



Eighth session
Agenda item 22

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS

Report of the Ad Hoc Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. W. D. FORSYTH (Australia)

1. At its seventh session, on 21 December 1952, the General Assembly adopted resolution 620 (VII) concerning the question of admission of new Members. Under part A of that resolution, the Assembly, inter alia, established a Special Committee to make a detailed study of the question and resolved to include the item "Admission of new Members" in the provisional agenda of its eighth session.
2. The report of the Special Committee on Admission of New Members (A/2400), submitted pursuant to resolution 620 (VII), was duly circulated as document A/2400 dated 25 June 1953.
3. At its 435th plenary meeting on 17 September 1953, the General Assembly decided to include the item in the agenda of the eighth session and referred it to the Ad Hoc Political Committee for consideration and report.
4. The Ad Hoc Political Committee considered the item at its 3rd to 12th meetings held between 2 and 15 October 1953.

Proposals before the Committee

5. At the outset of its work, the Ad Hoc Political Committee had before it two draft resolutions, submitted by Peru (A/AC.72/L.1) and by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/AC.72/L.2) on 29 and 30 September respectively. A second draft resolution was submitted by the USSR on 12 October (A/AC.72/L.5).
6. During the seventh session of the General Assembly the Ad Hoc Political Committee had had before it draft resolutions submitted by Peru (A/AC.61/L.30) and by Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua (A/AC.61/L.31), together with an amendment by Argentina (A/AC.61/L.36) to the latter; these proposals had been referred to the Special Committee. In the course of the discussion

in the Ad Hoc Political Committee at the eighth session the sponsors of the proposals indicated that they would not insist on a vote on those proposals for the time being.

(a) Draft resolution submitted by Peru and amendments thereto

7. The draft resolution submitted by Peru (A/AC.72/L.1) provided that the General Assembly, (a) having examined the Report of the Special Committee on Admission of New Members; (b) considering that the aims of the Charter of the United Nations would be furthered through the co-operation of all peace-loving States; (c) considering that efforts of the General Assembly to facilitate the admission of new Members had not met with success; (d) believing that a new effort to find a solution to the problem of admission of new Members should be without prejudice to the juridical positions maintained by individual Member States and to any further consideration of the subject by the Assembly; (e) would decide to establish a Committee of Good Offices, consisting of representatives of three Member States, empowered to consult with members of the Security Council with the object of exploring the possibilities of reaching an understanding which would facilitate the admission of qualified new Members, in accordance with Article 4 of the Charter. The Committee would report to the General Assembly as appropriate.

8. Amendment by Argentina. An amendment to the Peruvian proposal was submitted by Argentina at the third meeting on 2 October (A/AC.72/L.3). The amendment provided for deletion of the first and third paragraphs of the preamble, and for re-wording the beginning of the fourth paragraph of the preamble to read "believing that a new effort should be made to solve the problem of the admission of new Members". It also provided that the proposed Committee should report to the General Assembly on the results of its consultations within 4 weeks after the approval of the resolution. This amendment was withdrawn at the 6th meeting of the Committee on 7 October. The representative of Peru, however, accepted the suggestion of the representative of Argentina that the third paragraph of the preamble of the Peruvian text should be deleted. He submitted a revised text omitting that paragraph (A/AC.72/L.1/Rev.1).

9. Amendment by Cuba. At the 10th meeting on 13 October an amendment (A/AC.72/L.6) to the revised Peruvian draft resolution was introduced by Cuba. The amendment provided for deletion of the provision that the proposed Good Offices Committee would report to the General Assembly as appropriate, replacing it with a

provision requesting the Committee to submit a report on its work to the Assembly not later than the ninth session.

10. Amendment by the USSR. At the 11th meeting on 14 October, the USSR submitted an amendment (A/AC.72/L.7) to the Cuban amendment providing that the proposed Good Offices Committee should be requested to report to the eighth session of the General Assembly.

11. Amendment by Lebanon. At the same meeting, an amendment (A/AC.72/L.8) to the revised Peruvian text was submitted by Lebanon. The amendment provided that the proposed Committee should submit a report to the eighth, or, at the latest, to the ninth session of the General Assembly.

