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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE FIFTY-THIRD MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 3 November 1987, at 3 p.m.

President:

Mr. FLORIN

(German Democratic Republic)

- Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs [15] (continued)
 - (b) Election of one member of the Economic and Social Council

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The meeting was called to order at 3.35 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 15 (continued)

ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN PRINCIPAL ORGANS

(b) ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): As representatives will recall, the Assembly, at its 46th plenary meeting, on Wednesday, 21 October, elected 17 members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1988.

I call on the representative of Argentina in his capacity as Chairman of the Latin American group.

Mr. DELPECH (Argentina) (interpretation from Spanish): In my capacity as Chairman of the Latin American and Caribbean Group I wish to make a brief announcement to the Assembly.

In accordance with the rules of procedure, as you explained, Mr. President, the election is open without restriction to all candidates. I would point out that the representative of Brazil, in a note of 29 October, informed the Latin American and Caribbean Group that he did not wish to be considered a candidate for this vacancy on the Economic and Social Council. That being said, the remaining members of the group are available to present their candidacies to the Assembly.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): As the result of the first unrestricted ballot, held on 21 October 1987, was inconclusive, we must, in accordance with the rules of procedure, now hold a second unrestricted ballot, and proceed to a third unrestricted ballot, if necessary.

(The President)

May I remind the Assembly that Members have the right to vote for any State from the Latin American Group, except, of course, those which are already members of the Economic and Social Council, including those elected at the 46th plenary meeting. To make this clear, I shall list the names of those Members which cannot be voted for in the present balloting: Belize, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Jamaica, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

Ballot papers will now be distributed. I would request members to write the name of only one State. Ballot papers bearing more than one name will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Karbuczky (Hungary), Mr. Hapsoro (Indonesia), Mr. Mwanzia (Kenya) and Miss Haga (Norway) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 3.50 p.m. and resumed at 4.10 p.m.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	150
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	150
Abstentions:	2
Number of Members voting:	148
Required two-thirds majority:	99
Number of votes obtained:	
Venezuela	92
Ecuador	34
Guatemala	19
Br az il	2
Mexico	1

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): As no candidate has obtained the required two-thirds majority for the one seat that remains to be filled by the Latin American Group, we shall now, in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure, hold a third unrestricted ballot, which will be the seventh ballot. Members may vote for any State from the Group of Latin American States with the exception, naturally, of those States which are already members of the Economic and Social Council, including the States elected at the 46th plenary meeting. For the sake of clarity, I shall repeat the names of Members for which the Assembly may not vote during this ballot: Belize, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Jamaica, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

I call on the representative of Guatemala, who has asked to make a statement.

Mr. ANDRADE DIAZ DURAN (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): With a view to facilitating the voting and out of a sense of Group solidarity, Guatemala has decided to withdraw its candidacy for a seat on the Economic and Social Council. We had maintained our candidacy at the request of the five Central American Governments because we felt that our participation in the work of the Council on behalf of our subregion was important. But in view of the circumstances and in order to avoid unnecessary balloting, Guatemala formally and finally withdraws its candidacy. We thank those delegations that did us the honour of voting for us.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I call on the representative of Argentina, who has asked to make a statement.

Mr. DELPECH (Argentina) (interpretation from Spanish): As current Chairman of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, I wish to announce, at the request of the delegation of Ecuador, that also to facilitate the election of a candidate to fill the remaining seat on the Economic and Social Council that delegation, too, has decided to withdraw its candidacy. Thus, there remains only a single candidate from the Latin American and Caribbean Group.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Ballot papers will now be distributed. I request members to write on the ballot paper the name of only one State. Ballots containing the names of more than one State will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Karbuczky (Hungary), Mr. Hapsoro (Indonesia), Mr. Mwanzia (Kenya) and Miss Haga (Norway) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 4.25 p.m. and resumed at 4.40 p.m.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	150
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	149
Abstentions:	5
Number of Members voting:	144
Required two-thirds majority:	96
Number of votes obtained:	
Ven ez uela	132
Ecuador	8
Br az il	1
Guatemala	1
Nicaragua	1
Peru	1

Venezuela, having obtained the required two-thirds majority, was elected a member of the Economic and Social Council for a period of three years beginning on 1 January 1988.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I congratulate the State which has just been elected a member of the Economic and Social Council, and thank the tellers for their assistance in the election.

We have thus concluded our consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 15.

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.