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Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Wednesday, 18 October 1989, at 10 a.m.

President:

Mr. GARBA

(Nigeria)

- Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference [22]
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General
 - (b) Draft resolution
- Expression of sympathy to the Government and people of the United States of America
- Question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte [29]
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General
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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 22

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

- (a) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/44/424 and Add.1)
- (b) DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/44/L.5)

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of Saudi Arabia, who will introduce the draft resolution under this item.

Mr. SHIHABI (Saudi Arabia): It gives me pleasure to introduce, on behalf of the member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, draft resolution A/44/L.5, dated 12 October 1989, which is entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference".

All members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference are also Members of the United Nations. It is only natural, therefore, that the two organizations should co-operate closely in promoting their common endeavours in the fields of peace, security, development and progress. The text of the draft resolution is similar to that of resolutions on this subject adopted during previous sessions of the General Assembly.

In the preamble, the General Assembly recognizes the need for closer co-operation between the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions in the implementation of the proposals adopted by the co-ordination meeting between the two organizations, which was held at Geneva in September 1989.

In operative paragraph 1 the General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/44/424 and Add.1).

(Mr. Shihabi, Saudi Arabia)

In operative paragraph 2 the General Assembly approves the conclusions and recommendations of the co-ordination meeting of the focal points of the lead agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

In operative paragraph 3 the General Assembly notes with satisfaction the active participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.

In operative paragraph 4 the Assembly requests the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue co-operation in their common search for solutions to global problems.

In operative paragraph 5 the General Assembly encourages the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their co-operation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

In operative paragraph 6 the Assembly requests that a meeting of the focal points of the lead agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions be organized in 1990 in order to review the progress in the implementation of the plan of action adopted by the 1989 co-ordination meeting between the two organizations, to be followed by a general meeting in 1991 between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

In operative paragraph 7 the General Assembly urges the organizations of the United Nations system, especially the lead agencies, to provide increased technical and other possible assistance to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions for the enhancement of co-operation.

(Mr. Shihabi, Saudi Arabia)

In operative paragraph 8 the General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to strengthen co-operation and co-ordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to serve their mutual interests.

In operative paragraph 9 the General Assembly requests the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to hold consultations, as and when appropriate, between the representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the implementation of projects and follow-up action.

In operative paragraph 10 the Assembly requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, to encourage the convening of sectoral meetings between the two organizations on the priority areas of co-operation.

In operative paragraph 11 the Assembly expresses its appreciation of the efforts of the Secretary-General in the promotion of co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and expresses the hope that he will continue to strengthen the mechanisms of co-operation between the two organizations.

In operative paragraph 12 the General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on the state of co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

Finally, in operative paragraph 13 the Assembly decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference".

(Mr. Shihabi, Saudi Arabia)

On behalf of all member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, I call upon all members of the General Assembly to support draft resolution A/44/L.5, which envisages the promotion of co-operation between the two organizations, within their existing resources, with a view to achieving their high goals. We hope that the draft resolution will be adopted without a vote.

The PRESIDENT: In accordance with General Assembly resolution 3369 (XXX) of 10 October 1975, I now call on the Permanent Observer of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

Mr. ANSAY (Organization of the Islamic Conference): It is a matter of great privilege for me to address the General Assembly on an item of particular significance to the United Nations and the organization I represent, namely, "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference".

Allow me to begin, Sir, by extending to you our warmest congratulations on your unanimous election to the post of President. Your election is a reflection of the esteem and respect Nigeria enjoys in the comity of nations and a personal tribute to you for your well-known abilities, statesmanship, vast experience and long association with the United Nations and everything it stands for.

I should like to avail myself of this opportunity to pay a tribute to Mr. Dante Caputo of Argentina, who served in an exemplary manner as President of the General Assembly at its forty-third session.

I should also like to seize this opportunity to express our deep appreciation for the significant contribution the Secretary-General, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, is making to the effectiveness and smooth functioning of the world body. He has earned the gratitude and respect of all of us and of the international community by his humane attitude and deep understanding of global problems. His various achievements in the name of peace during the short span of a few years speak for themselves.

From the very outset, the members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference clearly identified the role of our organization within the overall framework of the United Nations Charter. The charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference underlines the determination of its member States to make

(Mr. Ansay, Organization of the
Islamic Conference)

effective contributions for the enrichment of mankind and the achievement of progress, freedom and justice all over the world by promoting global peace and security.

The Organization of the Islamic Conference derives its inspiration from the eternal and noble message of Islam, and its establishment was predicated on the principles of peace and harmony, tolerance, equality and justice for all.

The charter of our organization reaffirms the commitment of our members to the Charter of the United Nations. The perceptions of the members of our organization, all of which are also Members of the United Nations, are identical to those of the vast majority of the United Nations membership on all important international issues. It is only natural that the two organizations should work closely to promote the ideals, principles and objectives they share.

Since its inception in 1969 the Organization of the Islamic Conference has adopted numerous resolutions and declarations both at the summit level and at the level of meetings of Foreign Ministers addressing the issues confronting the Islamic world, as well as important global developments relating to international peace and security, disarmament, human rights, minorities, decolonization and issues relating to social and economic development, particularly the establishment of the new international economic order.

