

Under other articles of the Charter it is provided that the recommendation by the Security Council requires an affirmative vote of seven members, including the concurring votes of all five permanent members. A decision by the Assembly in favour of the admission of a new member requires a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

On November 19, 1946, the General Assembly requested the Security Council to appoint a committee to confer with the Committee on Procedure of the General Assembly with a view to "preparing rules governing the admission of new members which will be acceptable both to the General Assembly and to the Security Council". Joint meetings of the Security Council and General Assembly Committees on Procedure for the Admission of New Members were held in June, 1947, in order to draft proposals relating to rules of procedure. The Committees agreed that the General Assembly was not entitled, under Article 4 (2) of the Charter, to admit a new member except upon an affirmative recommendation of the Security Council. It was also agreed by a majority of the Members of the Committee that:

- (a) The Committee could not suggest any procedural rules which would have the effect of defining or limiting powers of jurisdiction of the Security Council in relation to the admission of new members, and
- (b) The Security Council was entitled to consider each application before the Assembly did.

The Joint Committee adopted unanimously the amendments proposed to the rules of procedure, with the exception of the Soviet delegate who reserved his position. Under these new rules an application from a state desiring to become a member must contain a formal declaration that it accepts the obligations in the Charter. Membership will become effective on the date on which the Assembly approves the application.

The new rules of procedure as recommended by the Committee of the General Assembly on Procedure for Admission of New Members were adopted by the First Committee at the Second Session of the General Assembly virtually without objection, Canada voting for each new rule. The Soviet Union and the other Slav States also accepted the proposals. The rules of procedure for the admission of new members were adopted without discussion by the General Assembly.¹

¹ The full text of the new provisional rules of procedure on the Admission of New Members is given in Appendix I, Y, p. 220.