

UNITING FOR PEACE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 377 (V)

The item “Uniting Action for Peace” was included in the agenda of the fifth session of the General Assembly at the request of the United States and was considered by the First Committee of the General Assembly from 9 to 21 October 1950.

Five draft resolutions were submitted to the First (Disarmament and International Security) Committee under this agenda item: one draft resolution submitted by Chile (A/C.1/575); one joint seven-Power draft resolution submitted by Canada, France, the Philippines, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay (A/C.1/576); two draft resolutions submitted by the Soviet Union (A/C.1/579 and A/C.1/580), and one draft resolution submitted by Iraq and Syria (A/C.1/585).

The joint seven-Power draft resolution and the USSR draft resolutions formed the basis of the general discussion in the First Committee. The Iraqi-Syrian draft resolution was discussed separately. On 14 October 1950, the Committee voted by roll call on the revised joint seven-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/576/Rev.1) which was adopted by 50 votes to 5, with 3 abstentions. The Committee next considered the two USSR draft resolutions: draft resolution A/C.1/579, as amended by France and Uruguay, was adopted by 49 votes to none, with 9 abstentions; draft resolution A/C.1/580 was rejected by 34 votes to 6, with 18 abstentions. Finally, the revised draft resolution of Iraq and Syria (A/C.1/585/Rev.2) was put to the vote and adopted unanimously by the Committee.

The First Committee recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of three resolutions A, B and C under the general heading “Uniting for Peace”. The report of the First Committee (A/1456) was discussed by the General Assembly from 1 to 3 November 1950. At the plenary, the USSR delegation reintroduced amendments (A/1465 and A/1466) and the draft resolution (A/1467) that had been rejected by the First Committee.

On 3 November 1950, the General Assembly put to vote the USSR amendments, the resolutions recommended by the First Committee and the USSR draft resolution. None of the USSR amendments were adopted. The draft resolutions recommended by the First Committee were adopted separately (resolution 377 A (V), adopted by roll-call vote of 52 to 5, with 2 abstentions; resolution 377 B (V), adopted by 57 votes to 0, with 6 abstentions; and resolution 377 C (V), adopted by vote of 57 votes to 0). Resolution 377 (V) (Uniting for Peace) was then adopted as a whole, on the same day, by 52 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.