On the question of Palestine and the explosive situation in the Middle-East, the Organization of the Islamic Conference reaffirms that a just and lasting peace in the region cannot be established without the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, including the Holy City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and the restoration of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their rights to return, to self-determination and to

(Mr. Ansary, Organization of the
Islamic Conference)

the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on their own territory, with the Holy City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

In this context, I should like to reaffirm that the Organization of the Islamic Conference has endorsed in full the Fez peace plan adopted at the 1982 Arab summit meeting. The Organization of the Islamic Conference has expressed its full support for the national uprising, the intifadah, of the Palestinian people in the occupied territory, and has also given its full support to the early convening of the international peace conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation on an equal footing of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the sole, legitimate and authentic representative of the Palestinian people, and all other parties concerned.

The Organization of the Islamic Conference fully supports the mediation efforts made by the high-level Arab Tripartite Committee to find a solution to the tragic crisis in Lebanon, a Member country that has suffered so much during the past decade. It welcomes the measures taken by the Committee, in particular, the meeting of the Lebanese parliamentarians in Taif, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It urges all concerned parties to co-operate with the Tripartite Committee to enable it to restore peace in Lebanon, while respecting its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Organization of the Islamic Conference stands firmly behind the black people of South Africa and Namibia in their just and legitimate struggle against the abhorrent policy of apartheid of the South African régime and demands the immediate implementation of Security Council resolutions 385 (1976) and 434 (1978), which constitute the only acceptable basis for the transition of Namibia to independence.

(Mr. Ansary, Organization of the
Islamic Conference)

The Organization of the Islamic Conference welcomed the completion of the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan and underlined the importance of the Agreements concluded in Geneva as an important step towards a comprehensive political solution of the Afghanistan problem. It invited the interim government of the Afghan Mujahidin to assume the seat of Afghanistan in the Organization of the Islamic Conference. It also emphasized the need for the opening of an intra-Afghan dialogue with a view to establishing a broad-based government to replace the current régime in Kabul. The Organization of the Islamic Conference also stressed the need for the achievement of a comprehensive political solution which would enable the voluntary return of the Afghan refugees to their country in safety and honour.

The Organization of the Islamic Conference expressed its satisfaction at the decision of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Iraq to hold direct talks, under the auspices of the Secretary General of the United Nations, aimed at achieving full and rapid implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987), in order to reach a comprehensive, just, honourable and lasting settlement.

The position of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on these and other issues was also reflected in the Final Communiqué adopted following its annual ministerial co-ordination meeting held in New York on 4 October 1989. An extraordinary ministerial meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference was also held on the same date in New York regarding the plight of the Turkish Muslim minority in Bulgaria, a matter which the Organization of the Islamic Conference follows and monitors with great sensitivity through its General Secretariat, membership and Special Contact Group.

(Mr. Ansay, Organization of the
Islamic Conference)

On the critical economic situation in Africa, the Organization of the Islamic Conference reiterated its call to the international community, in particular the developed countries and international financial institutions concerned, to expedite the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development.

On the international economic situation, the Organization of the Islamic Conference emphasized the need for strengthening horizontal economic co-operation between its members and called upon them to work together at the international level to promote the North-South dialogue with a view to redressing the prevailing iniquitous system of international economic relations.

(Mr. Ansay, Organization of
the Islamic Conference)

Since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 35/36 in 1980, the first resolution on co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, a number of co-operation agreements have been concluded by our organization with specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system, such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the bodies concerned with technical co-operation for development.

The comprehensive report of the Secretary-General, document A/44/424 and Add.1 describes in detail the range of activities undertaken by the two organizations to promote and strengthen their relationship.

Our co-operation in the past few years with the United Nations system had reached a point where it was essential on both sides to review progress and make more effective use of consultation mechanisms and enhance co-operation on both sides. Such an opportunity was provided under resolution 43/2, and a joint review meeting of the focal points on both sides was held in Geneva from 13 to 15 September last to evaluate progress, identify impediments and give greater focus to co-operation between the two organizations.

We are indeed gratified that the United Nations and its specialized agencies, especially those who participated in the joint meeting in Geneva and those who attended as observers, made a useful and timely contribution, thus giving the co-operation a sharper focus and facilitating and enhancing it on both sides in the seven priority areas. Members will notice that the report of the Secretary-General (A/44/424), and especially its addendum 1, contains an action-oriented programme

(Mr. Ansay, Organization of
the Islamic Conference)

for the next two years, and it is not only our hope but also our mutual expectation that the programmes to which we have committed ourselves will provide us with an opportunity to report to the Assembly next year the meaningful, productive and tangible results achieved from this co-operation.

We have discerned a keen desire on the part of all United Nations offices and specialized agencies to develop concrete projects, to strengthen ongoing areas of co-operation and to include such projects which would benefit the States members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. We are very happy to note that the co-ordinating department has also made a useful contribution in ensuring the success of the joint meeting in Geneva by adequately and efficiently preparing that joint meeting.

By identifying priority areas, we have meant to focus attention on some specific areas of common co-operation, but in no way will that deflect from our determination to pursue ongoing co-operation in other important areas of development for the members of our organization. It is prudent that for the next two years we should limit ourselves to pressing forward with our mutual efforts so as to place them on a certain plateau, thereby generating an internal momentum within our co-operation and the States members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, for some of which these programmes will provide meaningful results.

Let me assure the General Assembly that we are fully conscious of the financial constraints on all sides and, therefore, our co-operation takes those factors into account. Our 1990 and 1991 co-operation meetings are both subject to normal consultations between the Secretaries-General of the two organizations as to time and place.

