary meeting. The United Kingdom delegation did not participate in the efforts which were subsequently made by the representatives of the two groups concerned, the result of which was embodied in the amendment to which I have just referred. Had we taken part in those discussions, we should, I think, have aimed at a somewhat different expression of the compromise arrived at. 'We would not normally wish to use language which appeared to represent an attempt by one session of the Assembly to commit a future session to a specific course of action.

103. My delegation nevertheless voted in favour of this amendment and of draft resolution I as consequently revised. Two principal considerations led us to this decision. The first was that the language of the amendment was the result of prolonged negotiations which have enabled the overwhelming majority of those who favoured enlargement of the two Councils either to vote in favour or to abstain on draft resolution I.

104. The resolution has obtained a substantial vote in the General Assembly, a vote which expresses the harmony of purpose of all those who wish to see the enlargement of the two Councils,

105. Secondly, the language of the amendment, if examined as carefully as it was drafted, does not, strictly speaking, seek to deprive the fifteenth session of the Assembly of its freedom of action. My delegation interprets this language rather as a moral obligation upon the individual delegations which have voted in favour to support the establishment of the proposed committee next year if there is still a general desire among them that this be done.

106. Mr. DJIKIC (Yugoslavia) (translated from French): I should like to explain my delegation's vote. As you know, my delegation tried in the Special Political Committee to bring about some progress on the question of increasing the membership of the principal organs of the United Nations. We also pointed out the reasons in favour of enlarging those organs. We took a similar position at the recent meeting of the Committee on arrangements for a conference for the purpose of reviewing the Charter. However, we have to take into account the fact that there is not yet complete agreement, in particular among the permanent members of the Security Council, on this question. We hope nevertheless that such agreement will be achieved in the near future, as a result of the present favourable development of international relations.

107. In view of what I have just said, I wish to stress once again that our vote against draft resolution I, as amended, in no way changes our positive attitude with regard to the need for increasing the membership of the principal United Nations organs. We do not believe that it would be right to prejudge at this session whatever decision may be made at the fifteenth session. We should have preferred the adoption of a resolution providing for further consideration of this question at the fifteenth session of the General Assembly.

108. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): Since draft resolution I with its amendment has been approved, I do not consider it necessary to vote on draft resolution II. If there are no objections, I shall take it that this is the opinion of the Assembly.

109. I call on the representative of the Soviet Union on a point of order.

110. Mr. SOBOLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (translated from Russian): In its report, the Special Political Committee submits two draft resolutions for the General Assembly's consideration. The General Assembly has voted on one of them. In accordance with the rules of procedure—the normal rules a vote should be taken on draft resolution II.

111. If any delegation considers that draft resolution II should not be put to the vote, then he should, in accordance with the normal procedure, go to the rostrum and introduce a proposal that it should not be voted upon. No formal proposal to that effect has been made. I therefore request the President to follow the rules of procedure and to put draft resolution II to the vote.

112. The PRESIDENT (<u>translated from Spanish</u>): May I point out to the representative of the Soviet Union that once a draft resolution is approved in a Committee it comes to the General Assembly as a recommendation of that Committee, and not as a proposal by certain delegations. In any case, I leave it to the General Assembly to decide whether or not to vote on draft resolution II.

113. The representative of the Soviet Union has the floor on a point of order.

114. Mr. SOBOLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (<u>translated from Russian</u>): With all due respect for the President's high office, I must nevertheless point out that his statement of the position in regard to putting draft resolution II to the vote is neither correct nor in accordance with the rules of procedure. There is no need for the General Assembly to vote on whether or not it wishes to put draft resolution II to a vote, since that draft resolution is included in the Committee's report. Any draft resolution appearing in a Committee's report must be put to a vote, in the absence of a decision to the contrary by the General Assembly. Since no representative has made such a proposal, it is therefore unnecessary to vote on the issue. I request that draft resolution II should be put to the vote.

115. Mr. ESCOBAR (Colombia) (<u>translated from</u> <u>Spanish</u>): In order to facilitate this discussion and at the same time to prevent any confusion, particularly on a matter of procedure, I shall oblige the representative of the Soviet Union by making a formal request that no vote should be taken on draft resolution II.

116. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): The Assembly will now decide whether or not we should vote on draft resolution II. The draft resolutions now before the Assembly were submitted to it by the Special Political Committee; accordingly, a suggestion by the President was not sufficient. In fact, I suggested that draft resolution II should not be put to the vote. That suggestion was challenged. Out of respect for the delegations, I did not formally submit a proposal. Now we have before us a formal proposal by the delegation of Colombia that no vote should be taken on draft resolution II. I invite the Assembly to vote on this proposal. A roll-call vote has been requested.

A vote was taken by roll-call.

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

In favour: France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador.

<u>Against</u>: Finland, Ghana, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Libya, Morocco, Nepal, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Albania, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Czechoslovakia.

Abstaining: Jordan, Lebanon, Mexico, Pakistan, Panama, Sudan, Uruguay, Venezuela, Bolivia, Canada, Cuba, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya.

The proposal was adopted by 38 votes to 28, with 14 abstentions.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.

.

.

.

.

.

.