

COUR INTERNATIONALE DE JUSTICE

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RECUEIL DES ARRÊTS,  
AVIS CONSULTATIFS ET ORDONNANCES

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COMPÉTENCE DE L'ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE  
POUR L'ADMISSION D'UN ÉTAT  
AUX NATIONS UNIES

**AVIS CONSULTATIF DU 3 MARS 1950**

**1950**

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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REPORTS OF JUDGMENTS,  
ADVISORY OPINIONS AND ORDERS

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COMPETENCE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FOR THE ADMISSION OF A STATE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

**ADVISORY OPINION OF MARCH 3rd, 1950**

Le présent avis doit être cité comme suit :

« *Compétence de l'Assemblée pour l'admission aux Nations Unies,  
Avis consultatif : C. I. J. Recueil 1950, p. 4.* »

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This Opinion should be cited as follows :

“*Competence of Assembly regarding admission to the United Nations,  
Advisory Opinion : I.C.J. Reports 1950, p. 4.*”

N° de vente : **33**  
Sales number **33**

## INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

YEAR 1950

March 3rd, 1950

1950  
March 3rd  
General List:  
No. 9COMPETENCE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FOR THE ADMISSION OF A STATE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

*Competence of the Court to interpret Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Charter.—Character of the question.—Absence of recommendation from the Security Council regarding admission to the United Nations.—Power of the General Assembly regarding admission to membership in the United Nations in the absence of a recommendation of the Security Council.—Meaning of the term “upon the recommendation of the Security Council”.—Interpretation of a treaty provision according to its natural and ordinary meaning in its context.—Travaux préparatoires.—Interpretation in the light of the general structure of the Charter.—Application of Article 4, paragraph 2, by the General Assembly and the Security Council.*

## ADVISORY OPINION

*Present: President* BASDEVANT; *Vice-President* GUERRERO; *Judges* ALVAREZ, HACKWORTH, WINIARSKI, ZORIČIĆ, DE VISSCHER, Sir Arnold McNAIR, KLAESTAD, BADAWI PASHA, KRYLOV, READ, HSU MO, AZEVEDO; *Registrar* Mr. HAMBRO.

THE COURT,

composed as above,

gives the following Advisory Opinion :

On November 22nd, 1949, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the following Resolution :

*“The General Assembly,*

*Keeping in mind* the discussion concerning the admission of new Members in the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee at its fourth regular session,

*Requests* the International Court of Justice to give an advisory opinion on the following question :

‘Can the admission of a State to membership in the United Nations, pursuant to Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Charter, be effected by a decision of the General Assembly when the Security Council has made no recommendation for admission by reason of the candidate failing to obtain the requisite majority or of the negative vote of a permanent Member upon a resolution so to recommend?’”

By a letter of November 25th, 1949, filed in the Registry on November 28th, the Secretary-General of the United Nations transmitted to the Registrar a copy of the Resolution of the General Assembly.

On December 2nd, 1949, the Registrar gave notice of the Request for an Opinion to all States entitled to appear before the Court, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 66 of the Statute. Furthermore, the Registrar informed the Governments of Members of the United Nations by means of a special and direct communication, as provided in paragraph 2 of Article 66, that the Court was prepared to receive from them written statements on the question before January 24th, 1950, the date fixed by an Order of the Court made on December 2nd, 1949.

By the date thus fixed, written statements were received from the following States : Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America. A written statement from the Secretary-General of the United Nations was also received within the time-limit. Furthermore, the Registrar received written statements from the Governments of the Republic of Argentina on January 26th, 1950, and of Venezuela on February 2nd, 1950, i.e., after the expiration of the time-limit fixed by the Order of December 2nd, 1949. They were accepted by a decision of the President, as the Court was not sitting, in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 37 of the Rules of Court. The written statements

were communicated to all Members of the United Nations, who were informed that the President had fixed February 16th, 1950, as the opening date of the oral proceedings.

In accordance with Article 65 of the Statute of the Court, the Secretary-General sent to the Registry the documents which are enumerated in the list annexed to the present Opinion<sup>1</sup>. These documents reached the Registry on January 23rd, 1950. The Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Legal Department also announced by a letter of January 23rd, 1950, that he did not intend to take part in the oral proceedings, unless the Court so desired.

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Republic of Argentina, by letters of January 14th and February 3rd, 1950, respectively, announced their intention to make oral statements before the Court. On February 14th, 1950, the Argentine delegation in Geneva informed the Registrar that the Government of the Republic of Argentina abandoned its intention to take part in the oral proceedings.

In the course of a public sitting held on February 16th, 1950, the Court heard an oral statement presented on behalf of the Government of the French Republic by M. Georges Scelle, Honorary Professor in the Faculty of Law of the University of Paris, member of the United Nations International Law Commission.

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The Request for an Opinion calls upon the Court to interpret Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Charter. Before examining the merits of the question submitted to it, the Court must first consider the objections that have been made to its doing so, either on the ground that it is not competent to interpret the provisions of the Charter, or on the ground of the alleged political character of the question.