(Mr. Ansay, Organization of
the Islamic Conference)

Draft resolution A/44/L.5, which has been most eloquently introduced to the Assembly by the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia, representative of the current Chairman of the Islamic Conference, takes into consideration the recommendations of the joint meeting of the focal points of the lead agencies of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference held this year in Geneva, and reflects the firm determination of the two organizations to co-operate in various fields.

Recognizing that there are no additional financial implications for draft resolution A/44/L.5, I am confident that it will receive the unanimous approval of the membership of the Assembly.

The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/44/L.5. In this connection I should like to inform members that the Secretary-General does not foresee any programme budget implications in the implementation of this draft resolution.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts draft resolution A/44/L.5?

Draft resolution A/44/L.5 was adopted (resolution 44/8).

The PRESIDENT: We have concluded our consideration of agenda item 22.

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The PRESIDENT: Before taking up the second item on our agenda for this morning, may I on behalf of all the members of the Assembly extend our deepest sympathy to the Government and peoples of the United States of America on the tragic loss of life and extensive material damage which resulted from the recent earthquake.

Ms. BAILEY (United States of America): First I should like to say that I have no paper. That I know is indeed quite rare, but as always I speak from the heart. There is not a man or a woman in this Assembly, of which I am very proud to

(Ms. Bailey, United States)

be a member, who has not had in his or her country some disaster - hunger, disease, typhoons, cyclones or earthquakes. I do not know exactly how to express my thanks for your caring, for I know you do care just as we in our country care when you have troubles.

I am reminded of three things. First, a wonderful friend of mine sits in the Hall in that direction - or I could say in any direction, since you are all my friends - and at a little get-together that friend asked: "What do you think we will do this time in the Assembly? Do you think that we will do better?" At that particular time Hugo was raging out in the waters, and I replied: "Well, tell you what, I am sure we are all going to do better. With all our disasters - those Hugos out there - we have no choice."

Secondly, a lady sent me a letter - I have answered that letter, but I have kept it to remind me of what I am now saying to you - in which she wrote: "I am in South Carolina. Pearl, I have learned something. I have no church; that is gone. My house is gone; my job is gone. Some loved ones are gone." She added: "Mankind can learn something: the awesome power of God which hit us for 15 minutes."

I happen to have a loved one - not in that part of California, but in the south - to whom I wrote long ago that, when it starts to shake, all men anywhere, even here, should all join hands together and try to hold the earth still or the winds and the waves back. Then we would forget all the other things, and that would make us friends.

(Ms. Bailey, United States)

She said to me "In that awesome 15 minutes we knew the power of God". Last night, as I watched what was going on, I smiled to myself and thought, "Lady, in 15 seconds we knew the awesome power of God.

I want to thank all representatives for caring about us and, regardless of any differences in this Hall, I want to remind members that we in our country care about them. That is the only way that is ever going to work. Let us think about it.

AGENDA ITEM 29

QUESTION OF THE COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE

- (a) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/44/633)
- (b) DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/44/L.10)

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of the Comoros, its Minister for Planning, Mr. Mikidache Abdourahim, who will introduce the draft resolution.

Mr. MIKIDACHE (Comoros) (interpretation from French): As I find myself for the first time in this Hall I cannot hide my real emotion and it is indeed with profound respect that I bow to the Assembly. In addressing the Assembly, in which resolutions are adopted that give positive shape to the future of mankind, I feel both deeply honoured and truly humble. I feel sincere and genuine emotion, and I ask for brotherly indulgence for the calibre of what I am about to say.

I must convey to the Assembly, on behalf of the President of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros, His Excellency, Mr. Ahmed Abdallah Abderemane and the Comorian Government and people, brotherly good wishes for the success of the very significant work that is being done in this historic forum in the service of peace, justice and progress in the world.

(Mr. Mikidache, Comoros)

As far as the Comorian people are concerned, it is with renewed hope and unlimited confidence in the handling of the matter that it follows our discussion on the island of Mayotte. It sincerely hopes that the parties concerned, French and Comorian alike, will, in their mutual interest and with greater will and determination, find within the framework of and beyond resolutions, a solution to this problem, whose settlement will make possible the full flowering of their friendly co-operation.

For the fourteenth year in succession we are considering the agenda item entitled "Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte". The continued inclusion of this item on the agenda of our debates and the sustained attention paid to it by our Assembly are reflections of our Organization's steadfast determination to continue to take an active part in the quest for an appropriate solution to this problem, in keeping with its mandate.

This too is reassuring for the Comorian people and Government, which, because of this dispute, have for the past 14 years been compelled to mobilize their energies and a substantial part of their modest resources to defend their national sovereignty. On behalf of the Comorian nation, I wish to express our sincere appreciation to the Assembly.

I remind those among us who are following this debate for the first time, that in the process of the accession of the Comoros to independence there was nothing that gave us cause to expect that a dispute as deplorable as it is harmful for the Comoros would arise between us and France, a friendly country. Indeed, a process had been painstakingly worked out to ensure that the accession to national sovereignty would proceed smoothly, in friendship and co-operation with France and in conformity with the procedure agreed upon by the international community.

Mr. Mikidache, Comoros)

Thus, when France acknowledged the readiness of the Comoros for independence, agreements were negotiated and signed in Paris, on 15 June 1973, between the representatives of the French Government and those of the local Government of the Comoros. Those agreements envisaged, among other things, that the Comorian people would be consulted by means of a referendum and that if a majority of the voters declared themselves in favour of independence, France would grant the Chamber of Deputies of the Comoros the powers of a constituent assembly, while the President of the local Government Council would have the competences and prerogatives of Head of State.

