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ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE UNITED NATIONS: REPORTS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND OF THE COMMITTEE OF GOOD OFFICES

Report of the Ad Hoc Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Charles T.O. KING (Liberia)

1. In conformity with the provisions of paragraph 5 of resolution 817 (IX), adopted by the General Assembly on 23 November 1954, the Committee of Good Offices on the Admission of New Members, on 19 September 1955, submitted a preliminary report (A/2973) to the Secretary-General for transmission to the General Assembly. Reviewing the efforts it had made in response to the General Assembly's request, the Committee noted the possibility that developments in the course of the next few months might lead to further improvements in the international atmosphere. The Committee also hoped that the deliberations of the Security Council, when it met to discuss the report requested of it by the General Assembly in resolution 817 (IX), would provide an opportunity to renew the search for a solution of the problem, and accordingly expressed its readiness to continue its efforts during the course of the tenth session of the Assembly.

2. The General Assembly also received an application (A/2984) from Spain for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 1955 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain and accompanied by a declaration of Spain's acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter.

3. At its 530th plenary meeting on 30 September 1955, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item "Admission of new Members to the United Nations: reports of the Security Council and of the Committee of Good Offices" in the agenda of the tenth session and referred it to the Ad Hoc Political Committee for consideration and report.

4. The Ad Hoc Political Committee considered the question at its 25th to 32nd meetings held between 1 and 7 December.
5. At the outset of the Committee's consideration of the matter, at its 25th meeting on 1 December, the Chairman of the Committee of Good Offices made a statement concerning the activities of that Committee.
6. At the same meeting, the representative of Canada introduced a twenty-eight Power joint draft resolution (A/AC.80/L.3, L.3/Add.1 and Add.2/Rev.1), sponsored by Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Yemen and Yugoslavia. According to the terms of the joint draft resolution, the General Assembly, inter alia, taking into account the statements about the admission of new Members made by permanent members of the Security Council in the general debate at the present session of the Assembly, and believing that a broader representation in the membership of the United Nations would enable the Organization to play a more effective role in the current international situation, would: (1) express appreciation of the work and efforts of the Committee of Good Offices; (2) request the Security Council to consider, in the light of the general opinion in favour of the widest possible membership of the United Nations, the pending applications for membership of all those countries about which no problem of unification arose; and (3) request further that the Security Council should make its report on these applications to the General Assembly during the present session.
7. At the same meeting, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics introduced an amendment (A/AC.80/L.5) to the twenty-eight Power joint draft resolution, providing for the deletion in operative paragraph 2 of the words "of all those countries about which no problem of unification arises", and their replacement by the words: "of eighteen States (Albania, the Mongolian People's Republic, Jordan, Ireland, Portugal, Hungary, Italy, Austria, Romania, Bulgaria, Finland, Ceylon, Nepal, Libya, Cambodia, Japan, Laos and Spain)".
8. At the 26th meeting on 2 December, the sponsors of the joint draft resolution submitted a revised text (A/AC.80/L.3/Rev.1) which provided for the insertion in the second operative paragraph of the word "eighteen", so that the phrase

would read: "the pending applications for membership of all those eighteen countries about which no problem of unification arises".

9. On 2 December, Cuba submitted a series of amendments to the revised joint draft resolution (A/AC.80/L.7 and Corr.1 in English only). These amendments, after providing for two additions to the preambular paragraphs making reference to the qualifications required by Article 4 of the Charter, called for (1) the deletion of operative paragraph 2 and substitution therefore of a paragraph reading: "Requests the Security Council, in the light of the general opinion that the United Nations should have the widest possible membership of States possessing the qualifications required by Article 4 of the Charter, to consider the pending applications for membership in accordance with the principles established by the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 28 May 1948;" and (2) the deletion of operative paragraph 3 and the substitution therefore of a paragraph reading: "Requests further that the Security Council, in accordance with the principles established by the International Court of Justice in its advisory opinion of 28 May 1948, make its report on these applications to the General Assembly during the present session".