So far as concerns its competence, the Court will simply recall that, in a previous Opinion which dealt with the interpretation of Article 4, paragraph 1, it declared that, according to Article 96 of the Charter and Article 65 of the Statute, it may give an Opinion on any legal question and that there is no provision which prohibits it from exercising, in regard to Article 4 of the Charter, a multilateral treaty, an interpretative function falling within the normal exercise of its judicial powers (I.C.J. Reports 1947-1948, p. 61).

With regard to the second objection, the Court notes that the General Assembly has requested it to give the legal interpretation of paragraph 2 of Article 4. As the Court stated in the same Opinion, it "cannot attribute a political character to a request

<sup>1</sup> See p. 35.

which, framed in abstract terms, invites it to undertake an essentially judicial task, the interpretation of a treaty provision”.

Consequently, the Court, in accordance with its previous declarations, considers that it is competent on the basis of Articles 96 of the Charter and 65 of its Statute and that there is no reason why it should not answer the question submitted to it.

This question has been framed by the General Assembly in the following terms :

“Can the admission of a State to membership in the United Nations, pursuant to Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Charter, be effected by a decision of the General Assembly when the Security Council has made no recommendation for admission by reason of the candidate failing to obtain the requisite majority or of the negative vote of a permanent Member upon a resolution so to recommend?”

The Request for an Opinion envisages solely the case in which the Security Council, having voted upon a recommendation, has concluded from its vote that the recommendation was not adopted because it failed to obtain the requisite majority or because of the negative vote of a permanent Member. Thus the Request refers to the case in which the General Assembly is confronted with the absence of a recommendation from the Security Council.

It is not the object of the Request to determine how the Security Council should apply the rules governing its voting procedure in regard to admissions or, in particular, that the Court should examine whether the negative vote of a permanent Member is effective to defeat a recommendation which has obtained seven or more votes. The question, as it is formulated, assumes in such a case the non-existence of a recommendation.

The Court is, therefore, called upon to determine solely whether the General Assembly can make a decision to admit a State when the Security Council has transmitted no recommendation to it.

Article 4, paragraph 2, is as follows :

“The admission of any such State to membership in the United Nations will be effected by a decision of the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council.”

The Court has no doubt as to the meaning of this text. It requires two things to effect admission : a “recommendation” of the Security Council and a “decision” of the General Assembly. It is in the nature of things that the recommendation should come before the decision. The word “recommendation”, and the word “upon” preceding it, imply the idea that the recommendation is the foundation of the decision to admit, and that the latter rests upon the recommendation. Both these acts are indispensable to form the judgment of the Organization to which the previous

paragraph of Article 4 refers. The text under consideration means that the General Assembly can only decide to admit upon the recommendation of the Security Council; it determines the respective roles of the two organs whose combined action is required before admission can be effected: in other words, the recommendation of the Security Council is the condition precedent to the decision of the Assembly by which the admission is effected.

In one of the written statements placed before the Court, an attempt was made to attribute to paragraph 2 of Article 4 a different meaning. The Court considers it necessary to say that the first duty of a tribunal which is called upon to interpret and apply the provisions of a treaty, is to endeavour to give effect to them in their natural and ordinary meaning in the context in which they occur. If the relevant words in their natural and ordinary meaning make sense in their context, that is an end of the matter. If, on the other hand, the words in their natural and ordinary meaning are ambiguous or lead to an unreasonable result, then, and then only, must the Court, by resort to other methods of interpretation, seek to ascertain what the parties really did mean when they used these words. As the Permanent Court said in the case concerning the *Polish Postal Service in Danzig* (P.C.I.J., Series B, No. 11, p. 39) :

“It is a cardinal principle of interpretation that words must be interpreted in the sense which they would normally have in their context, unless such interpretation would lead to something unreasonable or absurd.”

When the Court can give effect to a provision of a treaty by giving to the words used in it their natural and ordinary meaning, it may not interpret the words by seeking to give them some other meaning. In the present case the Court finds no difficulty in ascertaining the natural and ordinary meaning of the words in question and no difficulty in giving effect to them. Some of the written statements submitted to the Court have invited it to investigate the *travaux préparatoires* of the Charter. Having regard, however, to the considerations above stated, the Court is of the opinion that it is not permissible, in this case, to resort to *travaux préparatoires*.

The conclusions to which the Court is led by the text of Article 4, paragraph 2, are fully confirmed by the structure of the Charter, and particularly by the relations established by it between the General Assembly and the Security Council.

The General Assembly and the Security Council are both principal organs of the United Nations. The Charter does not place the Security Council in a subordinate position. Article 24 confers upon it “primary responsibility for the maintenance of international

peace and security", and the Charter grants it for this purpose certain powers of decision. Under Articles 4, 5, and 6, the Security Council co-operates with the General Assembly in matters of admission to membership, of suspension from the exercise of the rights and privileges of membership, and of expulsion from the Organization. It has power, without the concurrence of the General Assembly, to reinstate the Member which was the object of the suspension, in its rights and privileges.