Furthermore, one of the clauses in those agreements stipulated that the outcome of the referendum on self-determination would be considered on a comprehensive basis, that is, for all four Comorian islands. That major stipulation was, of course, in keeping with the fact that for more than a century of its presence in the Comoros France never challenged or called into question the unity of the Comorian archipelago, which, on the contrary and to its credit, it helped to strengthen. Indeed, successive French Governments, basing themselves on geography and history, repeatedly stressed the need to respect the territorial unity of our country.

Our unity is not founded, as some suggest, on artificial bases or any other transitory administrative convenience. It is rooted and finds its strength in the geography, history and common destiny of all the sister islands that make up the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros, namely, the islands of Anjouan, Grande-Comore, Mayotte and Moheli.

As a result all French laws and administrative decisions adopted during the colonial period enshrine categorically the unity of the Comorian archipelago.

(Mr. Mikidache, Comoros)

Thus, the law of 9 May 1946 that made the archipelago "a territory enjoying administrative and financial autonomy" clearly spells out in setting forth the reasons that

"It is the Muslim religion that gives the archipelago its strong unity, which is reinforced by a unique idiom, Swahili".

(Mr. Mikidache, Comoros)

This unity was reaffirmed and consolidated by the law which granted internal autonomy to our archipelago on 3 January 1961.

This brief review of the juridical and administrative dispositions put into effect by France up to the very eve of our country's accession to independence clearly shows that the unity of the Comoros was not challenged at any time for over a century.

That is why, in keeping with the agreements of 15 June to which I have just referred and the law of 23 November 1974 that organized the self-determination referendum, the people of the Comoros, on 22 December 1974, went to the polls in all serenity, and in a calm atmosphere, to decide upon its future.

On that historic day the question to which we were called upon to give a reply was: "Do you wish the Comoros to become independent?" It was not: "Do you wish the island of Moheli to become independent?", or "Do you wish the island of Mayotte to become independent?", or "Do you wish the island of D'Anjouan to become independent?", or "Do you wish the island of Grande Comore to become independent?". On that date of 22 December 1974 not one island was called upon to pronounce itself separately on its destiny.

The reply to the question that was put proved that more than 95 per cent of the Comorian people were in favour of independence. All that the French Government and Parliament had to do was to draw the logical conclusions from this vote, in keeping with the law that provided for the referendum.

Unfortunately for us, and to everyone's astonishment, things turned out otherwise. Instead of respecting its commitments and the clearly and freely expressed will of the Comorian people, the Government of France - quite to the contrary - had a law adopted that confirmed the partition of our country.

(Mr. Mikidache, Comoros)

That French law was promulgated on 31 December 1975 - in other words, after the Comoros' accession to independence on 6 July 1975 and its admission on 12 November of that year to membership of the Organization as a sovereign State made up of the four islands: Anjouan, Grande Comore, Mayotte and Moheli.

To be sure, the French law recognized the independence of the Comorian State - but a State that had had a part of its national territory - the island of Mayotte - amputated. The pretext put forward for that amputation was that in Mayotte a part of the population had voted against independence.

That unjust and arbitrary act was condemned immediately by the international community, which regarded it as interference in the domestic affairs of the Comorian State. What is more, the law infringed the sacred principle of the inviolability of the borders inherited from the era of colonization - a principle contained in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and the Programme of Action for the full implementation of that Declaration, in General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV).

The Government of France at the time, seeking legal justification for this act of force, decided to invoke its own Constitution, article 53 of which stipulates that there can be no transfer, exchange or adjunction of territory without the consent of the people concerned.

No one can be unaware that the specific case of the Comoros that is of concern to us does not involve the transfer or the adjunction or the exchange of any territory. Rather, what is involved is purely and simply the secession of a single territory - the Comoros archipelago, which all French laws had been careful to treat as a whole during more than a century of colonization.

(Mr. Mikidache, Comoros)

That is why the Organization, together with the entire international community, rejected that contention and why, on the basis of the results of the self-determination referendum held on 22 December 1974, it continues to affirm that the Comorian island of Mayotte is an integral part of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. It is thus clear that there can be no confusion about or challenge to the unity of our country.

Anyone aware of the homogeneity of the Comorian population and the blood ties that from the very beginning have bound together the inhabitants of the four islands must understand the deep pain of our people, who share the same culture, the same language and the same religion. I do not even want to think about what would happen to this shared ethnic and socio-cultural heritage if this separation were to be prolonged.

We must note also that the adverse effects of that separation do not have a human dimension alone. This situation also seriously undermines the country's development.

Indeed, because of their complementarity, the four Comorian islands have an economy that can develop only in a symbiosis, that results from the specific production and activities of each of these islands. Hence, separating Mayotte from its sister islands constitutes a serious obstacle to the development of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. Harmonious development can be achieved only within the framework of its unity.

The Assembly will understand that the country does not need this additional handicap at a time when the Comorian authorities are entering into negotiations with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on a programme of structural adjustment.

(Mr. Mikidache, Comoros)

Today, the super-Powers are joining together in a quest for a more peaceful world and for the further strengthening of their multifaceted economic co-operation. It is inconceivable that at such a time the small Comorian islands should find themselves split up, when, instead, they must unite to cope with the many challenging tasks of development.

