ARTICLE 61

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TEXT OF ARTICLE 61

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

2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3, six 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, eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council shall be chosen. The term of office of six members so chosen shall expire at the end of one year, and of six 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 Repertory studies of Article 61, and the former headings have therefore been maintained. During the period under review, there were no developments requiring treatment under the following heading in the Analytical Summary of Practice: "A. Question of the date of expiry of the term of office of members of the Councils."
I. GENERAL SURVEY

A. Article 61 (1-3)

2. The procedure followed by the General Assembly at its eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth sessions for electing one third of the members of the Economic and Social Council did not vary from that described in the Repertory, since no changes were made in rules 85, 94, 95, 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:

<table>
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<th>1956</th>
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<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>China</td>
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<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
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<td>Poland</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union of Soviet Socialist Republics</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>United States</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>Venezuela</td>
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4. The following lists show, for the period ending 1 September 1959, 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

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

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1/ G A (XI), Plen., 627th mtg., paras. 22-26; G A (XII), Plen., 695th mtg., para. 3; G A (XIII), Plen., 775th mtg., paras. 3-9.
2/ Vol. III, under Article 61, paras. 7 and 8; for the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, see A/4700 (United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 61.I.4).
Article 61

Paragraphs 5-7

Member States re-elected upon expiry of term of office

Belgium ..................... 1949-1951, 1952-1954
Chile ....................... 1946-1948, 1949-1951
Lebanon ..................... 1946 (elected for one year), 1947-1949
Pakistan .................... 1954-1956, 1957-1959
Peru ....................... 1946-1948, 1949-1951
Poland ...................... 1948-1950, 1951-1953

5. Of the forty-four Member States which served on the Council, apart from the five which served continuously, ten served three terms of office, 3/ twelve served two terms 4/ and seventeen, one term. 5/

6. At the eleventh session of the General Assembly, one Member State 6/ which had not previously served on the Council was elected to membership; at the twelfth session, two Member States 7/ and at the thirteenth session, three such Member States 8/ were elected.

B. Article 61 (4)

7. There was no change in the relevant rules of procedure during the period under review, and the practice of the Economic and Social Council also remained unchanged. 9/

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3/ Belgium (served only one year of first term), Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, India, Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, Yugoslavia and Venezuela.
4/ Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Cuba, Egypt, Greece, Lebanon, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru and Turkey.
5/ Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Indonesia, Iran, Philippines, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Ukrainian SSR and Uruguay.
6/ Finland.
7/ Costa Rica and Sudan.
8/ Afghanistan, Bulgaria and Spain.
9/ See section II C below; for the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, see E/3063 (United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 58.I.3).
II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE

**A. Question of the date of expiry of the term of office of members of the Councils**

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

8. The question of amending the United Nations Charter in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, to increase the membership of the Economic and Social Council, was included on the agenda of the eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the General Assembly. 10/

9. Following the discussion of the matter 11/ at its eleventh session, the General Assembly decided 12/ to postpone further consideration of this item of its agenda to its twelfth session. At the twelfth session of the General Assembly, the item was referred to the Special Political Committee, which approved a draft resolution submitted by seventeen Member States 13/ recommending postponement of this and two similar items 14/ until the thirteenth session. The text of this resolution was adopted by the General Assembly without change as resolution 1190 (XII). 15/

10. At its twenty-sixth session, the Economic and Social Council adopted a resolution 16/ inviting the General Assembly to give favourable consideration to an increase in the membership of the Council to make it a more effective organ for carrying out its obligations under the Charter. At its thirteenth session the General Assembly again referred the three items 17/ to its Special Political Committee, 18/ together with the relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council, 19/ which was also referred to the Second Committee. A summary of the views expressed on the subject in the deliberations of the Second Committee was subsequently transmitted

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11/ For texts of relevant statements concerning consideration of the item at the eleventh session, see G A (XI), Plen., vol. I, 581st mtg., para. 94; 588th mtg., paras. 82-85 and 172; 590th mtg., paras. 108 and 143; 598th mtg., para. 31; 601st mtg., para. 8; 603rd mtg., para. 96; 620th mtg., paras. 146-153; 621st mtg., paras. 1-19 and 35-68; 622nd mtg., paras. 1-111; 624th mtg., paras. 1-137; 628th mtg., paras. 1-122; 629th mtg., paras. 1-110.
12/ G A (XI), Plen., 661st mtg., para. 108.
13/ Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Ceylon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Venezuela. See the report of the Special Political Committee (G A (XII), Annexes, a.i. 19, 20 and 21, A/3765).
14/ "Question of amending the United Nations Charter, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, to increase the number of non-permanent members of the Security Council and the number of votes required for decisions of the Council"; and "Question of amending the Statute of the International Court of Justice, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter of the United Nations and Article 69 of the Statute of the Court, with respect to an increase in the number of judges of the International Court of Justice".
15/ G A (XII), Plen., 728th mtg., para. 23.
16/ E S C resolution 690 B (XXVI).
17/ See para. 8 and foot-note 14 above.
18/ G A (XIII), Plen., 752nd mtg., para. 13.
19/ G A (XIII), Suppl. No. 3 (A/3848), chapter I, section VI.
to the Special Political Committee, 20/ which considered the three items together and recommended the adoption of a draft resolution sponsored by seven countries, 21/ to postpone consideration of the three items by the General Assembly until its fourteenth session. This resolution was adopted by the General Assembly, together with a second draft resolution of the Special Political Committee, 22/ which was sponsored by nineteen countries. 23/ The latter resolution, noting the resolution 24/ which had been adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its twenty-sixth session,

"1. Recognizes that, in view of the increase in the membership of the United Nations since its establishment, an increase in the membership of the Economic and Social Council is desirable in order to achieve a wider representation and thus to make the Council a more effective organ for carrying out the obligations placed upon it under Chapters IX and X of the Charter of the United Nations, and that such an increase should be so designed as to preserve the expeditious conduct of the work of the Council;

"2. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fourteenth session the item entitled 'Question of amending the United Nations Charter, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, to increase the membership of the Economic and Social Council'."

C. Question of the representation of a Member State

11. Statements on the question whether a member of the Economic and Social Council was represented by a duly accredited representative in accordance with Article 61 (k) and rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Council were made and in some instances communications were received in connexion with the representation of China at each session of the Council during the period under review. As before, statements were made in the Council either on a point of order or in connexion with the consideration of reports on credentials by the President and Vice-Presidents. 25/