

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

Official Records



48th PLENARY MEETING

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at 3.15 p.m.

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President: Mr. Salim Ahmed SALIM
(United Republic of Tanzania)

Week of Solidarity with the People of Namibia

1. The PRESIDENT: Before we take up the agenda for this afternoon, I should like to recall that the General Assembly, in its resolution 31/150 of 20 December 1976, decided to observe the last week of October as a Week of Solidarity with the People of Namibia and their liberation movement, the South West Africa People's Organization [SWAPO], the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people, and requested the United Nations Council for Namibia to prepare a commemorative programme for that purpose. The International Conference in Support of the Peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia, held at Maputo from 16 to 21 May 1977, endorsed the decision of the General Assembly.¹

2. This year solemn meetings will take place within the framework of the International Year of Solidarity with the People of Namibia, proclaimed by the General Assembly in resolution 33/182 C of 21 December 1978.

3. The United Nations Council for Namibia will hold two special meetings on Monday, 29 October, at 10 a.m. and at 3 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber, to commemorate the Week of Solidarity with the People of Namibia and their liberation movement, SWAPO.

4. The programme of the Week of Solidarity, beginning 29 October 1979, will include speeches, a photographic display, an exhibit of the new commemorative stamp issued on 5 October 1979 and entitled "For a Free and Independent Namibia" and the screening of films on Namibia.

5. All Member States are cordially invited to join in the observance of the Week of Solidarity with the People of Namibia and their liberation movement, SWAPO.

¹ See Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1977, document S/12344/Rev. 1, annex V, sect. III A.

AGENDA ITEM 15

Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs (*continued*):

(a) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council

6. The PRESIDENT: The General Assembly will now resume the election of one non-permanent member of the Security Council for a two-year term beginning on 1 January 1980. The other members have already been elected at our preceding meeting.

7. We shall proceed to the sixth ballot, which is the second unrestricted ballot in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure. In this unrestricted ballot, any Member State from the group of Latin American States may be a candidate for election except, of course, Bolivia and Jamaica. The ballot papers are now being distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikkol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

8. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 3.30 p.m. and resumed at 3.45 p.m.

9. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	145
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	145
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	142
Required majority:	95

Number of votes obtained:	
Cuba.....	80
Colombia.....	62

10. The PRESIDENT: Since neither candidate obtained the required two-thirds majority, we shall now proceed to the third unrestricted ballot. As before, in this unrestricted ballot any Member State from the group of Latin American States may be a candidate for election except, of course, Bolivia and Jamaica. Ballot papers will now be distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikkol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

11. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 3.55 p.m. and resumed at 4.05 p.m.

12. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	148
Invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	147
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	144
Required majority:	96

Number of votes obtained:

Cuba.....	84
Colombia.....	60

13. The PRESIDENT: Since the third unrestricted ballot proved inconclusive, the Assembly will now proceed to the first of a series of three restricted ballots, in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure. The only countries whose names may be included on the ballot papers are Cuba and Colombia. Any ballot papers containing the names of other countries will be declared invalid. The ballot papers will now be distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikkol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

14. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 4.15 p.m. and resumed at 4.25 p.m.

15. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	147
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	147
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	144
Required majority:	96

Number of votes obtained:

Cuba.....	83
Colombia.....	61

16. The PRESIDENT: As neither of the two countries obtained the required two-thirds majority, the General Assembly will continue the voting and will hold a second restricted ballot. As in the last ballot, the only countries whose names may be included in the ballot papers are Cuba and Colombia. Any papers containing the names of other countries will be declared invalid. The ballot papers are now being distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikkol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

17. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 4.35 p.m. and resumed at 4.40 p.m.

18. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	147
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	147
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	144
Required majority:	96

Number of votes obtained:

Cuba.....	81
Colombia.....	63

19. The PRESIDENT: As neither of the two candidates obtained the required two-thirds majority, the General Assembly will continue the voting and will hold a third restricted ballot. The only countries whose names may be included on the ballot papers are Cuba and Colombia. Any ballot papers containing the names of other countries will be declared invalid. The ballot papers will now be distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikkol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

20. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 4.50 p.m. and resumed at 5.05 p.m.

21. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	148
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	148
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	145
Required majority:	97

Number of votes obtained:

Cuba.....	79
Colombia.....	66

22. The PRESIDENT: Since the result of this third restricted ballot did not produce a candidate with the required two-thirds majority, we must proceed to an unrestricted ballot, in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure. As before, any Member State from the group of Latin American States may be a candidate for election except, of course, Bolivia and Jamaica. The ballot papers are now being distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikkol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

23. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 5.15 p.m. and resumed at 5.25 p.m.

24. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	148
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	148
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	145
Required majority:	97

Number of votes obtained:	
Cuba.....	80
Colombia.....	65

25. The PRESIDENT: Since the first in this series of unrestricted ballots proved inconclusive, the Assembly will proceed to a second unrestricted ballot. Ballot papers will now be distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikkol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

26. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 5.35 p.m. and resumed at 5.45 p.m.

27. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	147
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	147
Abstentions:	4
Number of members voting:	143
Required majority:	96

Number of votes obtained:	
Cuba.....	79
Colombia.....	64

28. The PRESIDENT: Since the second in this series of unrestricted ballots proved inconclusive, the General Assembly will continue the voting and will hold a third unrestricted ballot. Ballot papers will now be distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikkol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

29. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 5.50 p.m. and resumed at 6.05 p.m.

30. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	147
Invalid ballots:	0

Number of valid ballots:	147
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	144
Required majority:	96

Number of votes obtained:	
Cuba.....	79
Colombia.....	65

31. The PRESIDENT: I should like to propose to the Assembly that, in view of the inconclusive results of our voting thus far, we postpone consideration of the item until Tuesday morning, 30 October 1979. At that time, we shall start the voting with a restricted ballot. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Assembly agrees.

It was so decided.

(b) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council

32. The PRESIDENT: The General Assembly will now proceed to the election of 18 members of the Economic and Social Council to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1979. The 18 outgoing members are: Colombia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Mauritania, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, Poland, Rwanda, Somalia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the United States of America and the Upper Volta. Those 18 countries are eligible for immediate re-election.

33. I should like to remind the members of the Assembly that after 1 January 1980 the following States will be members of the Economic and Social Council: Algeria, Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, the Central African Republic, China, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Lesotho, Malta, Morocco, Pakistan, Romania, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Cameroon, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Zambia. Those 36 States should therefore not appear on the ballot papers.

34. Paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 2847 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 provides that the 18 members to be elected should be as follows: five from African States, four from Asian States, three from Latin American States, four from Western European and other States and two from the socialist States of Eastern Europe. The ballot papers take that pattern into account.

35. In accordance with existing practice, the required number of candidates which receives the largest number of votes, and not less than the majority required, will be declared elected. In the case of a tie vote for the last place, there will be a restricted ballot limited to those candidates which have obtained an equal number of votes. May I take it that the Assembly agrees to that procedure?

It was so decided.

36. The PRESIDENT: In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election shall be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations.

37. The ballot papers will now be distributed. I request the members of the Assembly to use only those ballot papers and to write on them the names of the Member States for which they wish to vote in each group. Ballot papers containing more names than the number assigned to that group will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Haque (Bangladesh), Mr. Kassai (Hungary), Miss Loj (Denmark), Mr. González (El Salvador) and Mr. Fathalla (Egypt) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

38. The PRESIDENT: I propose to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 6.25 p.m. and resumed at 7.20 p.m.

39. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting for the election of 18 members of the Economic and Social Council is as follows:

Group A

Number of ballot papers:	148
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	148
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	148
Required majority:	99

Number of votes obtained:

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	138
Nigeria	136
Zaire	134
Ethiopia	133
Malawi	128
Kenya	3
Niger	3
Uganda	3
Benin	1
Botswana	1
Ivory Coast	1
Liberia	1
Mali	1
Mauritania	1
Rwanda	1
Sao Tome and Principe	1
Swaziland	1

Group B

Number of ballot papers:	148
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	148
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	147
Required majority:	98

Number of votes obtained:

Jordan	140
Nepal	139
Iraq	136
Thailand	130
Bangladesh	1
Burma	1
Lao People's Democratic Republic	1

Singapore	1
Viet Nam	1

Group C

Number of ballot papers:	148
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	148
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	145
Required majority:	97

Number of votes obtained:

Mexico	138
Bahamas	137
Chile	102
Colombia	4
Cuba	2
Jamaica	1

Group D

Number of ballot papers:	148
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	148
Abstentions:	7
Number of members voting:	141
Required majority:	94

Number of votes obtained:

Italy	137
Belgium	134
Australia	131
United States of America	123
Denmark	1
Greece	1
Netherlands	1
New Zealand	1

Group E

Number of ballot papers:	148
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	148
Abstentions:	6
Number of members voting:	142
Required majority:	95

Number of votes obtained:

Yugoslavia	134
Bulgaria	133
Poland	1

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, the following States were elected members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1980: Australia, Bahamas, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Ethiopia, Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Thailand, United States of America, Yugoslavia and Zaire (decision 34/307).

40. The PRESIDENT: I congratulate the countries which have been elected members of the Economic and Social Council and I thank the tellers for their assistance in this election.

The meeting rose at 7.25 p.m.