France and the Comoros are united by a long common history. We have many, varied relations. They go beyond the bilateral framework because our two States are taking an active part in the building of subregional co-operation through the Indian Ocean Commission, together with the other island States of the "Africa of the islands", of East Africa.

An isolated Mayotte would become a kind of cyst on a body which needs to achieve development but whose development would thus be delayed. That would be an undeniable handicap, for Mayotte would not be able to participate, along with its sister islands, in this process of economic integration that gives all the countries of the subregion a major opportunity to keep their appointment with the year 2000 in the best possible conditions.

Benefiting from the teachings of the Koran, the people of the Comoros regard harmony and the achievement of agreement as major virtues. Thus, to solve this problem the Government of the Comoros has constantly given pride of place to dialogue and has based itself on the relevant resolutions and recommendations of various international organizations. In acting in that way my country also aims at abiding by the principles of peace and justice embodied in the Charter of the Organization. We fervently hope that this readiness for conciliation on the part of our people will be given the full weight it deserves.

In keeping with the Organization's recommendations we are pursuing the quest for contacts with the French side, and on every possible occasion the Head of the Comorian State has raised this problem with his French counterpart.

(Mr. Mikidache, Comoros)

Moreover, the noble initiative undertaken in 1986 vis-à-vis the French Government by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Organization of African Unity responsible for following up this matter, prompted France to decide not to organize a new referendum on Mayotte. We welcome that fact.

However, since then nothing has happened to bring us closer to a resolution of the matter.

(Mr. Mikičache, Comoros)

We feel that it is time for France, as a founding Member of our Organization, to go beyond short-term considerations and agree, together with the United Nations, to reach an understanding in the quest for a just and lasting common resolution of this painful problem. It is along these lines that France is being invited to take part in achieving a resolution of the matter by all the other international and regional organizations involved.

Throughout its long history France has always shown its imaginative and innovative capacity and ability to adapt its policy to the needs of the time. Is it not the homeland of human rights and the rights of the citizen, a country whose bicentenary the world celebrated last July? The efforts exerted recently by its leadership at the highest level, notably the President of the French Republic, Mr. Mitterrand, with a view to participating actively in the search for solutions to problems as delicate as those related to third-world debt or drugs, are dramatic proof of what France can do.

The Comorian authorities, for their part, continue to express, from this rostrum, their steadfast readiness actively to consider any specific proposal from the French side so long as it respects the unity and territorial integrity of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. It is understood, of course, that within this framework the organizing of any referendum would be out of place and contrary to the relevant resolutions of our Organization.

It is fitting to note that at the previous session we welcomed the fact that the confrontation that had prevailed throughout the world seemed to be giving way to better understanding, thus making it possible for us to hope for the progressive elimination of conflicts. Like all other peace-loving countries, the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros welcomes this situation. That is why the Head of the Comorian State seized the opportunity of the recent summit conference of French-speaking countries held in Dakar once again to issue an appeal, expressing

(Mr. Mikidache, Comoros)

the hope "that the winds of détente which are now being felt in international relations may have a favourable impact on this particular case as well".

This climate of détente is the result of the efforts exerted by our Organization, under the co-ordination and effective guidance of the Secretary-General, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, whose competence and readiness to serve peace throughout the world we should like to praise once again. We are convinced that in so far as this particular case is concerned our shared determination to press forward can also help us achieve progress in this situation along the lines hoped for by the Assembly.

This problem has been with us much too long, and now more than ever it calls for an urgent solution. We must manage to quicken the pace of history and destroy artificial barriers, if necessary, by our strong will and determination to overcome obstacles. And help from everyone will be invaluable - whether as friends or brothers of the parties involved.

In this connection, I should like to recall a sura from the Holy Koran, which teaches us that: When two brothers - and by extension, two friends - are pitted against each other in a dispute, you must reconcile them or help them to settle their differences. That is a good deed not only for them but also for you, and God will reward you for it.

We believe that by restoring the territorial integrity of our country, our friend France - whose achievements throughout history have always rested on the united determination of its great people - would emerge the greater from a situation which is not in keeping either with its traditions or with the image it has projected to the world at this time of decolonization for the other African territories.

(Mr. Mikidache, Comoros)

The draft resolution before the Assembly, which underpins our current debate, is not different from others that have preceded it inasmuch as it emphasizes the need to accelerate the process of negotiations between the French and Comorian Governments, with a view to ensuring the effective return of the island of Mayotte to its natural community, the Comorian community. We earnestly hope that the Assembly will be able to adopt it unanimously.

Mr. BADAWI (Egypt) (interpretation from Arabic): Egypt's interest in the Comorian island of Mayotte and its desire to achieve a speedy and just solution to the problem flows from the strong relationships of friendship and close co-operation we maintain with the two parties to the problem. Our position, as we have always expressed it, is a consistent position, based as it is on the principles of the United Nations, in which we firmly believe.

Egypt supports the sovereignty of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros over the island of Mayotte. We have often reaffirmed that position in various international and regional forums. It is also a position which has been clearly supported in all the international and regional forums concerned with the question. This is reflected in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and those of the summit meetings of the Organization of African Unity and of the countries of the non-aligned movement, all of which call for respect for the unity and for the territorial integrity of the Comoros archipelago. Given our constant contacts with the two parties to the problem, we appreciate and fully understand the grounds for concern by the Comorian Government owing to the lack of concrete progress of the efforts under way to find a just solution to the problem. Actually there have been no new developments in the situation since 1975. We realize that this situation and the persistent state of affairs that has a marked semblance to a stalemate of the problem carries the risk of political instability which may

(Mr. Badawi, Egypt)

be adversely reflected in the climate prevailing in the region as a whole. However, we still believe that there are grounds for hope and optimism and that a just and peaceful negotiated solution of the problem is feasible. We have ascertained, in the light of our contacts with the two friendly Governments of the Comoros and France, that there is a firm desire on the part of both sides to continue dialogue and to keep open the channels of communication. This confirms the sincere intentions of both parties to intensify efforts aimed at achieving a political solution safeguarding and affirming the territorial integrity of the Comoros and, at the same time, taking into account the interests of all the parties.