10. On the same day, Cuba submitted an amendment (A/AC.80/L.8) to the USSR amendment (A/AC.80/L.5) to the twenty-eight Power joint draft resolution, providing that the word "eighteen" should be replaced by the word "twenty", and that the list of States enumerated should include at the end the Republic of Korea and the Republic of Viet-Nam.

11. At the 32nd meeting on 7 December, the representative of the USSR stated that he would not press for a vote on his amendment (A/AC.80/L.5) to the revised joint draft resolution (A/AC.80/L.3/Rev.1).

12. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba stated that he would accordingly not press for a vote on the Cuban amendment (A/AC.80/L.8) to the USSR amendment. He also moved that operative paragraph 2 of the revised joint draft resolution should be voted upon in two parts: the first part up to and including the words "the pending applications for membership"; and the second part the remaining words "of all those eighteen countries about which no problem of unification arises".

13. The representative of India, invoking rule 130 of the rules of procedure, opposed the Cuban motion for the division of operative paragraph 2, and requested that the motion should be put to the Committee for its decision.

14. At the same meeting, the Cuban motion to vote by parts on operative paragraph 2 was rejected by a roll-call vote of 38 to 8, with 13 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Greece, Guatemala, Liberia, Nicaragua.

Against: Afghanistan, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Abstaining: Argentina, Belgium, France, Honduras, Israel, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Paraguay, Philippines, Turkey, United States of America, Venezuela.

15. At the same meeting, the revised twenty-eight Power joint draft resolution (A/AC.80/L.3/Rev.1), and the Cuban amendments thereto (A/AC.80/L.7 and Corr.1 in English only) were voted on paragraph by paragraph, with the following results:

Preamble

The Cuban amendment to the first paragraph of the preamble was rejected by a roll-call vote of 38 to 7, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Belgium, China, Cuba, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United States of America.

Against: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Abstaining: Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Philippines, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela.

The first paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 48 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

The second and third paragraphs were adopted by 53 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

The Cuban amendment to the fourth paragraph was rejected by a roll-call vote of 37 to 7, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Belgium, China, Cuba, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United States of America.

Against: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Abstaining: Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Philippines, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela.

The fourth paragraph was adopted by 53 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

Operative part:

Operative paragraph 1 was adopted by 51 votes to none, with 8 abstentions.

The Cuban amendment to paragraph 2 was rejected by a roll-call vote of 38 to 7, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Belgium, China, Cuba, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United States of America.

Against: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Abstaining Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Liberia, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela.

Paragraph 2 was adopted by 52 votes to 2, with 5 abstentions.

The Cuban amendment to paragraph 3 was rejected by a roll-call vote of 37 to 7, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Belgium, China, Cuba, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United States of America.

Against: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Abstaining: Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Liberia, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Philippines, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela.

Paragraph 3 was adopted by 52 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by a roll-call vote of 52 to 2, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: China, Cuba.

Abstaining: Belgium, France, Greece, Israel, United States of America.

16. The Ad Hoc Political Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The General Assembly,

Having noted the general sentiment which has been expressed on numerous occasions in favour of the widest possible membership of the United Nations,

Having received the preliminary report (A/2973) of the Committee of Good Offices established by General Assembly resolution 718 (VIII) of 23 October 1953,

Taking into account the statements about the admission of new members made by permanent members of the Security Council in the general debate at the present session of the General Assembly,

Believing that a broader representation in the membership of the United Nations will enable the Organization to play a more effective role in the current international situation,

1. Expresses appreciation of the work and efforts of the Committee of Good Offices;
2. Requests the Security Council to consider, in the light of the general opinion in favour of the widest possible membership of the United Nations, the pending applications for membership of all those eighteen countries about which no problem of unification arises;
3. Requests further that the Security Council make its report on these applications to the General Assembly during the present session.
