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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE FORTY-FOURTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Wednesday, 1 November 1989, at 3 p.m.

President:

Mr. SALLAH
(Vice-President)

(Gambia)

- Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) [35]
 - (a) Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General
- Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity [27]
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General
 - (b) Draft resolution
- Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs [15]
 - (b) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council

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In the absence of the President, Mr. Sallah (Gambia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

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

AGENDA ITEM 35

QUESTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS)

- (a) REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (A/44/23 (Part VII); A/AC.109/1004)
- (b) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/44/692)

The PRESIDENT: I should like to call the attention of the Assembly to document A/44/490, to which is annexed a press communiqué issued in New York on 18 August 1989 by representatives of the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and to document A/44/678, to which is annexed a joint statement issued in Madrid on 19 October 1989 by representatives of the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Furthermore, I should like to inform representatives that following consultations regarding this item it is proposed that the General Assembly decide to postpone consideration of the item and to include it in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session.

May I take it, therefore, that the Assembly wishes to take note of the documents that I have referred to and to defer consideration of this item and include it in the provisional agenda of the forty-fifth session?

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 27

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

- (a) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/44/425)
- (b) DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/44/L.6/Rev.1)

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of Lesotho, who will introduce the draft resolution.

Mr. PHOOFOLO (Lesotho): Africa has steadfastly continued to uphold the purposes and principles of the United Nations. Pursuing this worthy course, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), imbued with and inspired by the same ideals of the United Nations, has consistently sought to maintain and strengthen its relations with the United Nations by co-operating with it in all spheres, whether political, social or economic. The founding fathers of OAU recognized and cherished a belief that Africa was part of the whole, which whole is represented by the very existence of the United Nations. Hence the desire and the justifiable need to co-operate and be identified with the United Nations.

We in Africa have looked upon the United Nations as not only a constituent part of but also an entity inseparable from Africa. Together for better or for worse, it is a matter of the utmost importance, if not absolutely essential, that we face the world in unison. We should always engage in concerted action in our noble endeavours to live up to the expectations of the founding fathers of this Organization.

Alas, the world we dwell in has its own tribulations, and problems that need immediate, consistent and urgent attention if lasting peace and security is to be achieved. Africa is not immune from such problems inasmuch as it always shares its joy and happiness with all its friends around the globe.

(Mr. Phoofole, Lesotho)

The United Nations has not only participated actively in the political evolution of Africa through decolonization, but actively involved itself in the solution of political problems in Africa. That involvement is co-operation on the political front.

As Africa proceeds through the final stages of decolonization, it is gratifying to note that the genuine independence of Namibia has continued to seize the attention of the international community. The people of Namibia have pinned their hopes on the United Nations as Security Council resolution 435 (1978) is being implemented.

(Mr. Phoofofo, Lesotho)

Namibia is the current topical agenda item on which the entire international community is focusing. Namibia is the issue that even unborn children have started living and feeding upon. Africa is seeking the Organization's constant co-operation to ensure that the world body is never seen or perceived to be failing, or at worst betraying, the Namibians in this critical hour of need.

The United Nations through its indefatigable peace emissary, the standard bearer of hope and peace, our Secretary-General, Mr. Perez de Cuellar, is currently fulfilling its sacred trust on the issue of Namibian independence.

The report of the Secretary-General is testimony to the long-lasting co-operation of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity in all efforts aimed at assisting Namibians to decide and determine their own destiny in the best manner possible and as they see fit.

It is in this prevailing spirit of co-operation, as this issue of Namibian independence is followed and monitored, that all parties must comply strictly with the provisions of resolution 435 (1978) and related agreements to ensure the delivery of a healthy Namibia, free from any internal or external interference.

Africa continues to welcome and value the co-operation of the United Nations with the OAU in all other political problems, such as that of Western Sahara, which also needs speedy resolution.

The Organization has been seized for almost four decades of the problem of the pernicious apartheid policies practised by South Africa. Africa is more than gratified by the universal condemnation and rejection of the apartheid policies of South Africa and the co-operation of the United Nations in calling for the eradication of apartheid and all the paraphernalia that goes with it.

Apartheid is not only intrinsically and inherently violent to citizens in South Africa, as has been so ably recognized by the United Nations and the OAU, but also destructive to the front-line and other countries, as has been evidenced by

(Mr. Phoofole, Lesotho)

its policies of destabilization in the region. The co-operation of the United Nations with the OAU in this endeavour is clearly reflected in the Secretary-General's report referred to earlier.

As the OAU and the United Nations and its organs cultivate commendable co-operation efforts, it is equally necessary to pay a special tribute to all the United Nations specialized agencies that continue to co-operate with Africa to make our world a better and safer place. The following come to mind for their splendid endeavours in co-operation with OAU: the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTC,) the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the Universal Postal Union (UPU), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), to mention just a few.

Africa - like countries of Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Pacific and the Middle East - is still consolidating its political independence by going through the painful process of economic transformation. One of the major hurdles on the economic front is external indebtedness. It is a problem not only of Africa but squarely and directly of the international community. United Nations co-operation is required in addressing the debt problem. This problem has already caught the attention of the main bodies of the United Nations and the international community at large, and has ceased to be a problem to be addressed solely by financial institutions.

The invitation to the United Nations to co-operate with OAU on the question of debt, which has long occupied the minds of African political leaders, should not be

(Mr. Phoofolo, Lesotho)

seen or viewed as questioning the competence of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) or the World Bank. It is a genuine expression of a justified concern whereby the collective efforts of all people of good intentions are being mobilized to complement and supplement the commendable efforts of the competent institutions.

Wisdom or intelligence in the unravelling of world problems cannot be the preserve or monopoly of a few. Africa is guided by this conviction in inviting the United Nations to co-operate in addressing the problem of debt, notwithstanding the competence of the IMF and the World Bank, or any other financial institution. It is because it recognizes the magnitude and complexity of the debt problem that Africa genuinely and sincerely believes that OAU/United Nations co-operation can facilitate or contribute to a solution that satisfies all concerned and averts the threat to international stability, peace and security.

Without more ado, and against the background of the lucid and detailed report of the Secretary-General (A/44/425) of 9 August 1989, wherein a full account of the multifarious areas of co-operation between the OAU and the United Nations system is given, I have the great honour and privilege of discharging my most pleasant duty on behalf of the African Group by submitting to the Assembly draft resolution A/44/L.6/Rev.1, entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity".

The draft resolution is essentially similar to all previous resolutions on this subject adopted by the General Assembly.

The moving spirit behind the draft resolution is reflected in the 15 preambular paragraphs, followed by the 26 operative paragraphs that detail the agenda for continuing the desired co-operation.

In the operative part the General Assembly, inter alia, notes with appreciation the increasing and continued participation of the Organization of

(Mr. Phoofolo, Lesotho)

African Unity in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and its constructive contribution to that work; commends the continued efforts of the Organization of African Unity to promote multilateral co-operation among African States and to find solutions to African problems of vital importance to the international community; reaffirms that the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 is the responsibility of the international community as a whole and commends the efforts undertaken by African and other countries in spite of the adverse international economic environment; calls upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations, notwithstanding the competence of the multilateral financial institutions, to co-operate with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to contribute to the implementation of measures aimed at a lasting solution to Africa's debt and debt-servicing burden, taking into account Africa's common position on its external debt, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its third extraordinary session, held at Addis Ababa on 30 November and 1 December 1987; urges all Member States and regional and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations system, to continue to extend maximum support to Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990; reiterates its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his efforts, on behalf of the international community, to organize and mobilize special programmes of economic assistance for those African States facing grave economic difficulties, the front-line States and other independent States of southern Africa to help them to withstand the effects of the acts of aggression and destabilization committed by the apartheid régime of South Africa; expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, the World Food

(Mr. Phoofofo, Lesotho)

Programme, the World Food Council, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research for the assistance so far rendered to African States in dealing with the emergency situation as well as with the critical economic problems that exist on the African continent; reiterates the determination of the United Nations, in co-operation with the Organization of African Unity, to intensify its efforts to eliminate colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid in southern Africa; urges the international community to extend full support to the Secretary-General in his effort to ensure that Security Council resolution 435 (1978) is implemented in its original and definitive form; requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to strengthen co-operation at the political, economic, cultural and administrative levels between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly with regard to the provision of assistance to the victims of colonialism and apartheid in southern Africa; and expresses appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity for reactivating the machinery for co-operation of the two organizations and encourages them to further strengthen the said machinery.

