

Hungary 1956-1959 - correspondence, resolutions, General Assembly and Secur...

HS L 179:83



Dag Hammarskjöld's saml.

Hungary - 1956

11 Nov. - 12 Nov.

a.) U.N. Press Release

- Sec. Gen. moves to implement resolutions
on relief for Hungary Nominates
Philippe de Seynes.

b.) U.N. note to correspondents: Hungary, Gen -
- Assembly documents.

UNITED NATIONS
Department of Public Information
Press and Publications Division
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media — not an official record)

Press Release SG/527
11 November 1956

SECRETARY-GENERAL MOVES TO IMPLEMENT RESOLUTIONS ON RELIEF FOR HUNGARY

NOMINATES PHILIPPE DE SEYNES

The Secretary-General addressed on 10 November the following note verbale to the government of the Hungarian People's Republic:

"The Secretary-General presents his compliments to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic and has the honour to refer to the provisions of the resolutions adopted at the Second Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly, which instruct the Secretary-General to undertake immediately measures to furnish medical supplies, foodstuffs and clothes to the territories affected by the recent events in Hungary. Accordingly, the Secretary-General would appreciate receiving at the earliest possible date from the Government of Hungary information concerning the needs of the Hungarian people for medical supplies, foodstuffs and clothes from abroad. Upon receipt of this information the Secretary-General would wish to discuss with the Hungarian Government the best means of providing the assistance required."

As of 10 November, the Secretary-General also charged Philippe de Seynes, Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, with responsibility for the implementing and follow-up of those provisions of resolutions adopted at the Second Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly which deal with relief needs of the people of Hungary. Mr. de Seynes has already had urgent consultations with the specialized agencies and with other interested organizations concerning the needs of the Hungarian people and necessary measures for relieving them. There has been a prompt response from governments and private organizations in various parts of the world, both as regards offers of medical and other supplies and plans for receiving Hungarian refugees.

Aid to Hungarian Refugees

The Secretary-General has asked United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees, James M. Read, to consult with other appropriate international agencies and interested Governments with a view to making speedy and effective arrangements for emergency assistance to refugees from Hungary. He has requested Mr. Read immediately to assume responsibility for co-ordinating such emergency assistance to

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refugees and has informed him that special contributions from member states for this purpose will be made available to the High Commissioner.

Attention was drawn to the special needs of the "increasingly large numbers of refugees" in a resolution, A/RES/398, introduced by the United States of America and adopted by the General Assembly on 9 November, which called upon the Secretary-General to take action in this sense in conjunction with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

General Assembly Resolutions

It will be recalled that the resolution introduced by the United States and adopted at the Second Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly on 9 November called upon "the Hungarian authorities to facilitate, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics not to interfere with, the receipt and distribution of food and medical supplies to the Hungarian people and to co-operate fully with the United Nations and its specialized agencies." It also urged the "Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Hungarian authorities to co-operate fully with the Secretary-General and his duly appointed representatives in carrying out the tasks referred to above."

Also on 9 November, at its Emergency Special Session the General Assembly adopted a resolution proposed by Austria which drew attention to the "extreme suffering to which the Hungarian people is subjected" and expressed the belief that humanitarian duties could be fulfilled most effectively through international co-operation as stipulated in Article 1, para. 3, of the Charter of the United Nations. The resolution states that the General Assembly:

"1. Resolves to undertake on a large scale immediate aid for the affected territories by furnishing medical supplies, foodstuffs and clothes;

"2. Calls upon all Member States to participate to the greatest extent possible in this relief action;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to undertake immediately the necessary measures;

"4. Urgently appeals to all countries concerned to give full assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of this task."

