

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE *AD HOC* POLITICAL COMMITTEE

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718 (VIII). Admission of new Members

The General Assembly.

Having examined the report¹ of the Special Committee on Admission of New Members,

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 General Assembly at its eighth or, at the latest, at its ninth session.

*453rd plenary meeting,
23 October 1953.*

719 (VIII). Treatment of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa

The General Assembly

1. *Recalls* that at its first, second, third, fifth, sixth and seventh sessions it has given consideration to the question of the treatment of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa;

2. *Further recalls:*

(a) That resolution 44 (I) of 8 December 1946 expressed the opinion that the treatment of Indians

in the Union of South Africa should be in conformity with the international obligations under the agreements concluded between the Governments of India and the Union of South Africa and the relevant provisions of the Charter and requested the two Governments to report to the General Assembly on the measures adopted to this effect;

(b) That resolution 265 (III) of 14 May 1949 invited the Governments of India, Pakistan and the Union of South Africa to enter into discussion at a round table conference, taking into consideration the Purposes and Principles of the Charter and the Declaration of Human Rights;

(c) That resolution 395 (V) of 2 December 1950 held that a policy of "racial segregation" (*apartheid*) was necessarily based on doctrines of racial discrimination; repeated its recommendation that a round table conference be held; and further recommended that, in the event of failure to hold a conference or reach agreement thereat, a commission of three members be set up to assist the parties in carrying through appropriate negotiations;

(d) That resolution 511 (VI) of 12 January 1952 reaffirmed the recommendation of resolution 395 (V) that a three-member commission be established and further requested the Secretary-General, in the event of failure to establish such a commission, to lend his assistance to the Governments concerned and if necessary to appoint an individual who would render any additional assistance deemed advisable;

(e) That resolution 615 (VII) of 5 December 1952 established a three-member United Nations Good Offices Commission to arrange and assist in negotiations between the Governments concerned in order that a satisfactory solution in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights might be achieved;

3. *Also recalls* that resolutions 395 (V), 511 (VI) and 615 (VII) successively called on the Government of the Union of South Africa to refrain from implementing or enforcing the provisions of the Group Areas Act;

¹ See document A/2400.

4. *Takes note* of the report² of the United Nations Good Offices Commission, and in particular its conclusion that "in view of the response of the Government of the Union of South Africa, it has been unable to carry out its task to arrange and assist in negotiations between the Governments concerned";

5. *Expresses its regret* that the Government of the Union of South Africa:

(a) Has refused to make use of the Commission's good offices or to utilize any of the alternative procedures for the settlement of the problem recommended by the four previous resolutions of the General Assembly;

(b) Has continued to implement the provisions of the Group Areas Act in spite of the provisions of three previous resolutions;

(c) Is proceeding with further legislation contrary to the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including the Immigrants Regulation Amendment Bill which seeks to prohibit the entry into South Africa of wives and children of South African nationals of Indian origin;

6. *Considers* that these actions of the Government of the Union of South Africa are not in keeping with its obligations and responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Decides* to continue the United Nations Good Offices Commission and urges the Government of the Union of South Africa to co-operate with that Commission;

8. *Requests* the Commission to report to the General Assembly at its next regular session the extent of progress achieved, together with its own views on the problem and any proposals which, in its opinion, may lead to a peaceful settlement of it;

9. *Again calls upon* the Government of the Union of South Africa to refrain from implementing the provisions of the Group Areas Act;

10. *Decides* to include this item in the provisional agenda of the ninth session of the General Assembly.

*457th plenary meeting,
11 November 1953.*

720 (VIII). Report of the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, 393 (V) of 2 December 1950, 513 (VI) of 26 January 1952 and 614 (VII) of 6 November 1952,

Having examined the report³ of the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the special report⁴ of the Director and the Advisory Commission of that Agency,

Noting that programme agreements envisaging the commitment of approximately \$120 million have been signed by UNRWA with the governments of several Near Eastern countries, pursuant to the plan endorsed

² See document A/2473.

³ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 12.*

⁴ See document A/2470/Add. 1.

by the General Assembly in resolution 513 (VI), but that expectations as regards the execution of the projects programme have not been realized,

Noting also that the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of grave concern,

1. *Decides*, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III), or to the provisions of paragraph 4 of resolution 393 (V), that the mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East shall be extended until 30 June 1955, and that its programme shall be again subject to review at the ninth session of the General Assembly;

2. *Authorizes* the Agency to adopt a budget for relief amounting to \$24.8 million for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1954, subject to such adjustments as may be attributable to refugee employment on projects, or as may be necessary to maintain adequate standards, and to adopt a provisional budget for relief of \$18 million for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1955;

3. *Considers* that the projects fund previously authorized by the General Assembly in paragraph 2 of resolution 513 (VI) should be maintained at \$200 million until 30 June 1955, and urges UNRWA and the governments of the Near Eastern countries concerned to continue to seek acceptable projects to enable the fund to be utilized for the purposes for which it is intended;

4. *Requests* the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds to seek the funds required to meet the current needs of the relief programmes and to invite governments to take into account the need for the additional pledges which will be required to meet the total programme now established at \$292.8 million.

*458th plenary meeting,
27 November 1953.*

B

The General Assembly,

Having noted that the present membership of the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, established pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, is composed of representatives of Egypt, France, Jordan, Syria, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America,

Noting further that it is in the general interest that other contributing countries join the Advisory Commission,

Authorizes the Advisory Commission to increase its membership by not more than two additional members.

*458th plenary meeting,
27 November 1953.*

721 (VIII). The question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Union of South Africa

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report⁵ of the United Nations Commission on the Racial Situation in the Union

⁵ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 16, document A/2505.*