(Mr. Phoofolo, Lesotho)

Having highlighted the salient features of the draft resolution, we recall with a great sense of satisfaction and appreciation the support granted to Africa by all those who value OAU co-operation with the United Nations. What comes to mind is the European Community statement last year so eloquently presented by the permanent representative of Greece, Constantine D. Zepos, when he said "co-operative efforts bring about positive results", and added:

"Africa is endowed with vast potential resources, and yet it contains more than half the world's economically least developed countries. The Twelve wish to co-operate as much as possible with all African countries and to assist in finding solutions to their present economic and social problems."

(A/43/PV.36, p. 49)

The objective in the draft resolution is co-operation that brings positive results.

When the well-deserved election by acclamation of Ambassador Garba of Nigeria to the presidency of the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session was confirmed by the Assembly it was a crystal-clear manifestation of the excellent co-operation between the OAU and the United Nations. All those present hailed that positive demonstration by the international community that makes up the United Nations as a sign of healthy co-operation with Africa. The draft resolution before us is a reaffirmation of that well-proved co-operation. Any move to the contrary would negate that co-operative effort.

Africa, upholding the principles of the United Nations Charter and guided by its genuine desire to enhance and deepen co-operation with the United Nations, is not only extending its hand of friendship but expressing its commitment to the noble aims and purposes of the United Nations, with which it wants to sustain a

(Mr. Phoofofo, Lesotho)

long-lasting, co-operative effort to make this our world a happy and comfortable place for all its peoples.

The acceptance of Africa's warm hand of co-operation will indeed be demonstrated by all the champions of democratic ideals and dedicated adherents to the aims and purposes of the United Nations by adopting draft resolution A/44/L.6/Rev.1 by acclamation. Africa calls for that co-operation with all States constituting our beloved United Nations.

Finally, we call the attention of the Assembly to the fact that in the fourth line of operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, after the words "undertaken by African" the words "and other" should be inserted.

Mr. BADAWI (Egypt) (interpretation from Arabic): Africa is a special and significant case in the history of the United Nations. In 1945, when the United Nations Charter was being signed, there were only four independent African States that could take part in that historic development. Egypt takes pride in the fact that it was one of those States.

African membership in the international Organization started to increase with the progress made in United Nations efforts in the field of decolonization, that being one of the most important principles and objectives of the United Nations. This has been one of the Organization's foremost achievements, and today African Member States constitutes nearly one third of the international community.

But Africa's membership of the United Nations is not just a matter of quantity; its qualitative contribution in the efforts of the Organization and in the development of the Organization's work in all fields for the good of all mankind, may well be the best proof of the effective role played by Africa in matters of concern to the international community.

(Mr. Badawi, Egypt)

The relationship between the United Nations and the African continent has not been one way. The international Organization has been and continues to be the vital and appropriate forum in facing the post-independence challenges in the political, economic and social fields.

Within the framework of the intention inherent in the United Nations Charter concerning the establishment of international organizations that uphold the principles of justice and humanity, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) was established as an expression of the determination of the States of the continent to reaffirm and consolidate the purposes and principles of the international Organization as well as its efforts to ensure the maintenance of peace and security in the world of today.

We in Africa therefore consider it natural that co-operation between the two organizations should be cultivated and that the relationship between them should grow, in the interests of the human community and better development for future generations.

The OAU has always been in the vanguard of the march of liberation in an important era in the history of the world. President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, in his statement before the Assembly on 29 September, reaffirmed the Organization's determination to pursue the struggle until the African continent is totally liberated from colonialism and racism, until it rids itself of poverty and want, until it is able to tackle the serious challenges with which it is confronted and to overcome the numerous problems impeding its march along the path of development and progress.

Africa is resolved to face these problems and challenges no matter how acute they may be. The unity and determination of the African community and its ability

(Mr. Badawi, Egypt)

to work as a unit in a true team spirit are its weapons in facing these challenges. But Africa continues to look for support by the mother Organization on a level that is comparable to, if not higher than, the support it gave our continent in the cause of freedom and independence.

We are on the threshold of a new era that augurs well for a reduction of the possibilities of confrontation and an increase in the possibilities of and opportunities for international co-operation in the consolidation of peace and increasing international co-operation in all areas, including the economic, social, legal and cultural areas. Within this framework there is a growing need to reaffirm and consolidate co-operation between the United Nations and the largest regional organization of all.

