

# ARTICLE 61

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## ARTICLE 61

### TEXT OF ARTICLE 61

(As amended pursuant to General Assembly resolution 1991 B (XVIII))

1. The Economic and Social Council shall consist of twenty-seven Members of the United Nations elected by the General Assembly.

2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3, nine members of the Economic and Social Council shall be elected each year for a term of three years. A retiring member shall be eligible for immediate re-election.

3. At the first election after the increase in the membership of the Economic and Social Council from eighteen to twenty-seven members, in addition to the members elected in place of the six members whose term of office expires at the end of that year, nine additional members shall be elected. Of these nine additional members, the term of office of three members so elected shall expire at the end of one year, and of three other members at the end of two years, in accordance with arrangements made by the General Assembly.

4. Each member of the Economic and Social Council shall have one representative.

### INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. This study supplements previous studies of Article 61 in the *Repertory* and its *Supplements Nos. 1, 2 and 3*; the former headings have therefore been maintained. During the period under review, the only developments requiring treatment come under the following heading of the General Survey: A. Article 61 (1-3).

### I. GENERAL SURVEY

#### A. Article 61 (1-3)

2. At its twenty-first session the General Assembly applied for the first time rule 146<sup>1</sup> of its rules of procedure, when it elected nine members of the Economic and Social Council. Otherwise, the procedure followed by the General Assembly at its twenty-first, twenty-second, twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions for electing one-third of the members of the Economic and Social Council did not vary from that described in the *Repertory*<sup>2</sup> since, during the period under review, no changes were made in rules 85, 94, 96, 146 and 147 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

3. The following Member States were elected members of the Council during the period under review:

1966

Belgium, France, Guatemala, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Sierra Leone, Turkey, United Republic of Tanzania.

1967

Argentina, Bulgaria, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), India, Ireland, Japan, United States, Upper Volta.

1968

Indonesia, Jamaica, Norway, Pakistan, Sudan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Yugoslavia.

1969

Brazil, Ceylon, France, Ghana, Greece, Italy, Kenya, Peru, Tunisia.

4. The following list shows, for the period ending 31 December 1969, the frequency of application of the provision in Article 61 (2) whereby "a retiring member shall be eligible for immediate re-election":

*Member States regularly re-elected to the Council since its inception*

France, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States.

*Member States re-elected upon expiry of term of office*

Argentina ..... 1952-1954, 1955-1957

Belgium ..... 1949-1951, 1952-1954

Chile ..... 1946-1948, 1949-1951

China ..... 1946-1948, 1949-1951,  
1952-1954, 1955-1957,  
1958-1960

Czechoslovakia ... 1960-1962, 1963-1965, 1966-1968

India ..... 1966-1967 (elected for two years)  
1968-1970

Japan ..... 1960-1962, 1963-1965

Lebanon ..... 1946 (elected for one year)  
1947-1949

Netherlands ..... 1955-1957, 1958-1960

Pakistan ..... 1954-1956, 1957-1959

Peru ..... 1946-1948, 1949-1951

Poland ..... 1948-1950, 1951-1953,  
1957-1959, 1960-1962

Sierra Leone ..... 1966 (elected for one year)  
1967-1969

United Arab

Republic ..... 1952-1954, 1955-1957

United Republic

of Tanzania ..... 1966 (elected for one year)  
1967-1969

Yugoslavia ..... 1953-1955, 1956-1958

<sup>1</sup>This rule was amended by G A resolution 2046 C (XX). For text see A/520/Rev.10.

<sup>2</sup>*Repertory*, vol. III, under Article 61, paras. 7 and 8.

5. Of the seventy Member States which have served on the Council, apart from four which have served continuously<sup>3</sup>, one has served six terms of office<sup>4</sup>, five have served five terms<sup>5</sup>, ten have served four terms<sup>6</sup>, five have served three terms<sup>7</sup>, sixteen have served two terms<sup>8</sup> and thirty-three have served one term<sup>9</sup>.

<sup>3</sup>France, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>4</sup>India.

<sup>5</sup>Belgium, China, Czechoslovakia, Pakistan, Yugoslavia.

<sup>6</sup>Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Greece, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Turkey, Venezuela.

<sup>7</sup>Australia, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Uruguay.

<sup>8</sup>Bulgaria, Columbia, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Lebanon, New Zealand, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Sweden, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania.

<sup>9</sup>Afghanistan, Algeria, Austria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist

6. At the twenty-first session of the General Assembly, three Member States<sup>10</sup> which had not previously served on the Council were elected to membership, at the twenty-second session, four Member States<sup>11</sup>, at the twenty-third session, one Member State<sup>12</sup> and at the twenty-fourth session, four Member States<sup>13</sup>.

Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Ceylon, Congo (Brazzaville), Costa Rica, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Libya, Luxembourg, Morocco, Panama, Romania, Senegal, Spain, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Upper Volta.

<sup>10</sup>Guatemala, Kuwait, Libya.

<sup>11</sup>Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Ireland and Upper Volta.

<sup>12</sup>Jamaica.

<sup>13</sup>Ceylon, Ghana, Kenya and Tunisia.

## **\*\*II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE**

**\*\*A. Question of the date of expiry of the term of office of members of the Council**

**\*\*B. Question of associating with the Council's activities the largest number of members compatible with its efficacy**

**\*\*C. Question of the representation of a Member State**

**\*\*D. Question of whether the Council can meet with a vacancy in its membership**