The organs to which Article 4 entrusts the judgment of the Organization in matters of admission have consistently interpreted the text in the sense that the General Assembly can decide to admit only on the basis of a recommendation of the Security Council. In particular, the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly provide for consideration of the merits of an application and of the decision to be made upon it only "if the Security Council recommends the applicant State for membership" (Article 125). The Rules merely state that if the Security Council has not recommended the admission, the General Assembly may send back the application to the Security Council for further consideration (Article 126). This last step has been taken several times: it was taken in Resolution 296 (IV), the very one that embodies this Request for an Opinion.

To hold that the General Assembly has power to admit a State to membership in the absence of a recommendation of the Security Council would be to deprive the Security Council of an important power which has been entrusted to it by the Charter. It would almost nullify the role of the Security Council in the exercise of one of the essential functions of the Organization. It would mean that the Security Council would have merely to study the case, present a report, give advice, and express an opinion. This is not what Article 4, paragraph 2, says.

The Court cannot accept the suggestion made in one of the written statements submitted to the Court, that the General Assembly, in order to try to meet the requirement of Article 4, paragraph 2, could treat the absence of a recommendation as equivalent to what is described in that statement as an "unfavourable recommendation", upon which the General Assembly could base a decision to admit a State to membership.

Reference has also been made to a document of the San Francisco Conference, in order to put the possible case of an unfavourable recommendation being voted by the Security Council: "such a recommendation has never been made in practice. In the opinion of the Court, Article 4, paragraph 2, envisages a favourable recommendation of the Security Council and that only. An unfavourable recommendation would not correspond to the provisions of Article 4, paragraph 2."

While keeping within the limits of a Request which deals with the scope of the powers of the General Assembly, it is enough for



the Court to say that nowhere has the General Assembly received the power to change, to the point of reversing, the meaning of a vote of the Security Council.

In consequence, it is impossible to admit that the General Assembly has the power to attribute to a vote of the Security Council the character of a recommendation when the Council itself considers that no such recommendation has been made.

For these reasons,

THE COURT,

by twelve votes to two,

is of opinion that the admission of a State to membership in the United Nations, pursuant to paragraph 2 of Article 4 of the Charter, cannot be effected by a decision of the General Assembly when the Security Council has made no recommendation for admission, by reason of the candidate failing to obtain the requisite majority or of the negative vote of a permanent Member upon a resolution so to recommend.

Done in French and English, the French text being authoritative, at the Peace Palace, The Hague, this third day of March, one thousand nine hundred and fifty, in two copies, one of which will be placed in the archives of the Court and the other transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

(Signed) BASDEVANT,  
President.

(Signed) E. HAMBRO.  
Registrar.

Judges ALVAREZ and AZEVEDO, declaring that they are unable to concur in the Opinion of the Court, have availed themselves of the right conferred on them by Article 57 of the Statute and appended to the Opinion statements of their dissenting opinion.

*(Initialed)* J. B.

*(Initialed)* E. H.

ANNEX

LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COURT  
BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
IN APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 65 OF THE STATUTE

I<sup>1</sup>

1. Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Security Council (S/96/Rev. 3. January 27th, 1948).
2. Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly (A/520. December 12th, 1947).
3. Rules governing the admission of new Members (Report of the Committee of the General Assembly) (A/384, p. 4, September 12th, 1947).
4. Report by the Executive Committee to the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations (PC/EX/113/Rev. I. November 12th, 1945).
5. Report of the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations (PC/20. December 23rd, 1945).
6. Records of the Security Council Committee of Experts Meetings concerning the Rules on the admission of new Members :

1946.	S/Procedure 91.
	,, 91, Corr. I.
	,, 92.
	,, 93.
	,, 93, Corr. I.
	,, 94.
	,, 99.
	,, 99, Corr. I.
1947.	S/C.I/SR.96.
	,, 96, Corr. I.
	,, 101.
	,, 102.
	,, 103.
	,, 104.

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<sup>1</sup> These documents had already been transmitted to the Court in accordance with the Resolution of the General Assembly of November 17th, 1947.

7. Records of the meetings of the Joint Committees appointed by the General Assembly and the Security Council on Rules governing the admission of new Members:

A/AC.II/SR.I.

- „ SR.I, Corr. I.
- „ SR.2.
- „ SR.2, Rev. I.
- „ SR.3.
- „ SR.3, Rev. I.
- „ SR.4.
- „ SR.5.
- „ SR.6.
- „ SR.7.
- „ SR.8.
- „ SR.8, Corr.
- „ SR.9.
- „ SR.I0.
- „ SR.II.