We should like to take this opportunity to express our support of the efforts of the Secretary-General in this connection and to request him to continue his contacts with the two parties. We commend his readiness to exert every effort with the two parties in order to achieve the desired solution. We believe that the current international climate, which is favourable to the promotion of peace and security in various regions of the world, should encourage both parties in their persistent efforts to achieve concrete results in the near future.

Mr. RAMIREZ (Colombia) (interpretation from Spanish): For more than 20 years now the international community has been examining the situation of the Comorian island of Mayotte. Notwithstanding that, and notwithstanding the many appeals by the General Assembly, the administration of the island continues to be colonial in nature. That has had an adverse effect on the country's territorial integrity. My Government hopes that the negotiations between the parties concerned will proceed satisfactorily, in keeping with the principles and norms of international law. We welcome the high-level dialogue that has been set in train. That dialogue fits properly into the framework of the new climate of détente in the world.

Before there can be understanding, each of the parties must demonstrate its will for such understanding and it is our duty to see to it that that happens. In other words, that is the basis for peaceful coexistence, in which the rights of each and every one within the framework of those political approaches that the international community itself has adopted are recognized. In this vein, the fulfilment of the process of decolonization, spearheaded by the United Nations, has been possible thanks to the efforts exerted by the peoples and to the realization that patterns of domination by the former colonial Powers are unsustainable. Let this be the time, then, to highlight the scope and significance of resolution 1514 (XV), of 14 December 1960, which embodies the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

It is a great honour for Colombia to stand united with other countries round the world in their demand for their legitimate rights; and the rights of the Comoros are indeed legitimate, inasmuch as they were recognized here upon compliance with the required procedures, including the agreements signed by the Comoros and France on 15 June 1973 as to the outcome of the referendum that was to be held the following year - results which were to be interpreted in a

(Mr. Ramirez, Colombia)

comprehensive, not a piece-by-piece, island-by-island way, as expressly recognized in General Assembly resolution 3385 (XXX) of 12 November 1975, whereby the Comoros were admitted to membership of the United Nations.

My country likewise welcomes the information provided by the Permanent Mission of France on 14 July 1989 in a note verbale addressed to the Secretary-General to the effect that:

"... France has demonstrated its readiness, as expressed by the President of the Republic, to seek actively a solution to the problem of Mayotte that is in keeping with its national law and with international law" (A/44/633, p. 2), because it takes as its point of departure the principle recognized in law that "people are to be believed" - all the more if whoever made the promise did so on behalf of a country enjoying such great respect, and also if he knew the consequences of the international juridical acts of 1975 and the national acts undertaken the following year.

My Government believes that all the efforts being exerted in this realm are useful, especially when this involves an initiative which the Secretary-General might encourage. Indeed, we think it would be a positive development if his experience could be combined with that of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity so that their good offices could be offered to those seeking a peaceful, negotiated solution to the problem.

For all those reasons, my delegation is pleased to support the draft resolution that has been circulated on agenda item 29, "Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte".

Mr. DANGJE REWAKA (Gabon) (interpretation from French): The inclusion once again of the item on the Comorian island of Mayotte in the agenda of our current session testifies to the ardent desire of the United Nations to find a solution to this problem, which has lasted only too long.

(Mr. Danque Rewaka, Gabon)

Gabon's position bears the imprint of consistency: consistency, first of all, with the principle of the inviolability of borders inherited from the period of colonization; consistency, also, in the consideration of the legitimate claim of the Comorian Government; and, finally, consistency with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, which make it incumbent upon Members of the United Nations to settle their international disputes by peaceful means.

Regrettably, no notable progress has been achieved on this issue since the forty-third session of the General Assembly.

The current situation, which is like to a sort of stalemate, cannot last indefinitely. Gabon appeals to the French Government to translate into deeds its determination to find a just solution to the problem of Mayotte.

The Ad Hoc Committee of Seven, presided over by my country, intends to continue and develop its activities to ensure compliance with the commitments entered into on the eve of the referendum of 22 December 1974 concerning the self-determination of the Comoros archipelago.

Hence, we call for the unanimous adoption of the draft resolution now before the Assembly.

Mr. SUTRESNA (Indonesia): My delegation's participation in the debate on the item under consideration stems from Indonesia's sincere desire for a speedy and just settlement of the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte, which has been on the agenda of the General Assembly since it was inscribed in 1975.

(Mr. Sutresna, Indonesia)

Our interest in, and support for, all efforts to arrive at an amicable solution are based on a commitment to the sanctity of the principles of the Charter concerning the territorial integrity of States and on the bonds of friendship and co-operation that Indonesia maintains with France and the traditional fraternal relations and ties of non-aligned solidarity that we enjoy with the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros.

