

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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714 (VIII). Question of impartial investigation of charges of use by United Nations forces of bacterial warfare

The General Assembly

1. *Refers* to the Disarmament Commission the draft resolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics contained in document A/C.1/L.67¹ for such consideration as deemed appropriate under its plan of work and pursuant to the terms of reference of that Commission as set forth in General Assembly resolutions 502 (VI) of 11 January 1952 and 704 (VII) of 8 April 1953;

2. *Decides* also to transmit to the Disarmament Commission for its information the records of the meetings of the First Committee at which this item was discussed.

*456th plenary meeting,
3 November 1953.*

715 (VIII). Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments: report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations for considering the problem of disarmament and affirming the need of providing for:

(a) The regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments,

(b) The elimination and prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other types of weapons of mass destruction,

(c) The effective international control of atomic energy to ensure the prohibition of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only,

¹ The USSR draft resolution reads as follows:

The General Assembly
"Calls upon all States which have not acceded to or ratified the Geneva Protocol of 17 June 1925 for the prohibition of the use of bacterial weapons to accede to the Protocol or ratify it."

the whole programme to be carried out under effective international control and in such a way that no State would have cause to fear that its security was endangered,

Believing that the continued development of weapons of mass destruction such as atomic and hydrogen bombs has given additional urgency to efforts to bring about effectively controlled disarmament throughout the world, as the existence of civilization itself may be at stake,

Mindful that progress in the settlement of existing international disputes and the resulting re-establishment of confidence are vital to the attainment of peace and disarmament and that efforts to reach agreement on a comprehensive and co-ordinated disarmament programme with adequate safeguards should be made concurrently with progress in the settlement of international disputes,

Believing that progress in either field would contribute to progress in the other,

Realizing that competition in the development of armaments and armed forces beyond what is necessary for the individual or collective security of Member States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations is not only economically unsound but is in itself a grave danger to peace,

Conscious of the continuing desire of all nations, by lightening the burden of armaments, to release more of the world's human and economic resources for peace,

Having received the third report² of the Disarmament Commission of 20 August 1953, submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 704 (VII) of 8 April 1953,

Endorsing the Commission's hope that recent international events will create a more propitious atmosphere for reconsideration of the disarmament question, the capital importance of which, in conjunction with other questions affecting the maintenance of peace, is recognized by all,

² See *Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, 1953, Supplement for July, August and September 1953*, document DC/32.

1. *Recognizes* the general wish and affirms its earnest desire to reach agreement as early as possible on a comprehensive and co-ordinated plan, under international control, for the regulation, limitation and reduction of all armed forces and all armaments, for the elimination and prohibition of atomic, hydrogen, bacterial, chemical and all such other weapons of war and mass destruction, and for the attainment of these ends through effective measures;

2. *Recognizes* that, whatever the weapons used, aggression is contrary to the conscience and honour of the peoples and incompatible with membership in the United Nations and is the gravest of all crimes against peace and security throughout the world;

3. *Takes note* of the third report of the Disarmament Commission;

4. *Requests* the Commission to continue its efforts to reach agreement on the problems with which it is concerned, taking into consideration proposals made at the eighth session of the General Assembly, and to report again to the General Assembly and to the Security Council not later than 1 September 1954;

5. *Calls on* all Member States, and particularly the major Powers, to intensify their efforts to assist the Disarmament Commission in its tasks and to submit to the Commission any proposals which they have to make in the field of disarmament;

6. *Suggests* that the Disarmament Commission study the desirability of establishing a sub-committee consisting of representatives of the Powers principally involved, which should seek in private an acceptable solution and report to the Disarmament Commission as soon as possible, in order that the Commission may study and report on such a solution to the General Assembly and to the Security Council not later than 1 September 1954;

7. *Further suggests* to the Disarmament Commission, in order to facilitate the progress of its work, to arrange for the sub-committee, when established, to hold its private meetings as appropriate in the different countries most concerned with the problem.

*460th plenary meeting,
28 November 1953.*

716 (VIII). The Korean question

The General Assembly

1. *Resolves* that the eighth session of the General Assembly stand recessed;

2. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to reconvene the eighth session, with the concurrence of the majority of Member States, if (a) in the President's opinion developments in respect of the Korean question warrant such reconvening, or (b) one or more Member States make a request to the President for such reconvening by reason of developments in respect of the Korean question.

*470th plenary meeting,
8 December 1953.*

717 (VIII). Complaint by the Union of Burma regarding aggression against it by the Government of the Republic of China

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report^a dated 31 August 1953 of the Government of the Union of Burma on the situation relating to the presence of foreign forces in its territory, and all other information on the subject laid before the Assembly,

1. *Notes* that limited evacuation of personnel of these foreign forces has begun as from 7 November 1953;

2. *Expresses concern* that few arms have been surrendered by them;

3. *Appreciates* the efforts of the United States of America and Thailand in striving for the evacuation of these forces;

4. *Urges* that efforts be continued on the part of those concerned for the evacuation or internment of these foreign forces and the surrender of all arms;

5. *Reaffirms* General Assembly resolution 707 (VII) of 23 April 1953, and in particular;

6. *Urges* upon all States to refrain from furnishing any assistance to these forces which may enable them to remain in the territory of the Union of Burma or to continue their hostile acts against that country;

7. *Invites* the governments concerned to inform the General Assembly of any action that they have taken to implement the present resolution;

8. *Requests* the Government of the Union of Burma to report on the situation to the General Assembly as appropriate.

*470th plenary meeting,
8 December 1953.*

^a See document A/2468.