



Thirteenth session
Agenda item 61

MEASURES AIMED AT IMPLEMENTATION AND PROMOTION OF
PEACEFUL AND NEIGHBOURLY RELATIONS AMONG STATES

Report of the Special Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Edmond SYLVAIN (Haiti)

1. In a note verbale dated 10 July 1958 the Permanent Mission of Czechoslovakia requested the inclusion of the question "Measures aimed at implementation and promotion of principles of peaceful coexistence among States" in the agenda of the thirteenth session (A/3847). On 18 August, the Permanent Representative of Czechoslovakia submitted an explanatory memorandum (A/3847/Add.1) stating that, although over the last few years the movement to ease international tension and promote peaceful coexistence among States had gained ground throughout the world, another serious threat to world peace had recently arisen and the mistrust between the States had not yet been removed. The practical application of the principles of peaceful coexistence should become the principal task of the foreign policies of all States. Nations would welcome new efforts by the United Nations to that end. Guided by the desire to contribute to the safeguarding of peace, thus far unstable, and to the widening of international co-operation, the Government of Czechoslovakia proposed the inclusion of the item in question.

2. On 17 September 1958, the General Committee approved the suggestion by the representative of the United States that the item proposed by Czechoslovakia should be reworded to read "Measures aimed at implementation and promotion of peaceful and neighbourly relations among States". On 22 September the General Assembly decided to place the item on the agenda of its thirteenth session under the amended heading recommended by the General Committee and to refer it to the Special Political Committee.

3. On 6 October, Czechoslovakia submitted a draft resolution (A/SPC/L.24) under which the General Assembly, condemning as detrimental to world peace all acts directed against the principles mentioned in resolution 1236 (XII), (1) called upon all States to refrain from any action directed against the principles of peaceful and neighbourly relations and to remove all obstacles which might stand in the way of implementing these principles; (2) recommended to Governments to assist the development of co-operation in the field of economy, culture, science and technology, with the aim of concluding bilateral and multilateral agreements which would facilitate the rapprochement of States and nations and the development of neighbourly relations among them; and (3) recommended to all Governments of Member States to take measures aimed at the dissemination of the ideas of peaceful coexistence among nations in schools, in the press, in the radio and television programmes.
4. The Special Political Committee considered the item at its 116th-121st meetings from 1 to 5 December 1958.
5. On 1 December, the representative of Argentina presented a draft resolution (A/SPC/L.27) on behalf of the following nine States: Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Ceylon, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, India, Ireland and Yugoslavia. Under the terms of the draft the General Assembly, recalling its resolution 1236 (XII), (1) reaffirmed the purposes and principles of the United Nations; (2) called upon Member States to live together within the letter and spirit of the Charter; (3) urged all Members while making full use of Article 35 of the Charter to resort to the Organization for the peaceful solution of problems which interfere with friendly and neighbourly relations among States or threaten international peace; (4) called upon Member States to take effective steps towards the implementation of principles of peaceful and neighbourly relations; (5) recommended that all Member States take practical measures or make arrangements in conjunction with and not inconsistent with the programmes of the United Nations and specialized agencies to foster open, free and friendly co-operation and understanding in the fields of economy, culture, science, technology and communications; and (6) welcomed with satisfaction agreements between Member States which work or will work towards the attainment of the aims envisaged in the resolution.

6. At the 121st meeting, on 5 December, the representative of Czechoslovakia announced that he would not insist on his delegation's draft resolution (A/SPC/L.24) being put to the vote.
7. The nine-Power draft resolution (A/SPC/L.27) was then put to the vote and adopted by 68 votes to none, with 1 abstention.
8. The Special Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

Measures aimed at implementation and promotion of peaceful
and neighbourly relations among States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1236 (XII) of 14 December 1957;

Considering the paramount importance of ensuring international peace and security,

Realizing the urgent need of finding solutions to contemporary problems which stand in the way of the promotion of friendly and neighbourly relations among States,

Welcoming the trends towards greater interchange among Member States in various fields,

Recognizing that the United Nations plays an increasingly important part in international co-operation, negotiation and conciliation,

Recognizing furthermore that in the observance of its purposes and principles lies the best basis to ensure the conditions essential for the nations and peoples of the world to live and assist each other in mutual tolerance and understanding for the benefit of all,

1. Reaffirms the purposes and principles of the United Nations;
2. Calls upon Member States to live together within the letter and the spirit of the Charter;
3. Urges all Members while making full use of Article 33 of the Charter to resort to the Organization for the peaceful solution of problems which interfere with friendly and neighbourly relations among States or threaten international peace;

4. Calls upon Member States to take effective steps towards the implementation of principles of peaceful and neighbourly relations;

5. Recommends that all Member States take practical measures or make arrangements in conjunction with and not inconsistent with the programmes of the United Nations and its specialized agencies to foster open, free and friendly co-operation and understanding in the fields of economy, culture, science, technology and communications;

6. Welcomes with satisfaction agreements between Member States which work or will work towards the attainment of the aims envisaged in this resolution.