



Seventh session  
Agenda item 63

QUESTION OF AN APPEAL TO THE POWERS SIGNATORIES TO THE MOSCOW  
DECLARATION OF 1 NOVEMBER 1943, FOR AN EARLY FULFILMENT OF  
THEIR PLEDGES TOWARD AUSTRIA

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Thor THORS (Iceland)

1. By a letter dated 29 August 1952, the representative of Brazil requested that the following item be included in the agenda of the seventh session: "Question of an appeal to the Powers signatories to the Moscow Declaration of 1 November 1943, for an early fulfilment of their pledges toward Austria" (see A/2166 and Add.1).
2. At its 380th meeting on 16 October 1952, the General Assembly decided to include the question in the agenda of its seventh session as item 63. At its 382nd meeting on 17 October, the Assembly referred the item to the First Committee for consideration and report.
3. The First Committee considered the question at its 553rd to 556th meetings between 17 and 19 December.
4. At the 553rd meeting, the representatives of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that, in accordance with Article 107 of the Charter, the General Assembly was not legally entitled to consider this subject. Consequently, they would not participate in the consideration of the item, would not take part in the vote on any proposals that might be submitted thereon, and would not recognize the validity of any resolution which might emerge from the Assembly's consideration of the question.

5. At the same meeting, Mexico submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.15) providing that the First Committee should invite the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria to participate in the debates on the item. The draft resolution having been adopted by 47 votes to 5, with no abstentions, he took his place at the table of the Committee.

6. At the same meeting, Brazil, Lebanon, Mexico and the Netherlands submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.16) providing, inter alia, that the General Assembly should address an earnest appeal to the Governments concerned to make a renewed and urgent effort to reach agreement on the terms of an Austrian treaty with a view to an early termination of the occupation of Austria and the full exercise by Austria of the powers inherent in her sovereignty.

7. At the 556th meeting on 19 December, the Committee adopted the four-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.16) by a roll-call vote of 48 to none, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against: None

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Pakistan.

8. The First Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

QUESTION OF AN APPEAL TO THE POWERS SIGNATORIES TO THE MOSCOW DECLARATION  
OF 1 NOVEMBER 1943, FOR THE EARLY FULFILMENT OF THEIR PLEDGES  
TOWARDS AUSTRIA

The General Assembly,

Recalling the terms of resolution 190 (III) of 3 November 1948, whereby an appeal was made to the great Powers to renew their efforts to compose their differences and establish a lasting peace,

Recalling the terms of the Moscow Declaration of 1 November 1943, whereby the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America recognized that Austria should be re-established as a free and independent State,

Recalling further that the Government of France joined the three above-mentioned Governments in the said declaration as of 16 November 1943,

Considering that, in the spirit of the said declaration, the four Powers accepted the responsibility of re-establishing a free and independent Austria, and, to that end, have entered into negotiations toward the conclusion of an Austrian treaty,

Noting with concern that those negotiations, which have been under way intermittently since 1947, have hitherto failed to bring about the proposed objective,

Taking into account that such a state of affairs, still prevailing after a lapse of seven years since the liberation of Austria at the end of the Second World War, and arising from the inconclusive stage of the aforementioned negotiations, does constitute a source of deep disappointment for the Austrian people, who have by themselves made successful efforts toward the restoration and democratic reconstruction of their country,

Recognizing that only through the unhampered exercise by the Austrian people of their freedom and independence can these efforts attain full realization,

Taking further into account that such a state of affairs hinders the full participation by Austria in the normal and peaceful relations of the community of nations and the full exercise of the powers inherent in her sovereignty,

Having in mind that the solution of this problem would constitute an important step towards the elimination of other areas of disagreement and therefore towards the creation of conditions favourable to the accomplishment of world peace,

Desiring to contribute to the strengthening of international peace and security and the developing of friendly relations among nations in conformity with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter,

Addresses an earnest appeal to the Governments concerned to make a renewed and urgent effort to reach agreement on the terms of an Austrian treaty with a view to an early termination of the occupation of Austria and the full exercise by Austria of the powers inherent in her sovereignty.

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