



Dual Distribution

Sixth session  
Item 56

REQUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA FOR REVISION OF THE  
CHINESE TEXT OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION  
AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. D. ABDOH (Iran)

1. In a memorandum of 18 September 1951 (A/1880) the Secretary-General stated that in view of the notification addressed to him by the Chinese Government, in accordance with Article XVI of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, requesting the revision of the Chinese text of the Convention, he had placed upon the provisional agenda of the sixth session of the General Assembly the request of the Chinese Government in order that the Assembly might decide upon the steps, if any, to be taken in respect of the request.
2. On 30 November 1951, at its 341st plenary meeting, the General Assembly decided to place the item on the agenda of the sixth session and at its 342nd plenary meeting held on the same day, allocated it to the Sixth Committee for consideration.
3. The Sixth Committee discussed the question at its 303rd meeting on 29 January 1952. The delegations of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that they would not take part in the discussion or in the vote since, in their view, the request for revision had not come from the lawful Government of China.
4. As the work of revision proved to be more difficult than originally expected, the delegation of China, having had insufficient time to submit a definitive text to its Government, expressed the wish to postpone consideration of the question. The representative of Iran submitted a draft resolution in that sense (A/C.6/L.230).
5. During the discussion, the representative of Burma expressed his disagreement with the contents of the first operative paragraph of the draft

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resolution and suggested that the paragraph should be replaced. The representative of Egypt introduced an oral amendment, which was accepted by the sponsor of the draft resolution, proposing that the paragraph should be replaced by the following: "Considering that the elements necessary for the discussion of this question are not yet at the disposal of the General Assembly,".

6. The sponsor of the draft resolution inserted the word "provisional" before the words "agenda of its seventh session" in the operative part.

7. The draft resolution submitted by Iran, as so amended, was adopted by 29 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

8. The Sixth Committee accordingly recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

"REQUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA FOR REVISION OF THE  
CHINESE TEXT OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND  
PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE"

The General Assembly,

Having included in the agenda of its sixth session the question entitled "Request of the Government of China for revision of the Chinese text of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide",

Considering that the elements necessary for the discussion of this question are not yet at the disposal of the General Assembly,

Decides to include this question in the provisional agenda of its seventh session.