

February 1955. When Prime Minister Edgar Faure took office the negotiations were resumed and a *protocole d'accord* was signed on April 22, 1955. The *protocole* was subsequently expanded into a series of Conventions which were signed on June 3 and ratified by the French Assembly on July 9 by a vote of 540 to 43. The Franco-Tunisian Conventions transferred to Tunisia a large measure of local autonomy; provided for the transfer of authority, by stages, in matters of justice and internal security; reserved to France full control of foreign affairs and national defence; and envisaged a close and continuing association of the two countries. A provisional Government was formed on September 18, 1955, with M. Tahar ben Ammar as Prime Minister, and the Bey of Tunis continuing as head of state. There was no request for a discussion of the Tunisian question at the tenth session of the General Assembly in 1955.

While the French Government was preoccupied with the Tunisian negotiations the situation in Morocco deteriorated seriously. Grave disorders erupted on July 14, 1955 at Casablanca and in other urban centres. It became apparent that the dynastic dispute between the supporters of the reigning Sultan, Sidi Mohammed ben Moulay Arafa, and the followers of Sidi Mohammed ben Youssef, the former Sultan who had been deposed in 1953, was a primary source of the dissension in Morocco. The nationalist uprising in which hundreds of French and Moroccans were killed on August 20 revealed the strength of the former Sultan's support and inspired renewed efforts to resolve the Moroccan crisis. Eventually, the reigning Sultan was persuaded to step down, and on November 5 Sidi Mohammed ben Youssef was officially recognized by the French Government as the Sultan of Morocco.

The Asian-African nations had already requested on July 26 that the tenth session of the General Assembly "again consider the 'question of Morocco' with a view to recommending to the French Government that the necessary steps be taken to remedy the situation and to bring peace to that part of the world". The Moroccan item was inscribed on the agenda without opposition, but in the light of the rapidly changing situation and the positive French efforts to find a solution to the Moroccan problem, the Asian-African group did not press for an immediate discussion. On November 28 debate opened in the First (Political and Security) Committee of the Assembly on a resolution introduced by 16 Asian-African and 15 Latin American states. The resolution noted that negotiations between France and Morocco would be initiated, expressed confidence that a satisfactory solution would be achieved and postponed further consideration of the item. After a relatively mild and very brief debate the resolution was adopted by a vote of 49 in favour (including Canada), 0 against, with 5 abstentions (the United Kingdom, Australia, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg). The United Kingdom and Australian Representatives explained their votes by saying that although they were of the opinion that this item should not have been considered by the United Nations, they were satisfied with the outcome of the debate. The Canadian Delegation and many others were in favour of keeping discussion to a minimum in order not to aggravate in any way the delicate situation in Morocco. The resolution was adopted in plenary session on December 3 by a vote of 51 in favour (including Canada), 0 against, with 5 abstentions.

Algeria, which is constitutionally part of metropolitan France, had not been discussed at previous sessions of the General Assembly, but in January 1955 when it had become obvious that the Algerian nationalist revolt (which had commenced on November 1, 1954) was much more than a local disturbance, Saudi Arabia brought the situation in Algeria to the attention of the President of the Security Council, reserving the right to request that it be