The regrettable reality is that, despite successive resolutions of the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the search for a solution has not brought tangible results. My delegation believes that it is important to note that all these decisions have stressed that the overriding principle in any settlement must be recognition of the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros archipelago, composed of the islands of Anjouan, Grande-Comore, Mayotte and Moheli. This basic element of a just and honourable settlement - first enunciated in General Assembly resolution 3291 (XXIX), of 13 December 1974 - was reiterated most recently in the final documents of the summit meetings of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the OAU, thus attesting to the determination of the international community to restore Comorian sovereignty over Mayotte.

Indonesia has always maintained that justice can be served only when disputes between States are settled peacefully through resort to diplomacy and negotiation. Indeed, mutual respect and constructive dialogue are the essential elements of an honourable solution. It is therefore heartening to note the positive and cordial relations that continue to exist between the parties involved. In this regard, my delegation is pleased that the Government of the Comoros has continued its statesmanlike quest for negotiations. It is our hope that France, for its part,

(Mr. Sutresna, Indonesia)

will move forward by working actively for a just solution through dialogue and accommodation. To this end, we encourage all sides to utilize the existing goodwill in their bilateral relations, with a view to resorting to the good offices of the Secretary-General in the settlement of the dispute.

Indonesia shares the conviction of the vast majority of Member States that a peaceful, negotiated and durable solution to the question of Mayotte is to be found in respect for the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros archipelago. We appeal to the parties to engage in constructive dialogue, leading to a speedy and honourable settlement in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the Organization.

In conclusion, my delegation would like to emphasize the need for wisdom and rationality in coming to terms with historical, cultural, geographic and political realities as they pertain to the island of Mayotte and as they have been affirmed by the international community. My delegation is convinced that, by recognizing the compelling logic of these essential elements, the parties could resolve this question peacefully and expeditiously. It is in the interests of contributing positively to this process that my delegation supports draft resolution A/44/L.10.

Mr. KHORO (Pakistan): Ever since Comoros became independent in 1976, the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte has been on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly. It may be recalled that under General Assembly resolution 31/4 of that year's session France was called upon to withdraw from Mayotte. Since then, this Organization has appealed repeatedly to the Government of France to start negotiating with the Government of Comoros with a view to implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. Also, the Secretary-General has maintained close liaison with the Organization of African Unity and has offered his good offices to its Secretary-General in the search for a

(Mr. Khorro, Pakistan)

peaceful, negotiated settlement of the problem. This year, as in previous years, we have taken up this important agenda item in an effort to encourage the two parties to institute a constructive and meaningful dialogue with a view to achieving a just solution to the problem in keeping with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

The resolutions of the General Assembly on the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte underline the necessity of respecting the unity and territorial integrity of the Comorian archipelago and reaffirm that a lasting solution to the problem can be found only in restoration of the disputed island to Comoros. The territorial integrity and unity of Comoros as a whole have also been reaffirmed in resolutions adopted over the years in other international forums, such as the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Organization of African Unity. This position was also reflected recently in the final Declaration of the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Cyprus in September 1988, in the resolution adopted at the Addis Ababa summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity in May 1988 and, more recently, at the Harare ministerial meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement in May 1989, as well as at the Belgrade summit meeting of the non-aligned countries in September this year. Such demonstrations of support for Comoros on this question clearly leave no doubt regarding the validity of its claim to the Comorian island of Mayotte.

It may be pointed out that the problem of the Comorian island of Mayotte is not just a bilateral problem between France and Comoros but essentially a question of decolonization and, therefore, a problem for all of us to resolve. In this context, I recall General Assembly resolution 3291 (XXIX), of 13 December 1974, and resolution 1514 (XV), of 14 December 1960, on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples. These resolutions clearly maintain that the

(Mr. Khoro, Pakistan)

granting of independence or of the right to exercise self-determination applies to colonial entities as a whole, and not selectively. This should have been the case with regard to the Comorian archipelago.

In our view, constructive dialogue and peaceful negotiations are the best possible means of resolving differences and disputes. In this context, the assertion by France that it maintains dialogue at the highest level with Comoros, and the visit last year of the President of Comoros to France, are positive developments which may lead to settlement of the dispute. In our view, such a dialogue, imbued with a spirit of co-operation and understanding and built upon the foundations laid by the relevant General Assembly resolutions, provides the best chance of a peaceful solution to the problem.

Pakistan has traditional ties of friendship and co-operation with France, and, as a fellow member of the Non-Aligned Movement and of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, enjoys close and fraternal ties with the Islamic Federal Republic of Comoros also. Therefore, a dispute between those two friendly countries is certainly a matter of concern to us. Pakistan has been following very closely the developments that are taking place on this issue and maintains a keen and special interest in its expeditious settlement.

(Mr. Khorro, Pakistan)

The draft resolution before us is both moderate and balanced and reiterates the position of principle maintained in international forums. My delegation supports the draft resolution and expresses the desire and hope that it will initiate an expeditious process of negotiations leading to an early solution of the problem on the basis of the recognized principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nation. This could undoubtedly have a beneficial effect on the relations between the two countries and on regional peace and security. My delegation would also like to avail itself of this opportunity to commend the Secretary-General's efforts towards resolving this problem, and to join others in requesting him to continue his efforts and to extend his good offices to the Organization of African Unity in the search for a negotiated settlement.

Mr. BLANC (France) (interpretation from French): Once again France can only express regret that the question of the island of Mayotte is the subject of an item on the agenda of the General Assembly. It can only vote against the draft resolution now before us, in particular because of operative paragraph 1.

