

were to be administered for the United Nations by a Governor responsible to the Trusteeship Council, under a special statute which the Council was to draft. It was hoped that this arrangement would protect the unique spiritual and religious interests which the world's three great monotheistic faiths have in the Jerusalem area, and that it would ensure a reign of order and peace and foster cooperation among all inhabitants of the area. Holy Places elsewhere than in Jerusalem would be protected by guarantees embodied in the respective constitutions of the Arab and Jewish states, but the United Nations Governor of Jerusalem would see that these guarantees were fulfilled and would have authority to settle disputes about Holy Places in any part of Palestine.

The Trusteeship Council prepared a draft statute for Jerusalem along lines laid down in some detail by the General Assembly. Although this draft was published in April 1948, no attempt was made to put it into effect, since the struggle which was then in progress between Jews and Arabs for the possession of Jerusalem and other parts of Palestine forced the United Nations to concentrate its attention on efforts to establish a truce as the first step towards the restoration of peace.

The second decision the Assembly took on the subject was at Paris in December 1948, eleven days after an effective cease-fire agreement had been signed in Jerusalem by Arab and Israeli commanders and shortly before the Security Council succeeded in putting an end to hostilities in Palestine as a whole. This time the Assembly asked a small Conciliation Commission based on Palestine, rather than the Trusteeship Council at Lake Success, to prepare appropriate and detailed proposals for placing Jerusalem under effective United Nations control. The Assembly stipulated that the area should be accorded special and separate treatment from the rest of Palestine under a plan providing the maximum degree of local autonomy consistent with Jerusalem's special international status. The Conciliation Commission was to seek arrangements which would facilitate the economic development of the area. For Holy Places elsewhere than in the Jerusalem area, Arab and Israeli authorities should be asked to give the Conciliation Commission appropriate guarantees. Both the detailed plan for Jerusalem and the guarantees for Holy Places elsewhere would be submitted for the Assembly's approval during its Fourth Session.

The Conciliation Commission made several unsuccessful attempts to get Israel and Jordan to agree to a plan for an international regime for Jerusalem and then, on September 12, 1949, published a plan of its own. This took into account the partition of Jerusalem into areas occupied by armed forces of Israel and Jordan under the terms of an armistice signed on April 3, 1949, which the Security Council recognized on August 11 — along with other bilateral armistice agreements between Israel and its immediate neighbours—as superseding United Nations truce arrangements.

The Conciliation Commission proposed to the Assembly that Arab and Jewish zones in Jerusalem should be recognized, that Arab and Jewish authorities should provide the day-to-day municipal administration in their respective zones, and that a mixed appointive body should look after services of common interest, such as transportation and communications. A United Nations Commissioner would assure the observance of human rights, the protection of Holy Places, and freedom of access to these Places, and would supervise the demilitarization of the Jerusalem area. An international tribunal would settle disputes involving the Holy Places or disputes