

**April 26, 1954**

**Cable from Zhou Enlai, 'Regarding Speeches at the Conference and the Situation at the First Plenary Session'**

**Citation:**

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**Summary:**

Zhou Enlai reports on some last minute agreements regarding the conference procedures. It is decided that the Korean delegation will speak first, and that Thailand, Britain, and the Soviet Union will take turns chairing the conference.

**Original Language:**

Chinese

**Contents:**

Original Scan

Translation - English

周恩来关于会议发言问题及  
第一次全体会议情况致毛泽东等的电报  
(1954年4月26日)

案卷编号：206 - Y049 (绝密)

主席、少奇同志并报中央：

(一) 最近两天中与苏联同志商定，我方先由朝鲜代表发言，并在其第一次发言中即将和平统一朝鲜、撤退一切外国军队、由主要国家共同保证促成朝鲜和平统一的方案提出。朝鲜代表发言后，隔日再由中苏依次发言支持朝鲜主张。因此，我亦需作全面性发言，现正将原拟之开幕词内容与原拟之两次支持朝鲜代表团发言稿内容重新加以组织，并参照苏联同志所提数点意见加以改写。亚洲和平公约的原则也一并提出，印度支那问题暂不强调，因第一次讨论专讲朝鲜问题，并可表示急于谈判者并非我们。

(二) 关于会议主席问题事先苏联与英国协商决定由泰国、苏联、英国三国轮流担任主席，今日下午三时会议开幕时即由泰国任临时主席，后由美国提议上述三国轮流任主席的办法当即表决通过，通过后即散会。会议历时仅十五分钟，明日开始发言讨论。

(三) 今日会场中艾登曾经过莫洛托夫介绍与我握手寒暄。

周恩来  
四月廿六日

(Top Secret)

Chairman Mao [Zedong], Comrade [Liu] Shaoqi, and the Central Committee:

(1) We have agreed with the Soviet comrades in the last two days that we should let the Korean delegation speak first. Moreover, in their first speech the Korean delegation should present the plans to reunify Korea by peaceful means, withdraw all foreign troops, and oblige major countries (who are directly involved in the war) to ensure and help to bring about Korea's peaceful reunification. China and the Soviet Union should, in turn, express their support for the Korean delegation's positions one day after they speak. Therefore, I should also make a comprehensive statement myself. Right now I am reorganizing the drafts of the opening speech and two statements supporting the Korean delegation, and making changes based on several suggestions from the Soviet comrades. We will also present the principles for an Asian peace charter. However, we will not emphasize the Indochina issue for the moment since we hope to concentrate on the Korean issue in the first discussion. It will also demonstrate that we are not the people who are eager to negotiate.

(2) Regarding the issue of the chairman of the conference, we have already consulted with the Soviet Union and Britain in advance and decided that Thailand, the Soviet Union, and Britain should take the chair in turn. Thailand already acted as the interim chair when this afternoon's meeting started at 3:00 p.m. Afterwards, the United States proposed that the above three countries take turns as chair. It was instantly put to vote and adopted. The meeting was adjourned thereafter. This meeting took only 15 minutes. Speeches and discussion will start tomorrow.

(3) Today Molotov introduced [British Foreign Secretary Anthony] Eden to me at the meeting. He shook my hand and greeted me.

Zhou Enlai  
26 April [1954]