12. Amendment by France and Mexico. An amendment (A/AC.72/L.4) to the revised Peruvian proposal was submitted at the same meeting by Mexico and France. It provided for the insertion, as the second paragraph of the preamble of that proposal, of a statement to the effect that the General Assembly considered that universality of membership in the United Nations was subject only to the provisions of the Charter.

13. At the 11th meeting on 14 October, the representative of Brazil proposed that the Good Offices Committee envisaged in the revised Peruvian proposal should consist of representatives of Egypt, the Netherlands and Peru.

14. A second revision of the draft resolution of Peru (A/AC.72/L.1/Rev.2) was submitted at the 12th meeting on 15 October. It incorporated the amendments of Cuba (A/AC.72/L.6) and of France and Mexico (A/AC.72/L.4). In accordance with an oral proposal made by the representatives of Indonesia and Pakistan, the word "qualified" was omitted from the first operative paragraph.

(b) Draft resolutions submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

15. The draft resolution submitted by the USSR (A/AC.72/L.2) on 30 September provided that the General Assembly should request the Security Council to reconsider the applications of Albania, the People's Republic of Mongolia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Finland, Italy, Portugal, Ireland, Jordan, Austria, Ceylon, Nepal and Libya, with a view to making a recommendation for the simultaneous admission of all those States to membership in the United Nations.

16. At the 9th meeting on 12 October, the USSR submitted a second draft resolution (A/AC.72/L.5), under which the General Assembly: (a) considering that the Treaties of Peace with Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Finland and Italy specially provided that the Allied and Associated Powers would support the applications of

those States for membership in the United Nations; (b) considering that Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Finland and Italy had applied to the United Nations in 1947 for admission to the Organization; (c) would request the Security Council, as a first step towards settling the question of the admission of new Members, to re-examine the applications of Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Finland and Italy with a view to the adoption of a recommendation for the simultaneous admission of all those States to membership in the United Nations.

17. At the 10th meeting on 13 October, the representative of the USSR indicated that he would not insist on a vote on the first draft resolution submitted by his delegation (A/AC.72/L.2).

18. At the 12th meeting on 15 October, following the adoption of the amended Peruvian draft resolution (see paragraph 19 below), the representative of the USSR stated that he would not insist on a vote on the second draft resolution submitted by his delegation (A/AC.72/L.5), pending completion of the work of the Committee of Good Offices provided for in the draft resolution recommended by the Ad Hoc Political Committee.

Voting on proposals

19. The Committee voted upon the revised Peruvian draft resolution (A/AC.72/L.1/Rev.2) and the amendments thereto at the 12th meeting on 15 October.

The preamble was adopted by 57 votes to none, with no abstentions.

Prior to the vote on the preamble, the representative of the USSR requested that his delegation should be recorded as abstaining on the second paragraph (originally the amendment submitted by France and Mexico).

Paragraph 1 of the operative part was adopted by 57 votes to none, with no abstentions.

The Brazilian proposal that the Committee of Good Offices mentioned in paragraph 1 of the operative part should consist of representatives of Egypt, the Netherlands and Peru was adopted by 56 votes to none, with one abstention.

The USSR amendment (A/AC.72/L.7) to paragraph 2 of the operative part (previously an amendment to the Cuban amendment) was rejected by 30 votes to 5, with 20 abstentions.

The Lebanese amendment (A/AC.72/L.8) to paragraph 2 of the operative part was adopted by 23 votes to 11, with 23 abstentions.

The revised Peruvian draft resolution, as amended, was adopted as a whole, by 60 votes to none, with no abstentions.

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

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on Admission of New Members (A/2400),

Considering that universality of membership in the United Nations is subject only to the provisions of the Charter,

Considering that the aims of the Charter of the United Nations would be furthered through the co-operation of all peace-loving States,

Believing that a new effort to find a solution to this problem should be without prejudice to the juridical positions maintained by individual Members of the United Nations and to any further consideration of the subject by the General Assembly,

1. Decides to establish a Committee of Good Offices, consisting of the representatives of Egypt, the Netherlands and Peru, empowered to consult with members of the Security Council with the object of exploring the possibilities of reaching an understanding which would facilitate the admission of new Members in accordance with Article 4 of the Charter,

2. Requests the Committee of Good Offices to submit a report on its work to the eighth or, at the latest, to the ninth session of the General Assembly.