

LETTER DATED 19 JANUARY 1949 FROM THE ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING THE  
APPLICATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA FOR ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP  
IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND A DECLARATION ACCEPTING OBLIGATIONS  
UNDER THE CHARTER

"Sir,

"The Government of the Republic of Korea is the direct result of the mandate of the General Assembly of the United Nations as expressed on November 14, 1947 and December 12, 1948. Its general election held on May 10, 1948, was observed and approved by the United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea.

"The elected representatives assembled on May 31, 1948 as the Korean National Assembly and adopted the Constitution of the Republic of Korea. Under this Constitution a President, Dr. Syngman Rhee, and a Vice-President, Mr. Shi Young Lee, were elected and a government was formed. This government was inaugurated on August 15, 1948.

"Since that date the Government of Korea has been consolidated administratively and has carried out its duty faithfully.

"The Government of the Republic of Korea has subsequently been recognized by the Governments of the United States of America, the Republic of China, the Republic of the Philippines and Great Britain.

"On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Korea, I have now the honour to request the admission of the Republic of Korea as a Member of the United Nations in accordance with Article IV of the Charter.

"A formal declaration that the Government of the Republic of Korea accepts all the obligations stipulated in the United Nations Charter is attached.

"My Government believes that the admission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations will constitute an act of international justice to the Korean people, fully consistent with the United Nations policy on Korea, and will contribute to the stabilization of Asia and to the cause of international peace.

"Accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Chang Il KOH  
Acting Foreign Minister

DECLARATION

On behalf of the Republic of Korea, I, Chang Il KOH, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, being duly authorized by the Ministers of the Cabinet, declare that the Government of the Republic of Korea hereby unreservedly accepts the obligations of the United Nations Charter and undertake to honour them from the day when it becomes a Member of the United Nations.

(Signed) Chang Il KOH  
Acting Minister of  
Foreign Affairs  
Republic of Korea