My delegation has listened carefully to those who have spoken on this question. It would seem that everybody desires a just and lasting solution to be quickly found to this problem. This is also the position of France.

We have embarked upon the search for a satisfactory outcome of the problem of Mayotte and we do not rule out any solution which is in accordance with our Constitution and respects the aspirations of the peoples concerned.

In a spirit of responsibility and open-mindedness, the French Government is engaging in a constructive dialogue with the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. This dialogue is based on the close bonds of friendship and co-operation between our two countries, which were demonstrated recently by the meetings at the highest level, as was recalled by Mr. Kafe, the Foreign Minister of the Comoros, in

(Mr. Blanc, France)

his statement in the general debate on 4 October. We are convinced that such joint efforts, pursued in a steadfast spirit of conciliation and appeasement, will be able, despite all difficulties, to lead to progress in the common search for a just solution.

France will spare no effort in this regard.

The PRESIDENT: We have heard the last speaker in the debate on this item. The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/44/L.10. I have to inform the General Assembly that the Secretary-General does not foresee any programme budget implications in the implementation of the draft resolution.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: France

Abstaining: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Draft resolution A/44/L.10 was adopted by 128 votes to 1, with 24 abstentions (resolution 44/9).*

The PRESIDENT: This concludes our consideration of agenda item 29.

AGENDA ITEM 15

ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN PRINCIPAL ORGANS

(a) ELECTION OF FIVE NON-PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now proceed to the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council to replace those members whose term expires on 31 December 1989.

The five outgoing members are the following: Algeria, Brazil, Nepal, Senegal and Yugoslavia. These five States cannot be re-elected and therefore their names should not appear on the ballot papers.

Apart from the five permanent members, the Security Council will include in 1990 the following States: Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, Finland and Malaysia. The names of those States, therefore, should not appear on the ballot papers.

Of the five non-permanent members which will remain in office in 1990, two are from Africa and Asia, one is from Latin America and the Caribbean, and two are from Western Europe and other States.

* Subsequently the delegation of Rwanda advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

(The President)

Consequently, pursuant to paragraph 3 of resolution 1991 A (XVIII) of 17 December 1963, the five non-permanent members should be elected according to the following pattern: three from Africa and Asia, one from Eastern Europe and one from Latin America and the Caribbean. This pattern is reflected in a single ballot paper.

In accordance with the established practice, there is an understanding to the effect that, of the three States to be elected from Africa and Asia, two should be from Africa and one from Asia.

I should like to inform the Assembly that the number of candidates, not exceeding the number of seats to be filled, receiving the greatest number of votes and a two-thirds majority of the votes of those present and voting will be declared elected. In the case of a tie vote for the last seat, there will be a restricted ballot limited to those candidates which have obtained an equal number of votes.

I take it that the General Assembly agrees to that procedure.

It was so decided.

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.

I call on the representative of Bangladesh, who wishes to speak on behalf of the Asian States.

Mr. MOHIUDDIN (Bangladesh): In my capacity as Chairman of the Asian Group for the current month, I have the honour to inform all Member States that Democratic Yemen is the endorsed candidate of the Asian Group for the Asian seat in the Security Council.

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States.

Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) (interpretation from Russian): As the current Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States, I wish to inform members of the General Assembly that the countries members of our Group have unanimously endorsed the candidacy of the Socialist Republic of Romania as a non-permanent member of the Security Council for the period 1990 through 1991.

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of Peru, who will speak in his capacity as Chairman of the Latin American and Caribbean Group.

Mr. LUNA (Peru) (interpretation from Spanish): As the current Chairman of the Latin American and Caribbean Group, I am very pleased indeed to confirm our regional group's endorsement of the candidacy of Cuba in the elections to the Security Council.

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of Kenya, who will speak in his capacity as the current Chairman of the African Group.

Mr. OKEYO (Kenya): As the current Chairman of the African Group, I should like to indicate that two African States have been endorsed by the African Group for election to the Security Council - Côte d'Ivoire and Zaire.

The PRESIDENT: In accordance with the rules of procedure, we shall proceed now to the election by secret ballot, taking into account the statements just made by the representatives of Bangladesh, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Peru and Kenya.

(The President)

Ballot papers are now being distributed.

I request representatives to use only ballot papers that have just been distributed and to write on them the names of the five Member States for which they wish to vote. As I have indicated, the ballot papers should not include the names of the five permanent members, the five outgoing non-permanent members or the five States that will remain in office as non-permanent members in 1990. Votes for a larger number of States than there are seats allocated to the relevant region will be declared invalid. Votes for States outside the relevant region will not be counted.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Habiq (Belgium), Mr. James Droushiotis (Cyprus), Mr. Garro Galvez (Peru) and Mr. Makarevitch (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 12 noon and resumed at 12.45 p.m.

The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting for the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council is as follows:

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	157
<u>Number of invalid ballots:</u>	1
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	156
<u>Abstentions:</u>	0
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	156
<u>Required two-thirds majority:</u>	104
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Cuba	146
Democratic Yemen	140
Romania	136
Côte d'Ivoire	135
Zaire	128
Yemen	6
Argentina	1
Barbados	1
Costa Rica	1
Ghana	1
India	1
Mali	1
Niger	1
Poland	1
Zambia	1

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, the following States were elected non-permanent members of the Security Council for a two-year period beginning on 1 January 1990: Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Romania and Zaire.

The PRESIDENT: I congratulate the States that have been elected non-permanent members of the Security Council and I thank the tellers for their assistance in the election.

This concludes our consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 15.

The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.