ARTICLE 4

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ARTICLE 4

TEXT OF ARTICLE 4

1. Membership in the United Nations is open to all other peace-loving States which accept the obligations contained in the present Charter and, in the judgement of the Organization, are able and willing to carry out these obligations.

2. 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.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. Constitutional discussions in respect of Article 4 are covered in the analytical summary of practice of this study.

2. The general survey contains a brief outline of the action taken by the Security Council and the General Assembly and is supplemented by the tabulation in the annex. The decisions of the two organs for the most part bear upon the provisions of Article 4 and are treated in the analytical summary of practice under the previously established headings.

I. GENERAL SURVEY

A. Use of subsidiary organs

3. During the period under review, the Security Council continued the practice, resumed during the period covered by the previous study, of referring membership applications to the Committee on the Admission of New Members in accordance with rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council.

B. States admitted to membership and applications which remain pending

4. The following eight States were admitted to membership in the United Nations during the period covered by the present Supplement. They are listed according to the order in which they were admitted. In each case, admission was decided by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council.

- Saint Lucia
- Zimbabwe
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Vanuatu
- Belize
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Saint Christopher and Nevis
- Brunei Darussalam

5. At the close of the period under review, applications for admission to membership in the United Nations of the following applicant States continued to remain pending:

- Republic of Korea
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea

1 Listed in the chronological order of the reproduction of their applications in document form.
6. During the period under review, there were no new applications for membership that failed to obtain recommendation by the Security Council and admission by the General Assembly.

C. Action taken by the Security Council and by the General Assembly concerning the application for admission of new Members

7. The following table indicates the dates of action by the Security Council and by the General Assembly concerning the application for admission of new Members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Date of recommendation of the Security Council</th>
<th>Date of admission by the General Assembly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saint Lucia</td>
<td>12 September 1979</td>
<td>18 September 1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>30 July 1980</td>
<td>25 August 1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</td>
<td>19 February 1980</td>
<td>16 September 1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanuatu</td>
<td>8 July 1981</td>
<td>15 September 1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antigua and Barbuda</td>
<td>10 November 1981</td>
<td>11 November 1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Christopher and Nevis</td>
<td>22 September 1983</td>
<td>23 September 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
<td>24 February 1984</td>
<td>21 September 1984</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. In four cases, the Security Council decided, in accordance with the last paragraph of rule 60 of its provisional rules of procedure, to make recommendations to the General Assembly concerning applications for membership subsequent to the expiration of the time limits set forth in paragraph 4 of the same rule.

9. In the case of Zimbabwe’s application in 1980, the Security Council decided to request that its recommendation be placed on the supplementary list of items for the agenda of a special session of the General Assembly. That decision was made upon the request expressed in Zimbabwe’s application and upon the recommendation of the Committee on the Admission of New Members.

II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE

A. Questions bearing upon the provisions of Article 4(1)

1. The question of the universality of the Organization

10. No decisions requiring treatment under this heading were taken during the period under review.

11. Numerous references, however, continued to be made to the principle of universality in the deliberations of the Security Council and the General Assembly in connection with the question of admission of new Members.

**a) Proposals submitted to the Security Council referring to the principle of universality

**b) Proposals submitted to the General Assembly referring to the principle of universality

2. The question whether a new state created through the division of a state member of the United Nations acquires membership in the Organization

3. The question of the manner in which applicant states are to indicate their acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter

**a) The instrument of adherence — the practice under the former rules of procedure
12. During the period under review, eight new Members were admitted to the United Nations. In each case formal instruments of acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter were submitted together with the applications.6


13. The recommendations7 adopted by the Security Council during the period under review continued the previous practice of making no express reference to the judgement of the Council, but simply stated in each case that the Council, having considered the application of a given country, recommended that it should be admitted. The decisions8 of the General Assembly on the admission of the eight new Members likewise contained no express reference to the judgement of the General Assembly.

5. THE QUESTION OF THE MEANING TO BE ATTACHED TO THE TERM "PEACE-LOVING" STATES ... ABLE AND WILLING TO CARRY OUT [THE] OBLIGATIONS [CONTAINED IN THE CHARTER]"

14. During the period under review, although there continued to be statements of position in respect of specific interpretations of these terms in connection with the admission of new Members, there were no attempts to define their meaning in any general sense. The following developments have, however, a bearing on the requirements of Article 4(1).

15. The Security Council Committee of Experts established to study the question of "associate membership" of "micro-States" did not meet during the period under review.9

16. In the deliberations of the Security Council and the General Assembly concerning Belize's application for membership, one representative maintained that Belize was part of an ongoing territorial dispute between Guatemala and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and therefore did not comply with the requirements for membership contained in Article 4 of the Charter.10 This view was not shared by representatives of the other Member States, who recognized Belize as a sovereign and independent State and welcomed its accession to membership in the Organization.11

17. In connection with an existing Member of the Organization, the General Assembly declared by its resolution ES-9/1, pertaining to the situation in the occupied Arab territories, that Israel was not a peace-loving Member State and that it had carried out neither its obligations under the Charter nor its commitment under General Assembly resolution 273 (III) of 11 May 1949.12 Similar provisions were contained in resolutions adopted in subsequent sessions of the Assembly.13

7 The text of the relevant statements is contained in General Assembly Resolution 36/3.


10 For the texts of the relevant statements, see S C (36), 2302nd mtg.: Guatemala, paras. 5-30, and G A (36), Plen., 13th mtg., a.i. 20: ibid., paras. 2-33. See also the letters dated 10 September 1981 (S C (36), Suppl. for July-Sept. 1981, S/14683) and 18 September 1981 (ibid., S/14699) from the Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council.