8. Report of the Security Council Committee on the admission of new Members, 1946 (*Security Council Official Records*, First Year, Second Series, Supplement No. 4, p. 53).
9. Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly on the admission of new Members, 1946 (A/108, October 15th, 1946).
10. Records of the Security Council Meetings concerning the admission of new Members, 1946.  
*Security Council Official Records*, First Year, Second Series :

- No. 1.
- „ 2.
- „ 3.
- „ 4.
- „ 5.
- „ 18.
- „ 23.
- „ 24.
- „ 25.

*Security Council Journal*, First Year, No. 35.

11. Records of the First Committee Meetings of the Second Part of the First Session of the General Assembly concerning the admission of new Members, 1946 :

Journal 22, Suppl. No. 1—A/C.I/22.
„ 24, „ „ 1—A/C.I/31.
„ 25, „ „ 1—A/C.I/37.
„ 26, „ „ 3—A/C.3/43.
„ 27, „ „ 1—A/C.I/39.
„ 28, „ „ 1—A/C.I/41.
„ 29, „ „ A—A/P.V.47.
„ 31, „ „ 1—A/C.I/45.
„ 32, „ „ —A/C.I/47.
„ 37, „ „ A—A/P.V.48.
„ 38, „ „ A—A/P.V.49.

12. Records of the Plenary Meetings of the Second Part of the First Session of the General Assembly concerning the admission of new Members, 1946. (Journal No. 66, Supplement A—A/P.V. 67.)
13. Report of the Security Council Committee on the admission of new Members, 1947. *Security Council Official Records*, Second Year, Special Supplement No. 3, Lake Success, New York, 1947.
14. Reports of the Security Council to the General Assembly on the admission of new Members, 1947 (A/406. October 9th, 1947.—A/515. November 22nd, 1947).
15. Records of the Security Council Meetings concerning the admission of new Members, 1947.  
*Security Council Official Records*, Second Year, No. 38 :

S/P.V.136.	S/P.V.186.
S/P.V.137.	S/P.V.190.
S/P.V.151.	S/P.V.197.
S/P.V.152.	S/P.V.204.
S/P.V.154.	S/P.V.205.
S/P.V.161.	S/P.V.206.
S/P.V.168.	S/P.V.221.
S/P.V.178.	S/P.V.222.

16. Records of the First Committee Meetings of the Second Regular Session of the General Assembly concerning the admission of new Members, 1947 :

A/C.I/SR. 59.
„ 59, Corr. 1.
„ 59, Corr. 2.
„ 97.
„ 98.
„ 99.
„ 100.
„ 101.

A/C.I/SR. 102.  
 „ 102, Corr. 1.  
 „ 102, Corr. 2.  
 „ 103.

17. Records of the meetings of the Second Regular Session of the General Assembly concerning the admission of new Members, 1947 :

A/P.V.83.	A/P.V.89.
„ 84.	„ 90.
„ 85.	„ 92.
„ 86.	„ 96.
„ 87.	„ 117.
„ 88.	„ 118.

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II

I. RECORDS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

*Inclusion of item in agenda.*  
*Records of proceedings.*

Records of the General Committee, 42nd meeting.  
 Records of the General Assembly, 131st plenary meeting.

*Inclusion of item in agenda.*  
*Documents.*

Application of the Union of Burma for membership in the United Nations—  
 Letter dated 10 April, 1948, from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General of the United Nations

A/533

Supplementary list of items for the agenda of the second special session : item proposed by China—Note by the Secretary-General

A/535

Supplementary list of items for the agenda of the second special session :  
item proposed by India—Note by the Secretary-General A/536

Agenda for the second special session :  
Report of the General Committee A/537

*Resolution.*

Resolutions adopted without reference to a committee—188 (S-2).  
Admission of the Union of Burma to membership in the United Nations.

II. RECORDS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY, FIRST PART OF THIRD SESSION

*Inclusion of items in agenda.*

*Records of proceedings.*

Records of the General Committee, 43rd, 49th and 50th meetings.  
Records of the General Assembly, 142nd and 158th plenary meetings.

*Inclusion of items in agenda.*

*Documents.*

Provisional agenda for the third session of the General Assembly A/585

Letter dated 21 July from the Argentine representative to the Secretary-General requesting the inclusion of items in the provisional agenda of the third session of the General Assembly A/586

Adoption of the agenda for the third session and allocation of agenda items to committees—Report of the General Committee A/653

Establishment of an *Ad hoc* Political Committee—Report of the General Committee A/715

Provisional agenda for the third regular session of the General Assembly—  
Note by the Secretary-General A/BUR/97

Allocation of items on the agenda of the third session—Letter dated 15 November, 1948, from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the *Ad hoc* Political Committee A/AC.24/1

Note by the Secretary-General A/597

Reconsideration of the applications of Albanie, Austria, Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Mongolian People's Republic, Portugal, Romania and Transjordan—Special report of the Security Council to the General Assembly A/617

Special report of the Security Council to the General Assembly A/618

*Ad hoc Political Committee.*

*Records of proceedings.*

6th meeting.

