

The French and Guatemalan Delegations submitted a draft resolution in which the General Assembly noted that Italy had been made responsible by the United Nations for the administration of the trust territory of Somaliland and that it was exercising its responsibilities towards the United Nations as an administering power. The resolution went on to state that the General Assembly considered that Italy should be enabled to exercise those responsibilities with complete effectiveness and that it was necessary for Italy to become a member of the Trusteeship Council and for that purpose to be admitted to the United Nations, and recommended that the Security Council give urgent consideration to such immediate admission of Italy.

The Fourth Committee adopted the two-power resolution over the objections of the Cominform countries. Canada voted in favour of the resolution. The Canadian representative on the Fourth Committee, in a statement supporting the resolutions, said that Italy, while assuming the same responsibilities and obligations as other states which administered trust territories, had not been endowed with the same rights and privileges which those other states enjoyed. He said that under present circumstances there was only one way in which the United Nations could legally attempt to remove this anomaly, and that way was pointed out in the draft resolution. The resolution recognized that rights of membership under the Charter could only be granted by a recommendation of the Assembly together with a decision of the Security Council.

During the discussion of the item on information from non-self-governing territories, the Iraqi and Uruguayan Delegations brought forward resolutions "reaffirming the powers of the Trusteeship Committee to discuss political matters and political aspects in regard to non-self-governing territories". These resolutions were strongly opposed by the administering powers, who claimed that the Fourth Committee had power to discuss only economic, social and educational conditions in the non-self-governing territories on which information is transmitted to the Secretary-General. However, after an appeal by the Chairman of the Committee to members not to bring up political matters when this particular item was being discussed, the sponsors withdrew the two resolutions.

The Trusteeship Committee approved a revised standard form for the submission of information by the administering powers on the colonial territories for which they are responsible. The report of a special committee of the General Assembly on "economic conditions and problems of development in non-self-governing territories" was also approved without change.

Appointment of Negotiating Committee

On November 27 the Administrative and Budgetary (Fifth) Committee adopted a resolution sponsored by the United Kingdom and the United States requesting the President of the General Assembly to appoint a negotiating committee composed of seven members for the purpose of consulting during the current session of the General Assembly with member and non-member states as to the amounts which governments may be willing to contribute on a voluntary basis towards programmes approved by the Assembly but for which funds are not provided in the regular budget of the United Nations. These programmes include assistance to Palestine refugees and Korean civilians and the expanded programme of technical assistance of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies.