## Article 4

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**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**
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 the present study.

2. The general survey contains a brief outline of the action taken by the Security Council and the General Assembly.

I. General survey

A. Use of subsidiary organs

3. During the period under review, the Security Council did not receive and, therefore, did not refer any membership application to the Committee on 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. No new States were admitted to membership in the United Nations during the period covered by the present Supplement.

5. At the close of the period under review, applications for admission to membership in the United Nations of the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea continued to remain pending.¹

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

¹ Listed in the chronological order of the reproduction of their applications in document form. For letters of the above countries on the question of United Nations membership, addressed during the period under review to the President of the Security Council, see S/19054 and S/18958, respectively.
II. Analytical summary of practice

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

1. The question of the universality of the Organization

6. No decisions requiring treatment under this heading were taken during the period under review. However, at the forty-first session of the General Assembly, Israel characterized an instance of challenge of its credential by the Arab Group in the Credentials Committee as an attempt “to undermine the broad consensus on the principle of universality”.2

**(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 or the obligations contained in the Charter

**(a) The instrument of adherence — the practice under the former rules of procedure
**(b) The formal instrument of acceptance — the practice under the present rules of procedure

**4. The question of the respective roles of the Security Council and the General Assembly regarding the judgement to be made by the Organization

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]”

7. During the period under review, there were no statements of position in respect of specific interpretations of these terms and no attempts to define their meaning in any general sense. The following developments, however, have a bearing on the requirements of Article 4(1).

8. By its resolutions 40/168 B, 41/162 B, 42/209 C and 43/54 B on the situation in the Middle East, the Assembly stated, inter alia, that Israel’s record, policies and actions confirmed that it was not a peace-loving Member State and that it had carried out neither its obligations under the Charter nor its commitments under General Assembly resolution 273 (III) of 11 May 1949.3

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2 See A/41/766.
3 By its resolution 273 (III) the Assembly, noting, inter alia, the declaration by Israel that it “unreservedly accepts the obligations of the United Nations Charter and undertakes to honour them from the day when it becomes a Member of the United Nations”, recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, as well as “the declarations and explanations made by the representative of the Government of Israel before the ad hoc Political Committee in respect of the implementation of the said resolutions [A/AC.24/SR.45-48, 50, 51]”, decided that Israel was a peace-loving State which accepted the obligations contained in the Charter and was able and willing to carry out those obligations, and decided to admit Israel to membership in the United Nations.
**6.** The question of the submission of information or evidence by applicants in connection with the requirements of Article 4(1)

**7.** The question of conditions of admission

**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

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**2.** The question of the nature of the functions of the Security Council and of the General Assembly envisaged by the words “will be effected by a decision of the General Assembly upon the recommendation of 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

**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