7th meeting.

8th meeting.

9th meeting.

10th meeting.

11th meeting.

12th meeting.

13th meeting.

14th meeting.

15th meeting.

16th meeting.

22nd meeting.

23rd meeting.

*Ad hoc Political Committee.*

*Documents.*

Australia : draft resolution A/AC.24/6  
(= A/761, resolution A under paragraph 19)

Australia : draft resolution A/AC.24/7

Australia : draft resolution A/AC.24/8



Australia : draft resolution	A/AC.24/9
Australia : draft resolution	A/AC.24/10
Australia : draft resolution	A/AC.24/11
Belgium : draft resolution	A/AC.24/12
United States of America : draft resolution	A/AC.23/13
Australia : draft resolution	A/AC.24/14
Argentina : draft resolution	A/AC.24/15
Sweden : draft resolution	A/AC.24/17
Bolivia : amendments to the draft resolution proposed by Sweden (A/AC.24/17)	A/AC.24/18
India : amendment to the draft resolution proposed by Sweden (A/AC.24/17)	A/AC.24/19
Burma : amendment to the draft resolution proposed by Belgium (A/AC.24/12)	A/AC.24/23
Burma : amendment to the Australian draft resolution concerning Ceylon (A/AC.24/14)	A/AC.24/32
Draft resolution submitted by the Subcommittee appointed at the 22nd meeting of the <i>Ad hoc</i> Political Committee	A/AC.24/35
Report of the <i>Ad hoc</i> Political Committee	A/761

*Plenary meetings of the General Assembly.*

*Records of proceedings.*

175th meeting.  
176th meeting.  
177th meeting.

*Plenary meetings of the General Assembly.*

*Documents.*

Australia, Burma, India, Pakistan, Philippines : amendments to draft resolution J proposed by the <i>Ad hoc</i> Political Committee (A/761)	A/771
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*Plenary meetings of the General Assembly.*

*Resolution.*

Resolutions adopted on the reports of the *Ad hoc* Political Committee—197 (III). Admission of new Members.

III. RECORDS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SECOND PART OF THIRD SESSION

*Inclusion of items in agenda.*

*Records of proceedings.*

Records of the General Committee, 60th, 61st, 62nd and 63rd meetings.

Records of the General Assembly, 191st, 192nd, 204th and 205th plenary meetings.

*Inclusion of items in agenda.*

*Documents.*

- Agenda of the third regular session of the General Assembly—Report of the General Committee A/829
- Report of the General Committee concerning the completion of the work of the General Assembly A/845
- Completion of the work of the General Assembly, including the date for final adjournment—Note by the President A/BUR/116
- Allocation of items on the agenda of the second part of the third session: Letter dated 13 April, 1949, from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the First Committee A/C.1/437
- Allocation of items on the agenda of the second part of the third session: Letter dated 2 May, 1949, from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the First Committee A/C.1/444 and Corr. 1
- Allocation of items on the agenda of the second part of the third session: Letter dated 2 May, 1949, from the President of the General Assembly to the

Chairman of the *Ad hoc* Political Committee A/AC.24/59 and Corr. 1

Letter dated 7 March, 1949, from the President of the Security Council to the President of the General Assembly concerning the application of Israel for membership in the United Nations A/818

Letter dated 17 March, 1949, from the President of the Security Council to the President of the General Assembly concerning the application of Ceylon for admission to membership in the United Nations A/823

*Ad hoc Political Committee.*

*Records of meetings.*

- 42nd meeting.
- 43rd meeting.
- 44th meeting.
- 45th meeting.
- 46th meeting.
- 47th meeting.
- 50th meeting.
- 51st meeting.

*Ad hoc Political Committee.*

*Documents.*

- El Salvador : draft resolution A/AC.24/60
- El Salvador : revised draft resolution A/AC.24/60/Rev. 1
- Argentina : draft resolution A/AC.24/61
- Lebanon : draft resolution A/AC.24/62
- Lebanon : revised draft resolution A/AC.24/62/Rev. 1
- Lebanon : revised draft resolution A/AC.24/62/Rev. 2
- Greece : amendment to the Argentine draft resolution (A/AC.24/61) A/AC.24/63
- Iraq : draft resolution A/AC.24/64

- Application of Israel for admission to membership in the United Nations—  
Australia : amendment to El Salvador draft resolution (A/AC.24/60) A/AC.24/65
- Application of Israel for admission to membership in the United Nations—  
Denmark : amendment to El Salvador draft resolution (A/AC.24/60) A/AC.24/66
- Application of Israel for admission to membership in the United Nations—  
Saudi Arabia : amendment to the Greek amendment (A/AC.24/63) to the Argentine draft resolution (A/AC.24/61) A/AC.24/67
- Application of Israel for admission to membership in the United Nations—  
Saudi Arabia : revised amendment to the Greek amendment (A/AC.24/63) to the Argentine draft resolution (A/AC.24/61) A/AC.24/67/Rev. 1
- Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Haiti, Panama, United States of America and Uruguay : draft resolution A/AC.24/68
- Application of Israel for admission to membership in the United Nations —  
Chile : amendment to the joint draft resolution of Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Haiti, Panama, United States of America and Uruguay (A/AC.24/68) A/AC.24/69
- Application of Israel for admission to membership in the United Nations—  
Peru : amendment to the Chilean amendment (A/AC.24/69) to the joint draft resolution of Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Haiti, Panama, United States of America and Uruguay (A/AC.24/68) A/AC.24/72
- Report of the *Ad hoc* Political Committee A/855

*Plenary meetings of the General Assembly.*

*Records of proceedings.*

207th meeting.

*Plenary meetings of the General Assembly.*

*Resolution.*

273 (III). Admission of Israel to membership in the United Nations.

IV. RECORDS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY, FOURTH SESSION

*Inclusion of item in agenda.*

*Records of proceedings.*

Records of the General Committee, 65th meeting.

Records of the General Assembly, 224th plenary meeting.

*Inclusion of item in agenda.*

*Documents.*

Adoption of the agenda of the fourth regular session and allocation of items to Committees—Records of the General Committee

A/989

Adoption of the agenda and allocation of items to Committees—Memorandum by the Secretary-General

A/BUR/118

Admission of new Members—Application of the Republic of Korea for membership in the United Nations—Special report of the Security Council

A/968

Application of Nepal for membership in the United Nations—Special report of the Security Council

A/974

Reconsideration of the applications of Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Ceylon, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Mongolian People's Republic, Portugal, Romania and Transjordan for

membership in the United Nations—  
Special report of the Security Council A/982

*Ad hoc Political Committee.*

*Records of proceedings.*

- 25th meeting.
- 26th meeting.
- 27th meeting.
- 28th meeting.
- 29th meeting.

*Ad hoc Political Committee.*

*Documents.*

Australia: draft resolution concerning  
the application of Austria for admis-  
sion to membership in the United  
Nations

A/AC.31/L.9  
(= A/1066, resolution  
A)

Australia: draft resolution concerning  
the application of Ceylon for admis-  
sion to membership in the United  
Nations

A/AC.31/L.10  
(= A/1066, resolution  
B)

Australia: draft resolution concerning  
the application of Finland for admis-  
sion to membership in the United  
Nations

A/AC.31/L.11  
(= A/1066, resolution  
C)

Australia: draft resolution concerning  
the application of Ireland for admis-  
sion to membership in the United  
Nations

A/AC.31/L.12  
(= A/1066, resolution  
D)

Australia: draft resolution concerning  
the application of Italy for admis-  
sion to membership in the United  
Nations

A/AC.31/L.13  
(= A/1066, resolution  
E)

- Australia : draft resolution concerning the application of Jordan for admission to membership in the United Nations  
A/AC.31/L.14  
(= A/1066, resolution F)
- Australia : draft resolution concerning the application of the Republic of Korea for admission to membership in the United Nations  
A/AC.31/L.15  
(= A/1066, resolution G)
- Australia : draft resolution concerning the application of Portugal for admission to membership in the United Nations  
A/AC.31/L.16  
(= A/1066, resolution H)
- Australia : draft resolution concerning the application of Nepal for admission to membership in the United Nations  
A/AC.31/L.17  
(= A/1066, resolution I)
- Argentina : draft resolution  
A/AC.31/L.18
- Union of Soviet Socialist Republics : draft resolution  
A/AC.31/L.19
- Note by the Rapporteur (revised draft resolution by Argentina)  
A/AC.31/L.20
- Iraq : draft resolution  
A/AC.31/L.21
- Netherlands : amendment to the draft resolution proposed by Argentina  
(A/AC.31/L.20)  
A/AC.31/L.22
- United States of America, Saudi Arabia and Iraq : amendment to the draft resolution proposed by Iraq  
(A/AC.31/L.21)  
A/AC.31/L.23
- Admission of new Members—Report of the *Ad hoc* Political Committee  
A/1066

*Plenary meetings of the General Assembly.*

*Records of proceedings.*

251st meeting.

252nd meeting.

*Plenary meetings of the General Assembly.*

*Document.*

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics :  
draft resolution A/1079

*Plenary meetings of the General Assembly.*

*Resolution.*

296 (IV). Admission of new Members.

V. RECORDS OF SECURITY COUNCIL

*Records of proceedings.*

261st meeting (excerpt).  
279th meeting.  
280th meeting.  
318th meeting.  
351st meeting.  
383rd meeting.  
384th meeting.  
385th meeting.  
386th meeting.  
409th meeting.  
410th meeting.  
413th meeting.  
414th meeting.  
423rd meeting.  
427th meeting.  
428th meeting.  
429th meeting.  
430th meeting.  
431st meeting.  
439th meeting.  
440th meeting.  
441st meeting.  
442nd meeting.  
443rd meeting.  
444th meeting.  
445th meeting.



*Documents.*

- Letter dated 27 February, 1948, from the Ambassador of Burma addressed to the Secretary-General concerning the application of Burma for membership in the United Nations S/687
- Report of the Committee on the admission of new Members concerning the membership application of the Union of Burma S/706
- Letter dated 3 April, 1948, from the representatives of France, the United Kingdom and the United States to the President of the Security Council concerning the membership applications of Italy and Transjordan S/709
- Letter dated 5 April, 1948, from the deputy representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to the Secretary-General concerning the membership applications of Albania, Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary, Italy, the Mongolian People's Republic and Romania S/712
- Letter dated 7 April, 1948, from the representatives of France, the United Kingdom and the United States to the President of the Security Council concerning membership applications of Austria, Ireland and Portugal S/715
- China : draft resolution submitted at the 279th meeting of the Security Council, 10 April, 1948, concerning the application of the Union of Burma for admission to membership in the United Nations (adopted at the same meeting) S/717
- Cablegram dated 17 May, 1948, from the Foreign Secretary of the Provisional Government of Israel to the Secretary-General S/747 and Corr. 1

- Letter dated 25 May, 1948, from the Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs of Ceylon to the Secretary-General transmitting the application from the Government of Ceylon for admission to the United Nations under Article 4 of the Charter S/820
- Report of the Committee on the admission of new Members to the Security Council concerning the application of Ceylon for membership in the United Nations S/859
- Letter dated 2 August, 1948, from the Ceylon Government representative to the President of the Security Council transmitting information concerning Ceylon S/951
- Union of Soviet Socialist Republics : draft resolution submitted at the 351st meeting of the Security Council, 18 August, 1948, concerning the application of Ceylon for admission to membership in the United Nations S/974
- Telegram dated 22 September, 1948, from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to the Secretary-General regarding Bulgaria's request for admission to membership in the United Nations S/1012
- Declaration of acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter, submitted by the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria on 9 October, 1948, in connexion with its application for membership in the United Nations S/1012/Add. 1
- Letter dated 27 September, 1948, from the Hungarian Minister to the Secretary-General concerning Hungary's application for membership in the United Nations S/1017

Declaration of acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter, submitted by the Government of Hungary on 8 October, 1948, in connexion with its application for membership in the United Nations S/1017/Add. 1

Telegram dated 13 October, 1948, from the Government of the People's Republic of Albania to the Secretary-General concerning Albania's application for membership in the United Nations S/1033

Cablegram dated 12 October, 1948, from the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic to the Secretary-General concerning the application of the Mongolian People's Republic for membership in the United Nations S/1035

Declaration of acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter, submitted to the Secretary-General on 25 October, 1948, by the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic in connexion with its application for membership in the United Nations S/1035/Add. 1

Letter dated 12 October, 1948, from the Government of the People's Republic of Romania to the Secretary-General concerning Romania's application for membership in the United Nations S/1051

Declaration of acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter, submitted to the Secretary-General on 9 November, 1948, by the People's Republic of Romania in connexion with its application for membership in the United Nations S/1051/Add. 1

Letter dated 29 November, 1948, from the Israeli Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Secretary-General concerning

- Israel's application for membership in the United Nations and declaration accepting the obligations contained in the Charter S/1093
- Declaration of acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter, submitted on 2 December, 1948, by the Government of the People's Republic of Albania in connexion with its application for membership in the United Nations S/1105
- Letter dated 7 December, 1948, from the Chairman of the Committee on the admission of new Members to the President of the Security Council concerning Israel's application for membership in the United Nations S/1110 and Corr. 1
- Letter dated 9 December, 1948, from the President of the General Assembly to the President of the Security Council concerning the application of Ceylon for membership in the United Nations S/1113
- United Kingdom: draft resolution submitted at the 384th meeting of the Security Council, 15 December, 1948, concerning the application of Israel for admission to membership in the United Nations S/1121
- Syria: draft resolution submitted at the 385th meeting of the Security Council, 17 December, 1948, concerning the application of Israel for admission to membership in the United Nations S/1125
- France: draft resolution submitted at the 385th meeting of the Security Council, 17 December, 1948, concerning the application of Israel for admission to membership in the United Nations S/1127
- Letter dated 11 December, 1948, from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council transmitting the text of the resolutions concerning the admission of new Members adopted

by the General Assembly at its  
177th meeting, 8 December, 1948 S/1170

Text of resolution 197 (III) A concerning  
the admission of new Members,  
adopted by the General Assembly at  
its 177th plenary meeting, 8 December,  
1948 S/1170/Add. 1

