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REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA  
OF THE TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION: ITEM PROPOSED BY INDIA <sup>T</sup>

~~THE REPRESENTATION OF CHINA IN THE UNITED NATIONS~~

Letter dated 13 September 1957 from the Permanent Representative of  
India to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General

New York, 13 September 1957

In accordance with the instructions of the Government of India 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 twelfth regular session of the General Assembly:

"The representation of China in the United Nations."

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

(Signed) Arthur S. LALL

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

During the last two years the United Nations has witnessed a welcome expansion of its membership and has thus made considerable progress in making the Organization more representative in character. This in itself shows that there is an increasing desire that the United Nations, and particularly its main organs such as the General Assembly and the Security Council among others, should reflect truly the views of all States.

In view of these developments it is appropriate and urgent that the United Nations should consider and remedy the major lacuna which continues to exist as a result of the absence of effective representation of China. It is clear that, in the absence of the Government of about a quarter of the world's population, the organs of the United Nations cannot successfully pursue their task of fulfilling the objectives of the Charter. This is all the more so in view of the special Charter obligations of China as a permanent member of the Security Council. Furthermore, it can no longer be gainsaid or overlooked that the Central People's Government of China is the only Government which, on behalf of China, is able and willing to carry out the obligations of United Nations membership in accordance with the Charter. Even though that Government has so far been prevented from taking its rightful place in the United Nations its spokesmen have frequently upheld both the Organization and its Charter. For example, the Prime Minister of China was a strong supporter of the Organization at the Asian-African Conference held at Bandung in April 1955.

It behoves the United Nations to look at the question of the representation of China not only from the point of view of the legitimate rights of the Chinese people and their Government, but also from the point of view of the effectiveness of the Organization itself and the obligation which all Members have to strengthen the Organization and to assist in achieving its objectives and purposes. Having regard to these important considerations the virtual absence of China is a major handicap to the progress of the work of the Organization.

The absence of genuine Chinese representation deprives the United Nations of the presence of spokesmen of a very large number of people whose economic and social needs and possible contribution to the Organization in these fields should

be taken into account, and of an important Government whose participation in the United Nations would contribute to the solution of all problems and particularly to those affecting directly the Far East and such matters as disarmament, the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes and the economic betterment of under-developed countries. Furthermore, without effective Chinese representation there exists an imbalance which militates against full weight being given in the counsels of the United Nations to the voice of a great portion of Asia.

In view of the above considerations, at the eleventh session of the General Assembly the Government of India proposed a separate item entitled "Representation of China in the United Nations". This year, the continuing stalemate regarding disarmament, and the need to make progress on a broad basis in all other fields of the United Nations activities, make it all the more necessary and urgent that the United Nations should give prompt consideration to putting an end to the present lack of representation of the Chinese people and their Government. Besides, such consideration would be in accordance with paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 396 (V). Accordingly, the delegation of India again proposes, as a matter of urgency and importance, that an item entitled "The representation of China in the United Nations" be placed on the agenda of the twelfth session of the General Assembly.

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