



Eleventh session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE
AGENDA OF THE ELEVENTH REGULAR SESSION: ITEM PROPOSED
BY INDIA

REPRESENTATION OF CHINA IN THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 10 November 1956 from the Permanent Representative of
India to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General

New York, 10 November 1956

Under instructions of my Government and pursuant to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly I have the honour to propose the following item for inclusion in the agenda of the eleventh regular session of the General Assembly:

"Representation of China in the United Nations".

An explanatory memorandum in terms of rule 20 of the rules of procedure is attached.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Arthur S. LALL
Permanent Representative of
India to the United Nations

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

China is a founder Member of the United Nations and also a permanent member of the Security Council. The representation of China in the United Nations derives its special importance not only from these facts but also from the size of her population, the richness of her resources and the vital contribution she must make to the solution of important issues before the United Nations.

For a considerable period the Government of the People's Republic of China alone has exercised effective, continuous and uncontested authority over China. Furthermore, consistently with the meaning and intention of the Charter, the Central People's Government alone is able and willing to carry out the obligations of United Nations membership on behalf of the people of China as required by Articles 2 and 4 of the Charter. It is the declared policy of the Central People's Government of China to carry out the obligations of a Member State in terms of the Charter. At the Asian-African Conference held at Bandung from 18 April to 28 April 1955, the Chinese delegation headed by the Prime Minister of China was among the strongest supporters of the United Nations and of its Charter. The Central People's Government is recognized by some thirty nations, two of whom are permanent members of the Security Council. As the Central People's Government in terms of ability and willingness to carry out the obligations of the Charter is the only Government that can represent China in the United Nations, to deny her representation through her Government is not only contrary to the Charter and the practice of the United Nations in regard to Member States, but is against the interests of the United Nations and the promotion of world peace and international co-operation.

The present assignment of the seat of China can in no sense be regarded as in accord with the requirements of the Charter and has seriously impeded the Organization in the fulfilment of its tasks and in dealing constructively with the problems before it. The absence of the representatives of China in the United Nations has in effect denied to a great part of Asia and to nearly a fourth of the people of the world participation in the work both of the Assembly and the Security Council as well as of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies. The consideration of Far Eastern questions, of world

problems generally and notably disarmament, the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, and the economic development of under-developed countries cannot be effective without Chinese co-operation. The proper representation of the Government of China in the United Nations is essential if the United Nations is to apply itself realistically and adequately to the problems before it.

The procedure adopted during the past several years of placing a moratorium on the consideration of China's representation in the United Nations has rendered impossible adequate discussion of this increasingly important matter. In view of the growing urgency of rectifying the existing position, and with due regard to the provisions of rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the Delegation of India considers it necessary to bring before the eleventh session of the General Assembly a separate item entitled "Representation of China in the United Nations".