Letter dated 19 January, 1949, from  
the Acting Foreign Minister of the  
Republic of Korea to the Secretary-  
General concerning the application of  
the Republic of Korea for admission  
to membership in the United Nations,  
and a declaration accepting obliga-  
tions under the Charter S/1238

Telegram dated 9 February, 1949, from  
the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the  
Democratic People's Republic of Korea  
to the Secretary-General concerning  
the application of the Democratic  
People's Republic of Korea for admis-  
sion to membership in the United  
Nations and note by the Secretary-  
General S/1247

Letter dated 11 February, 1949, from  
the representative of the Union of  
Soviet Socialist Republics to the Pre-  
sident of the Security Council con-  
cerning the application of the Demo-  
cratic People's Republic of Korea  
for admission to membership in the  
United Nations S/1256

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:  
draft resolution submitted at the 410th  
meeting of the Security Council, 16 Fe-  
bruary, 1949, concerning the applic-  
ation of the Democratic People's  
Republic of Korea for admission to  
membership in the United Nations S/1259

Letter dated 13 February, 1949, addres-  
sed to the Secretary-General from the  
Director-General of the Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs of the Government of

- Nepal concerning Nepal's application for admission to membership in the United Nations S/1266
- Declaration submitted on 10 March, 1949, by the Government of Nepal relating to the acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter in connexion with its application for membership in the United Nations S/1266/Add. 1
- Letter dated 24 February, 1949, from the representative of Israel to the Secretary-General concerning the application of Israel for membership in the United Nations. S/1267
- United States of America : draft resolution submitted at the 414th meeting of the Security Council, 4 March, 1949, concerning the application of Israel for admission to membership in the United Nations (adopted at the same meeting) S/1276
- Report to the Security Council by the Committee on the admission of new Members concerning the application of the Republic of Korea for membership in the United Nations S/1281
- China : draft resolution submitted at the 423rd meeting of the Security Council, 8 April, 1949, concerning the application of the Republic of Korea for admission to membership in the United Nations S/1305
- Argentina : draft resolution submitted at the 427th meeting of the Security Council, 16 June, 1949, concerning the admission of Portugal to membership in the United Nations S/1331
- Argentina : draft resolution submitted at the 427th meeting of the Security Council, 16 June, 1949, concerning the admission of Jordan to membership in the United Nations S/1332

Argentina : draft resolution submitted at the 427th meeting of the Security Council, 16 June, 1949, concerning the admission of Italy to membership in the United Nations S/I333

Argentina : draft resolution submitted at the 427th meeting of the Security Council, 16 June, 1949, concerning the admission of Finland to membership in the United Nations. S/I334

Argentina : draft resolution submitted at the 427th meeting of the Security Council, 16 June, 1949, concerning the admission of Ireland to membership in the United Nations S/I335

Argentina : draft resolution submitted at the 427th meeting of the Security Council, 16 June, 1949, concerning the admission of Austria to membership in the United Nations S/I336

Argentina : draft resolution submitted at the 427th meeting of the Security Council, 16 June, 1949, concerning the admission of Ceylon to membership in the United Nations S/I337

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics : draft resolution submitted at the 428th meeting of the Security Council, 21 June, 1949, concerning the applications of Albania, the Mongolian People's Republic, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Finland, Italy, Portugal, Ireland, Transjordan (Jordan), Austria and Ceylon for admission to membership in the United Nations S/I340

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics : draft resolution submitted at the 440th meeting of the Security Council, 9 September, 1949, concerning the applications of Albania, the Mongolian

People's Republic, Transjordan (Jordan), Portugal, Ireland, Hungary, Italy, Austria, Romania, Bulgaria, Finland, Ceylon and Nepal for admission to membership in the United Nations

S/1340/Rev. 1

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: draft resolution submitted at the 442nd meeting of the Security Council, 13 September, 1949, concerning the applications of Albania, the Mongolian People's Republic, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Finland, Italy, Portugal, Ireland, Transjordan (Jordan), Austria, Ceylon and Nepal for admission to membership in the United Nations

S/1340/Rev. 2

Letter dated 16 August, 1949, from the Chairman of the Committee on the admission of new Members to the President of the Security Council

S/1378

Report to the Security Council by the Committee on the admission of new Members concerning the application of Nepal for membership in the United Nations

S/1382

China: draft resolution submitted at the 439th meeting of the Security Council, 7 September, 1949, concerning the application of Nepal for admission to membership in the United Nations

S/1385

*Committee on the admission of new Members.*

*Records of proceedings.*

- 24th meeting.
- 25th meeting.
- 26th meeting.
- 27th meeting.
- 28th meeting.
- 29th meeting.



30th meeting.  
31st meeting.  
32nd meeting.  
33rd meeting.  
34th meeting.

*Committee on the admission of new Members.*

*Document.*

Letter dated 22 July, 1949, from the  
Director-General, Foreign Affairs,  
Kathmandu, Nepal, to the Chairman  
of the Committee on the admission  
of new Members

S/C.2/16