

UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/4872
16 September 1961

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Sixteenth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN
THE AGENDA OF THE SIXTEENTH REGULAR SESSION: ITEM
PROPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE QUESTION OF HUNGARY

Letter dated 16 September 1961 from the Representative
of the United States of America to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to request that an item entitled "The question of Hungary" be included as an urgent and important item on the agenda of the sixteenth General Assembly. In accordance with rule 20, an explanatory memorandum is enclosed.

(Signed) Adlai E. STEVENSON

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Ever since the Hungarian people revolted in 1956 in an effort to achieve self-determination the Members of the United Nations, first in the Security Council, then in emergency special session, then at four regular sessions of the General Assembly, have striven to ameliorate the plight of the Hungarian people. The resolutions from these sessions inter alia have called for free elections so that the people could choose their own government, for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungarian soil, and for a general amnesty for the participants in the 1956 uprising.

The Governments of the Soviet Union and Hungary have persisted in their refusal to abide by these General Assembly resolutions, a fact which the fourteenth session of the General Assembly cited when it adopted resolution 1454 (XIV) deploring "the continued disregard... by the present Hungarian régime of the General Assembly resolutions dealing with the situation in Hungary". They have also refused to permit United Nations representatives to enter Hungary as requested by United Nations resolutions.

In his report of 28 November 1960 (A/4606) the United Nations Representative on Hungary stated: "The simple truth is that the people of Hungary are subject to foreign domination, that troops of an alien power remain on their soil, and that, in consequence, the Hungarian people are denied the elementary human right of freely choosing those whom they wish to govern them."

The fifteenth General Assembly was unable to consider this report prior to the date which it had set for adjournment. During the course of the intervening year between the fifteenth and sixteenth sessions, the situation in Hungary, has remained substantially unchanged. Free elections have not yet been held; large numbers of Soviet troops remain in Hungary; a general amnesty has not been granted. No United Nations representation has yet been allowed to enter the country to seek compliance with United Nations resolutions as requested by the United Nations General Assembly.

In view of this continuing and most serious situation, the Government of the United States believes that "The question of Hungary" must be inscribed in the agenda of the sixteenth session as an important and urgent item.