(Mr. Badawi, Egypt)

It is well known to all that a critical economic situation has afflicted the African continent since the beginning of this decade. Information about it is available in all relevant reports and studies, including the reports of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization. Rates of growth and development have declined as a result of the decline in the prices of African exports, the reverse transfer of resources, the debt burden and natural disasters, as well as policies of destabilization, particularly in southern Africa.

All these circumstances have led to a decline in the standard of living in the countries on our continent and imposed on them unprecedented political, social and economic pressures at a time when the international economic environment is not supportive of the development of the developing countries, particularly African countries. As a result, African States now make up more than half of the least developed countries of the world.

We believe that, in spite of all the efforts of the countries of the continent to co-operate among themselves and carry out economic reforms, a decisive role is played in Africa by the international economic environment. There is a dire need for the international community to co-operate with African countries, which is a third of the membership of the international community, to enable them to overcome their current economic predicament. This is more than a mere moral commitment; it touches upon the essence of mutual interest in a world that is increasingly interdependent and whose problems transcend geographical and political boundaries.

There is an urgent need to support co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity in following up the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990. The final results of that programme, to which there is a common commitment by Africa and the international community, will be considered at the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

(Mr. Badawi, Egypt)

It is also urgently necessary for the international community to understand the African alternative to structural adjustment, to make possible the continuance of the programmes of economic assistance to the front-line States, of the provision of assistance to States most vulnerable to drought and desertification, of other programmes that alleviate the effects of natural disasters, and of efforts to make a clear analysis of and find practical solutions for the problems of African commodities, prices and export opportunities.

In Africa we are well aware of the urgent need for closer co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity in considering the question of foreign debts. The burden of servicing these debts is too great for the African economies. In addition, debt-servicing has a negative effect on the development of human resources and political and social stability in our continent.

Our continent has great hopes that the international community, bearing in mind the problems of mankind as an integrated and indivisible whole, will respond favourably to and support the great efforts being made by African countries to ensure better development for this generation and a brighter future for future generations.

Mr. BLANC (France) (interpretation from French): Speaking in the debate on co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity on behalf of the 12 members of the European Community, I wish, first, to reaffirm the importance they attach to relations between the two organizations.

The close historical, cultural and geographical ties between the countries of Europe and those of Africa make the African continent one of our major concerns. The considerable experience of the Twelve in regard to regional co-operation enables them to bear witness to the great benefits that such co-operation can

(Mr. Blanc, France)

bring. We believe that the efforts being made jointly by the African countries deserve the full support of the United Nations. In this connection, the Twelve are happy to note that the ties between the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations have become closer in all areas over the years.

The Twelve believe that the OAU has an important role to play in strengthening the national independence of its members in both the political and the economic field. Such action is particularly relevant in the current international atmosphere, which favours negotiation and détente over confrontation. Where conflicts continue, we believe the countries most directly involved should be encouraged to find a solution to them, and this applies to political, economic, social and environmental problems.

African solutions are those best adapted to African problems. Therefore the Twelve are happy to note the work being done by OAU in connection with a number of complex cases. In particular we welcome the close co-operation that exists between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity in the search for peaceful solutions to the problems of Africa, in particular the problem of Western Sahara.

The Twelve also welcome the effective implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibia and trust that its completion will enable the new State to join the community of nations. The Twelve believe that the role of the United Nations, especially at this critical stage, is to act with impartiality and try to preserve the agreements arrived at within the context of the settlement plan. In this context, the Twelve reaffirm their support for the Secretary-General's efforts to ensure the success of the implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibia.

The Organization of African Unity has a decisive role to play. It must ensure that the peoples of Africa are allowed to determine their own future freely and without any outside interference.

(Mr. Blanc, France)

Africa has a vast potential of resources, yet it contains more than half the economically least developed countries of the world.

The Twelve intend to continue their co-operation with all the African countries and to help in the search for solutions to their current economic and social problems. In recent years the European Community and its 12 member States have provided more than half the total assistance received by the African countries. Last year the European Community played an active role in the mid-point consideration of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990. If the African countries are to overcome their problems, they need additional resources. The Twelve reaffirm their commitment to participate in the efforts needed to make such resources available. The important contribution by the European Community and its member States bears witness to their support for the objectives of the Programme of Action.

