MEXICO VOTES FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ZIONISM

By Yitzhak Rabi

"UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 16 (JTA)—The General Assembly voted 107-1 with 26 abstentions last night to adopt the blanket resolution of last summer's International Women's Year Conference in Mexico City containing two paragraphs condemning Zionism along with racism, colonialism and apartheid as movements to be eliminated. Israel was the only country to cast a vote against the resolution.

In a separate vote taken on the anti-Zionist-clauses—paragraphs 24 and 26—Israel and 23 other countries cast negative ballots, 26 abstained and 39 voted in favor. Eleven countries were absent. (See separate story from Jerusalem for Israeli reaction.)

The Mexican delegation voted in favor of both the blanket resolution and the operative paragraphs against Zionism. Its votes surprised observers here in view of Mexican President Luis Echeverria's remarks to American and Canadian Jewish leaders in Mexico City last Friday that his country's Foreign Minister, Emilio Rabasa, "is now at the United Nations to ensure that future votes by Mexico cannot be misunderstood as equating Zionism with racism or opposing the national aspirations of the Jewish people."

Mexico Offers Explanation For Vote

In a statement before the voting last night, the head of the Mexican delegation, Ms. Aida Gonzales Martinez, observed that the International Women's Conference in Mexico had to take into account certain principles which were controversial to certain countries, among them the references to Zionism. She said her delegation supported the Mexico City declaration as a whole as being of considerable value and noted that because the term Zionism had not been clearly defined, the Mexican delegation to the International Conference had abstained on the paragraphs relating to Zionism.

She added that if Zionism means the realization of the national aspirations of the Jewish people, her delegation's vote on the whole resolution last night should not be interpreted as an acceptance of the equation set forth in paragraphs 24 and 26 of the declaration. She did not explain, however, why Mexico supported those paragraphs in the separate vote.

Line Up Of Opposition

In addition to Israel, the countries that voted against the anti-Zionist paragraphs were: Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, West Germany, Haiti, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, United Kingdom and United States. The same countries, plus Bahamas, El Salvador and Gabon, abstained on the overall resolution.

Countries Abstaining

The countries that abstained on the anti-Zionist paragraphs were: Austria, Bahamas, Bhutan, Bolivia, Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Greece, Iceland, Ivory Coast, Japan, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, Uruguay, and Zaire.

In his statement prior to the voting, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, Chaim Herzog, announced that his country would vote against both the anti-Zionist paragraphs and the resolution as a whole which incorporated them. He made it clear, however, that the original purposes of the International Women's Year have the full support of Israel and that Israel would continue its policy of "promoting and maintaining the rights of women."

ISRAEL NOT SURPRISED BY MEXICO'S VOTE; AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON VOTE BEFORE ASSEMBLY ACTION

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 16 (JTA)—Mexico's vote last night came as no surprise to Israeli government officials. These officials had been saying privately for 10 days now that it had been agreed with Mexico that Mexico would vote in favor of the International Women's Year Conference declaration, but would make a statement dissociating itself from the anti-Zionist clauses. This, officials said here today, was precisely what the Mexican delegation had done—and therefore Israel had no complaints.

Mexico's Foreign Minister Emilio Rabasa, who visited Israel last week on a reconciliation mission, following Mexico's earlier vote in the General Assembly for the resolution equating Zionism with racism, had explained his country could not oppose the women's declaration since it had been the host country for the women's conference. Israel accepted this rationale. Officials here now say the test of the Mexico-Israel reconciliation would come in the future: Mexico has pledged never to support a Zionism-equals-racism resolution again.

But while the Mexican vote came as no surprise in government circles, it most certainly took the press and the members of Knesset by surprise. The two mass circulation newspapers, Maariv and Yediot Achronot, headlined the vote, by implication condemning it as a stab in the back. And in the House, Likud leader Menachem Begin, and Yossi Sarid, the young leftist Labor Party member, urged an urgent meeting on the Knesset agenda. Government officials were making urgent efforts to—belatedly—inform the Knesset—and American Jewish leaders—of their expectation all along that Mexico would not act the way it did.

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD TO TELL BANKS NOT TO ISSUE LETTERS OF CREDIT TO CONFORM TO ARAB BOYCOTT REQUIREMENTS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (JTA)—The Federal Reserve Board is scheduled to issue a statement today requesting American banks not to issue letters of credit containing discriminatory clauses that conform to Arab boycott requirements, the American Jewish Committee has learned. The statement is an outcome of a meeting held here yesterday between Federal Reserve Board chairman Arthur F. Burns and three AJC committee representatives.
The statement, addressed to the presidents of all Federal Reserve Banks, notes that "the President has directed the Secretary of Commerce to amend regulations under the Export Administration Act to prohibit U.S. exporters and 'related service organizations' from answering or complying in any way with boycott requests that would cause discrimination against U.S. citizens or firms on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin."

It points out that "the term 'related service organizations' is defined to include banks. Accordingly, banks that become involved in a boycott request related to an export transaction from the U.S. will be required to report any such involvement directly to the Department of Commerce."

The FRB's statement further notifies the bank presidents that the President has encouraged the Federal Reserve Board and other federal regulatory agencies to inform financial institutions within their jurisdictions that discriminatory banking practices or policies based upon race or religious belief of any customer, stockholder, employee, officer or director are incompatible with the public service function of banking institutions in this country."

Rules Out Even Passive Participation

The statement says that "The participation of a U.S. bank, even passively, in efforts by foreign nationals to effect boycotts against other foreign countries friendly to the United States—particularly where such boycott efforts may cause discrimination against United States citizens or businesses—is, in the Board's view, a misuse of the privileges and benefits conferred upon banking institutions."

"One specific abuse that has been called to the attention of the Board of Governors is the practice of certain U.S. banks of participating in the issuance of letters of credit containing provisions intended to further a boycott against a foreign country friendly to the U.S."

Such provisions go well beyond the normal commercial conditions of letters of credit, and cannot be justified as a means of protecting the exported goods from seizure by a belligerent country," the statement says. It adds that "While such discriminatory conditions originate with and are imposed at the direction of the foreign importer who arranges for the letter of credit, U.S. banks that agree to honor such conditions may be viewed as giving effect to, and thereby becoming participants in the boycott."

"The Board believes that even this limited participation by U.S. banks in a boycott contravenes the policy of the United States," as announced by the President and as set forth by Congress in the Export Administration Act of 1969."
determination an independent state or a Palestinian entity federated with Jordan. The report stated, "Moreover, a peace settlement should include provisions for the resettlement of those Palestinian refugees desiring to return to whatever new Palestinian entity is created, for reasonable compensation for property losses for Arab refugees from Israel and for Jews formerly resident in Arab states.

Views Represent Compromise

In a foreword to the report, Kermut Gordon, president of the Brookings Institution, noted that "the conclusions and recommendations" represent a compromise among the views of the group's members. The Middle East Studies Group is chaired by Robert Heyns of the American Council of Education and its co-directors are Charles W. Yost, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and Morroco Berger, of Princeton University. Other members include Rita Hauser, Fred Khoury, Philip M. Klutznick and Nadav Safran.

The Brookings Institution is a private organization devoted to research, education and publications in economics, government and foreign policy. Its reports are given considerable weight by governmental leaders. A spokesman for the institution told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that 150 copies of the Middle East Study Group's report have been distributed, mainly to the news media and a few to the U.S. government. The spokesman indicated that none has gone to an Arab government.

Recommendations Outlined

The recommendations call for a start soon to the process of negotiating an "integrated package" that should "at least" contain elements for a phased withdrawal by Israel in "agreed stages" to its June 5, 1967 lines "with only such modifications as are mutually accepted." The Arab parties would be required "not only to end such hostile actions against Israel as armed incursions, blockades, boycotts and propaganda attacks but also to give evidence of progress toward the development of normal international and regional political and economic relations."

The report said the stages for withdrawal and the establishment of peaceful relations should be carried out "over a period of years, each stage being undertaken only when the agreed provisions of the previous stage have been faithfully implemented."

The report said it would be "desirable" that the United Nations Security Council endorse the peace agreements and that the U.S. "must be prepared to offer a said and providing guarantees" besides assisting the parties "economically and militarily." In that connection, the report said the U.S. "should work with the USSR to the degree that Soviet willingness to play a constructive role will permit."

Palestinian Self-Determination Discussed

With respect to Palestinian self-determination, the report said "This might take the form either of an independent Palestine state accepting the obligations and commitments of the peace agreements or of a Palestinian entity voluntarily federated with Jordan but exercising extensive political autonomy." The report observed that "Whoever represents the Palestinians must recognize the equal right of self-determination of Israel and Jordan." With respect to the PLO, the report took cognizance of the "disagreement and uncertainty as to who can negotiate authoritatively on behalf of the Palestinians."

It noted that "While the Arab states at the Rabat meeting in 1974 accepted the Palestine Liberation Organization as representing the Palestinians, and many other states have also done so, its claim is not unchallenged. Many Jordanians, for example, do not believe that the PLO has a better right to this representation. It is not clear what steps the PLO can negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians on the West Bank, in Gaza or in Jordan, to whom its does not have ready access."

"The PLO has not recognized, Israel's right to exist. Israel has not recognized the PLO or agreed to accept the establishment of a Palestinian state. Nevertheless, it can certainly be said that a solution to the Palestinian dimension of the conflict will require the participation of credible Palestinian representatives who are prepared to accept the existence of Israel."

With respect to the future status of Jerusalem, the report recommended that "minority criteria" include "unimpeded access to all holy places," no barriers dividing the city and "each national group within the city should, if it so desires, have substantive political autonomy within the area where it predominates."

MEXICO'S VOTE CONDEMNED

NEW YORK, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Jewish organizations condemned the vote by Mexico last night in the UN General Assembly and said it did not conform to what Mexican President Luis Echeverria told American Jewish leaders in Mexico City last week. Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said today:

"We are deeply disturbed by the failure of Mexico's representative in her vote and statement at the United Nations last night to make clear the position conveyed by Jewish leadership last week by the President of Mexico -- namely, that Zionism is completely incompatible with racism and cannot in any way be equated with it and that the Jew is has the right to a national homeland in Israel."

"We are convinced that this is the attitude and the position of the people of Mexico and we were gratified to hear it confirmed by the President of Mexico himself. For this reason it is difficult to understand that the President's encouraging statements were not reflected in the action of the Mexican delegation to the UN."

"At his home on Friday, President Echeverria spoke sympathetically and warmly of Zionism and of the national aspirations of the Jewish people. We respectfully urge him to direct the representatives of his government to reflect and demonstrate that same understanding and sympathy in all future votes at the United Nations and other international forums."

Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the American Jewish Congress said: "We were distressed by the wide disparity between the assurances given by President Echeverria last Thursday to the President and the vote of the delegation at the UN last night. We do not understand how the Mexican government can reasonably take one position in Mexico City and another position in the halls of the General Assembly. We therefore have no basis at present for changing our decision to suspend AJC Congress travel-programs to Mexico." Many Jewish organizations in this country, which had cancelled tours to Mexico, were waiting to see how Mexico would vote on the resolution to determine future policy.
DULZIN SAYS ISRAEL HAS PRESENTED
THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM "POORLY" TO WORLD PUBLIC OPINION
By David Friedman

NEW YORK, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Leon Dulzin, acting chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, said in a Sunday newspaper that the Israeli government should adopt a comprehensive policy to solve the Palestinian question. He advocated that the early issue in the Middle East is the security of the Palestinians but the refusal to allow the Palestinians to recognize the legitimate right of the State of Israel to exist. He predicted that there would be another step-by-step negotiations process and said Israel will only negotiate now for a long peace.

Dulzin, a leader of the Liberal Party, one of the parties comprising the Likud opposition, said he supports the Israeli government's recent deployment of defenses on the West Bank and that Israel's security barrier will remain the Jordan River and that Israel will never negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization. But he questioned how long Rabin will adhere to this position in the wake of opposition within the Labor Party.

Sees Need For National Unity Government

"The present government is the weakest in Israel's history," Dulzin charged. He said not only do the various Cabinet members make contradictory statements but individual Ministers make contradictory statements on different days.

Dulzin said the time has come for a government of national unity which includes Likud. But he said he doubted that Rabin had the courage to support a government of national unity or to hold a new election.

Dulzin, who is seeking to be elected as chairman of the WZO/Jewish Agency Executives, accused Rabin of trying to dictate the selection of the next chairman by picking the Labor Party's candidate for the post. While he did not mention the candidate's name, it was an apparent allusion to Ha-Ragav-Yoav Amidani. Dulzin said that while the WZO and the Jewish Agency must cooperate with the government, they are not part of the government. He predicted that when the 110 members of the Zionist Action Committee meet next month to elect the WZO chairman, the eventual winner will be elected by only six to seven votes.

Dulzin praised the recent world Jewish "summit" held in Jerusalem, noting that for the first time the Zionist organizations were treated as equal to the government of Israel. But he said he was disappointed that it had not taken concrete action for a propaganda counter-attack to the anti-Zionist campaign.

Praises UJA, American Jewry

In a brief interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency shortly after he spoke to the ZOA, Dulzin praised the United Jewish Appeal National Conference which he attended over the weekend.

"For the first time I attended a UJA conference that was openly and outspokenly a Zionist conference," he said.

He said the UJA delegates had expressed solidarity with Israel and the Jewish people and he believed they would not fail in reaching their goal of $50 million. Dulzin said he was impressed by the enthusiasm with which the government leaders are in their thirties and forties. However, Dulzin said he would like to see the American Jewish federation work toward equalizing $50 million. He said for Zionists the two greatest "mitzvot" are Jewish education and aliya.

During the ZOA meeting, Dr. Joseph Stern-stein, ZOA president, attacked the "inability of Israel to articulate its position effectively." He said, "We are in the position to present a coherent tough stance, the Israeli position and view would be strengthened in Washington."

SECRET ACTION TAKEN BY FOOTBALL
ASSOCIATION LIKELY TO HARM ISRAEL
By Haskell Cohen

NEW YORK, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Once again politicians may worry about a U.S. team's ugly head and Israel is likely to suffer by the secret action taken recently in Guatemala by the World Cup Committee of the International Football Association (FIFA), at its annual meeting. The members of FIFA decided to keep Israel in the Asian group so far as the divisions are concerned in World Cup competition.

In order to soften the decision, the Committee, at the same time, revealed that any nation refusing to play against Israel on a home-away basis automatically would forfeit its games.

As a result of the Committee's ukase, Israel's soccer team will have to make the longest trips for competition among all the 102 national teams involved. By placing them in the Asian bracket instead of the European bracket, FIFA has managed to give the Israeli soccer team an itinerary whereby it will have to play North Korea, South Korea and Japan.

Geographically speaking, it is probable correct to place Israel in one of the Middle Eastern divisions which, obviously, includes several Arab nations. However, based on past events and situations it is virtually certain that any Arab team scheduled to play Israel will refuse to do so. Last year it will be recalled, Israel drew a bye all the way into the finals of the football tournament at the Asian Games in Teheran when both North Korea and Kuwait failed to show up for their matches against the Israelis.

At that time, the Asian Federation bowed to the wishes of the Arab League pressures, and Israel was then barred from competing in any future Asian Football Confederation tournaments.

The sole place in the whole matter is that with the inclusion of Israel in the Asian bracket it will make it that much simpler for Israel to qualify for the 16 places in the finals of the World Cup Tournament which will be held in 1978 in Argentina.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Shmuel Toledano, the Premier's advisor on Arab affairs, may ask that an inquiry commission be named to find out whether the Communist victory in Nazareth was due to the failure of the government's policy toward Israeli Arabs or the fault of the Labor Party. Tewfik Ziad, the pro-Moscow Rakah Communist-backed candidate, last week was elected Mayor of the Arab city and its slate captured 11 of the 17 city council seats. Toledano noted that the growing Arab national feeling among Israel's 800,000 Arabs will continue as long as the Arab-Israeli conflict remains unsettled.