HUNGARYGENERAL ASSEMBLY DOCUMENTS

General Assembly Meeting 564, 4 November

Ref: APV/564, GA/1367

- A/3251 Hungary - Cable of 1 November requesting item entitled, "Question of Hungary's Neutrality and the Defense of this Neutrality by the Four Great Powers," be placed on agenda of eleventh regular Assembly session.
- A/3280 Security Council - Letter of 4 November transmitting text of resolution adopted by Council on 4 November and calling for emergency special session of Assembly.
- A/3281 Second emergency special session - Provisional agenda of 564th meeting, 4 November.
- A/3286 United States - draft resolution on (1) cessation of armed attack by USSR on peoples of Hungary and withdrawal of all USSR forces without delay; (2) investigation by Secretary-General of situation "caused by foreign intervention" in Hungary; (3) direct observation in Hungary through the use of observers designated by the Secretary-General (4) furnishing of food, medicine and other supplies to Hungarian people. Adopted, as amended by France, on 4 November.
- (A/RES/393)
- A/3315 Secretary-General - Aide-memoire of 8 November to Government of Hungary, in reference to Assembly resolution of 4 November (A/RES/393), (1) asking whether Hungary is willing to permit observers to enter Hungary, and (2) stating investigation of situation "caused by foreign intervention in Hungary" is being undertaken "on the basis of available and confirmed material." (See also A/3335 below)
- A/3335 Secretary-General - Aide-memoire of 10 November to Hungary in reference to Assembly resolution of 4 November (A/RES/393), noting no reply received to earlier aide-memoire (A/3315) on observers, reiterating request for reply "without further delay," expressing willingness to arrange immediately for discussion on procedures for visit by observers, and stating necessity, if no reply received "shortly," of submitting the situation to the Assembly.
- A/3335, p.2.
Hungary - reply of 10 November to Secretary-General's aide-memoire of 10 November, (A/3335) stating Hungarian government "is studying its contents"

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A/3340 Hungary - Second reply, dated 11 November, "with reference to aide-memoire concerning the General Assembly resolution of 4 November," (A/RES/393) stating text^{of} that resolution not yet available to Hungarian government "for technical reasons."

A/3318 China - Letter of 8 November transmitting text of resolution adopted by Legislative Yuan of Republic^{of}/China on withdrawal of Russian troops from Hungary, dispatch of a "United Nations Police Force," and a "United Nations guarantee of the independence and freedom of Hungary."

General Assembly meetings 568-571, 8 & 9 November.

Ref: APV/568-571
GA/1372, 1373, 1375, 1376

A/3316 Cuba, Ireland, Italy, Pakistan, Peru - draft resolution on (A/RES/397) (1) withdrawal of Soviet forces from Hungary "without any further delay;" (2) holding of free elections under UN auspices; (3) continuance of investigation of situation by Secretary-General "through representatives named by him." Adopted, as amended by sponsors, on 9 November.

A/3336 Secretary-General - Aide-memoire of 10 November to USSR, referring to Assembly resolutions of 4 and 9 November, asking for support by USSR of Secretary-General's demand for permission for observers to enter Hungarian territory, and for assistance from USSR government to the observers, "to the extent this is within its authority, in order to facilitate their work as soon as they enter the territory of Hungary."

A/3319 United States - draft resolution on (1) cooperation by Hungarian authorities, and non-interference by USSR, in the receipt and distribution of food and medical supplies (2) emergency assistance to refugees from Hungary by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, other international organizations and interested governments and special contributions for this purpose from member states. Adopted 9 November.

A/3325 Ceylon, India, Indonesia - amendments to United States draft resolution (A/3319). Rejected 9 November.

A/3324 Austria - draft resolution on large scale immediate aid to Hungarian people in the way of medical supplies, foodstuffs and clothes. Adopted, as amended by sponsor, on 9 November.

A/3337 Secretary-General - Note verbale of 10 November to Hungarian government in reference to Assembly resolutions on relief supplies (A/RES/393, 398, 399), requesting information on needs of Hungarian people for medical supplies, foodstuffs and clothes, and expressing wish to discuss with Hungarian government, "the best means of providing the assistance required."

General Assembly Meeting 573, 10 November

Ref: APV/573
GA/1378

A/3330 United States - draft resolution on placing of item on Hungary on (A/RES/401) provisional agenda of 11th regular Assembly session. Adopted, as amended by Italy, on 10 November.

A/3334 Request for inclusion of item entitled "The Situation in Hungary" in the agenda of the 11th regular session. Text of resolution adopted by second emergency special session 10 November (A/RES/401).

Credentials

A/3285 Hungary - Note verbale of 4 November from Permanent Mission of Hungary stating Hungarian government not yet authorized any of members of Mission to take part in emergency special session on Hungary.

A/3311 Cable of 4 November from "Revolutionary Workers' and Peasants' Government (S/3739) of Hungary" objecting to discussion of Hungarian question in United Nations.

FM/3220* Cable of 7 November from "Workers' and Peasants' Government" etc. authorizing Minister Jozsef Marjai to represent it in the United Nations, and pending his arrival, Mr. Szabo.

A/3321 Report of Credentials Committee, stating inter-alia that Committee agreed to take no decision at this time on credentials of representative of Hungary. Approved by Assembly 9 November (APV/751, PR: GA/1376).

* Press release. No document issued.