11 See S C (36), 2302nd mtg., and G A (36), Plen., 13th mtg., a.i. 20.

12 By this resolution Israel was admitted to membership in the United Nations.

13 See G A resolutions ES-7/4 (Question of Palestine); and 37/123 A, 38/180 A and 39/146 B (The situation in the Middle East). For more details on the resolutions and their implications, see the present Supplement, under Article 6.

14 See para. 17 above.

15 G A (ES-9), 2nd mtg.: Syrian Arab Republic, p. 12. A similar argument was made at the twentieth session of the General Assembly. See Repertory, Supplement No. 3, under Article 4, para. 27.

16 See, for example, G A (ES-7), Plen., 12th mtg.: Syrian Arab Republic, p. 46 and G A (37), Plen., 93rd mtg.: ibid., para. 39.
**8. MERGER OF MEMBER STATES

**9. CESSATION OF COOPERATION BY A MEMBER STATE

B. Questions bearing upon the provisions of Article 4(2)

**1. THE QUESTION OF SEPARATE OR SIMULTANEOUS CONSIDERATION AND/OR ADMISSION OF APPLICANTS

**(a) Proposals submitted in the Security Council

**(b) Proposals submitted in the General Assembly


20. The General Assembly continued its practice of admitting new Members only on the basis of a positive recommendation by the Security Council. In each of its eight resolutions\(^\text{17}\) to admit new Members during the period under review, the General Assembly expressly took note of the fact that a recommendation for the admission of the applicant had been received from the Security Council.

3. THE QUESTION WHETHER THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IS SUBJECT TO THE VOTING PROCEDURE PRESCRIBED BY ARTICLE 27(3) OF THE CHARTER

21. The practice of the Security Council in this respect remained unchanged during the period under review.

\(^{17}\)G A resolutions 34/1, S-11/1, 35/1, 36/1, 36/3, 36/26, 38/1 and 39/1.
ANNEX
Tabulation of principal instances in which formal votes relating to the admission of new Members were taken by the Security Council and by the General Assembly

I. SECURITY COUNCIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Vote</th>
<th>Result of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saint Lucia</td>
<td>2167th mtg., 12 Sept. 1979</td>
<td>Unanimous</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</td>
<td>2198th mtg., 19 Feb. 1980</td>
<td>Unanimous</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>2244th mtg., 30 July 1981</td>
<td>Unanimous</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanuatu</td>
<td>2291st mtg., 8 July 1983</td>
<td>Unanimous</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belize</td>
<td>2302nd mtg., 23 Sept. 1984</td>
<td>Unanimous</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antigua and Barbuda</td>
<td>2309th mtg., 10 Nov. 1983</td>
<td>Unanimous</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Christopher and Nevis</td>
<td>2479th mtg., 22 Sept. 1983</td>
<td>Unanimous</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
<td>2518th mtg., 24 Feb. 1983</td>
<td>Unanimous</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. GENERAL ASSEMBLY (Plenary only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Draft resolution recommended by the relevant committee or submitted directly to the plenary</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Vote</th>
<th>Result of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draft resolution under which the General Assembly, having received the recommendation of the Security Council, would decide to admit Saint Lucia to membership in the United Nations. .</td>
<td>1st mtg., 18 Sept. 1979 (34th session)</td>
<td>Acclamation</td>
<td>Res. 34/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft resolution under which the General Assembly, having received the recommendation of the Security Council, would decide to admit Saint Lucia to membership in the United Nations. .</td>
<td>1st mtg., 25 August 1980 (11th special session)</td>
<td>Acclamation</td>
<td>Res. S-11/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Similar draft resolution regarding Zimbabwe . .</td>
<td>1st mtg., 16 Sept. 1980 (35th session)</td>
<td>Acclamation</td>
<td>Res. 35/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft resolution recommended by the relevant committee or submitted directly to the plenary</td>
<td>Meeting and date</td>
<td>For</td>
<td>Against</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Similar draft resolution regarding Vanuatu | 1981
(36th session) 1st mtg., 15 Sept. | Acclamation | | | Res. 36/1 |
| Similar draft resolution regarding Belize | 1981
(36th session) 13th mtg., 25 Sept. | 144 | 1 | 0 | Res. 36/3 |
| Similar draft resolution regarding Antigua and Barbuda | 1983
(38th session) 53rd mtg., 11 Nov. | Acclamation | | | Res. 36/26 |
| Similar draft resolution regarding Saint Christopher and Nevis | 1984
(39th session) 3rd mtg., 23 Sept. | Acclamation | | | Res. 38/1 |
| Similar draft resolution regarding Brunei Darussalam | 1984
(39th session) 3rd mtg., 21 Sept. | Acclamation | | | Res. 39/1 |

*See also GA resolution 35/20 regarding the question of Belize, whereby the General Assembly, inter alia, declared that Belize should become an independent State before the conclusion of the thirty-sixth session of the Assembly and welcomed the declared intention of the Government of Belize to apply for membership in the United Nations upon attainment of independence, in accordance with Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations.