

The resolution restated the principles approved by the Assembly in November 1947. The Trusteeship Council was now asked to bring its statute for Jerusalem up to date, with amendments for its greater democratization. The Trusteeship Council was then to put its own plan into effect immediately. It was not to allow possible actions of interested states to divert it from carrying out its task.

The Trusteeship Council's draft statute as it now stands, pending its revision, would give a United Nations Governor, responsible to the Trusteeship Council, full executive control over an undivided and demilitarized Jerusalem area. The Trusteeship Council would have power to prorogue, suspend or dissolve an elected legislative council. The Governor would control immigration but assure freedom of entry and temporary residence to all pilgrims and visitors, subject to the requirements of public security, morals and health. Arrangements for the protection of the Holy Places are set forth at some length in the draft. The statute would remain in effect for ten years, after which the Trusteeship Council would re-examine it. A referendum would also be held at that time to allow the inhabitants to express their wishes as to possible modifications of the regime.

Advocates of a limited form of internationalization were concerned because the supporters of full internationalization had not explained how they proposed to overcome local resistance, which might involve the use of force. Neither had these states offered to make contributions themselves towards implementing a recommendation which the inhabitants of Jerusalem seemed likely to resent.

A Netherlands-Swedish proposal for functional internationalization, which had Canada's support, was intended—like the plan of the Conciliation Commission described above—to provide a form of internationalization that might stand some chance of being put into effect. It left secular interests largely to the occupying authorities and limited the exercise of international control chiefly to matters affecting the Holy Places. Under the Netherlands-Swedish proposal, a United Nations Commissioner responsible to the General Assembly would supervise the protection of the Holy Places in Jerusalem and elsewhere in Palestine and ensure free access to them by visitors. The Commissioner would have power to settle disputes between religious groups, appeals being allowed to a special consular court. Jurisdiction over the two parts of Jerusalem, however, would be exercised by Israeli and Arab authorities respectively, subject to the powers conferred on the United Nations Commissioner. Israelis and Arabs would be forbidden, however, to set up central political or administrative organs in Jerusalem. If they failed to take necessary measures to maintain public safety the Commissioner would have the power to issue orders for this purpose. He might also defer or suspend the application of laws, ordinances or regulations which impaired the rights and privileges he was there to protect. Demilitarization of the Jerusalem area would be completed three months after definitive peace was concluded. The General Assembly would review these arrangements after a period of three years. Meanwhile, Israel and Jordan would be invited to give the United Nations appropriate pledges.

The Canadian Representative spoke in favour of the Netherlands-Swedish proposal and would have supported it if it had been put to the vote.* In sub-committee and the main committee, Canada abstained when

*For the text of the Canadian statement of November 29, 1949, see Appendix 13, pp. 255-257; for excerpts from the Canadian statement of December 9, 1949, see Appendix 14, pp. 257-259.