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TREATMENT OF PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN  
IN THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA: REPORTS  
OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Report of the Special Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mihai MAGHERU (Romania)

1. On 16 August 1957, India requested the inclusion of the following item in the supplementary list of items of the twelfth session of the General Assembly:  
"Treatment of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa: report of the Government of India (resolution 1015 (XI)) of 30 January 1957 (A/3643)". In the explanatory memorandum it was stated that, in pursuance of resolution 1015 (XI), the Government of India had sought to enter into negotiations with the Government of the Union of South Africa but had received no acknowledgment or reply to its communication. Since the explicit wish of the General Assembly that negotiations be conducted to facilitate a settlement of the problem had been frustrated, while the position of persons of Indian origin in South Africa had continued to deteriorate, the Government of India proposed to report to the Assembly at its twelfth session.
2. On the same day, Pakistan requested the inclusion of the following item:  
"Treatment of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa: report of the Government of Pakistan (resolution 1015 (XI)) of 30 January 1957 (A/3645)". In the explanatory memorandum, it was stated that the Government of Pakistan had asked the Government of the Union of South Africa to enter into negotiations, as recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution, but there had been no response. As the purposes of the resolution had remained unfulfilled, the Government of Pakistan proposed to report on this matter to the Assembly at its twelfth session.

3. On 20 September 1957, the Assembly decided, by a roll-call vote of 63 to 2, with 16 abstentions, to include the item in its agenda and referred it to the Special Political Committee.
4. The Committee considered the question at its 58th to 63rd meetings, held between 4 and 12 November 1957.
5. At the 61st meeting on 8 November 1957, a draft resolution was submitted by Iran, Mexico, Philippines and Yugoslavia (A/SPC/L.19). It provided that the Assembly would: (1) note that the Governments of both India and Pakistan had reiterated their readiness to pursue negotiations with the Government of the Union of South Africa; (2) note with regret that the Union Government had not agreed to carry forward the purposes of resolution 1015(XI); (3) appeal to the Union Government to participate in negotiations with the Governments of India and Pakistan, with a view to solving this problem in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; (4) invite the parties concerned to report as appropriate, jointly or separately, to the Assembly regarding the progress of the negotiations.
6. At the 63rd meeting, the Committee voted on the four-Power draft resolution (A/SPC/L.19) paragraph by paragraph, with the following results:

The preamble was adopted by 66 votes to none, with 11 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 1, was adopted by 66 votes to none, with 10 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 2, was adopted by 59 votes to 2, with 14 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 3, was adopted by 66 votes to none, with 9 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 4, was adopted by 63 votes to none, with 13 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by a roll-call vote of 63 to none, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Ceylon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, EL Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Malaya, Federation of, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia. /...

Against: None.

Abstaining: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

7. The Special Political Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

TREATMENT OF PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN IN THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1015 (XI) of 30 January 1957,

Having considered the reports of the Governments of India and Pakistan,

1. Notes that the Governments of both India and Pakistan have reiterated their readiness to pursue negotiations with the Government of the Union of South Africa, in accordance with the expressed desires of the United Nations;
2. Notes with regret that the Government of the Union of South Africa has not agreed to carry forward the purposes of the resolution referred to;
3. Appeals to the Government of the Union of South Africa to participate in negotiations with the Governments of India and Pakistan, with a view to solving this problem in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
4. Invites the parties concerned to report as appropriate, jointly or separately to the General Assembly, regarding the progress of the negotiations.

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