The Twelve, dedicated as they are to Africa's cause, intend to work in various areas to ensure the preservation of the stability of the continent and to broaden their co-operation with African Governments, regional organizations and the Organization of African Unity. We believe that OAU will continue to play an important role in African and world affairs in harmony with the principles that guide the United Nations. The Twelve also believe that the close ties of friendship and co-operation between them and the members of the Organization of African Unity will continue to be strengthened in all areas in the coming years.

The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/44/L.6/Rev.1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 14 of the draft resolution, it is estimated that a meeting between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) will be held at the headquarters of the Organization of African Unity from 2 to 5 April 1990. The modalities of the servicing of that meeting are still the subject of consultations. Pending the conclusion of those consultations, and on the assumption that such a meeting would be comparable to such meetings held in the past in terms of participation and duration, it is estimated that no additional cost would be incurred over and above the provisions made under sections 3 and 29 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

With regard to activities proposed under other operative paragraphs of the draft resolution, it is estimated by the Secretary-General that their implementation would not entail any costs over and above the provisions made in the 1990-1991 proposed programme budget.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/44/L.6/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/44/L.6/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 44/17).

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of the United States who wishes to explain his vote. I remind delegations that, in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Mr. MOORE (United States of America): The United States is very pleased to have been able to join in the consensus on this resolution. In reaching this consensus we have had useful, constructive discussions with the representatives of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). We should like to thank them for their understanding and good work. At the same time, we should also like to stress the

(Mr. Moore, United States)

essential, positive work of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in dealing with the debt situation. In order to provide appropriate recognition of the role of the international financial institutions, we would have preferred to use in operative paragraph 7 the word "recognizing" in place of the word "notwithstanding" in referring to the multilateral financial institutions.

We again state our gratitude for the flexibility and co-operation so well demonstrated by our friends in the OAU in working together with us on this issue.

The PRESIDENT: We have concluded our consideration of agenda item 27.

AGENDA ITEM 15 (continued)

ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN PRINCIPAL ORGANS

(b) ELECTION OF EIGHTEEN MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now proceed to the election of 18 members of the Economic and Social Council to replace those members whose terms of office expire on 31 December 1989.

The 18 outgoing members are: Belize, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Denmark, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Norway, Oman, Poland, Rwanda, Somalia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Zaire. These 18 States are eligible for immediate re-election.

I remind members of the Assembly that on 1 January 1990 the following States will continue to be represented on the Economic and Social Council: Bahamas, Brazil, Cameroon, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Trinidad and

(The President)

Tobago, Tunisia, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia. The names of these 36 States should therefore not appear on the ballots.

According to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 2847 (XXVI), of 20 December 1971, and taking into account the number of States which will remain members of the Council after 1 January 1990, the 18 members should be elected as follows: four from the Group of African States, four from the Group of Asian States, three from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, four from the Group of Western European and other States and three from the socialist States of Eastern Europe. The ballot papers reflect this pattern.

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 those present and voting will be declared elected. In the case of a tie vote for a remaining seat, there will be a restricted ballot limited to those candidates which have obtained an equal number of votes.

May 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, elections shall be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations.

I call on the representative of Brunei Darussalam, Chairman of the Group of Asian States.

Mr. SUYOI (Brunei Darussalam): In my capacity as Chairman of the Asian Group for the month of November, I wish to announce that the Asian Group has endorsed the candidature of the following countries for the four seats in the Economic and Social Council allocated the Group: Bahrain, China, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan.

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of St. Lucia, Chairman of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

Mr. ISAAC (Saint Lucia): In St. Lucia's capacity as Chairman of the Latin American and Caribbean Group for the current month, we have the honour to inform the General Assembly that there are five Latin American and Caribbean candidates for the three vacancies in the corresponding group in the Economic and Social Council. They are: Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica and Mexico.

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of Czechoslovakia, Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States.

Mr. ZAPOTOCKY (Czechoslovakia): Acting in my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States for the month of November, I have the honour to inform the General Assembly that the group has endorsed the candidatures of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for election to the three vacant posts allocated to the Eastern European Regional Group in the Economic and Social Council.

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of Norway, Chairman of the Group of Western European and other States.

Mr. TELLMANN (Norway): In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Western European and other States, I have the honour to inform representatives that the following candidates have been endorsed for the four vacant seats allocated to the corresponding group in the Economic and Social Council: Canada, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of Lesotho, Chairman of the Group of African States.

Mr. PHOFOLO (Lesotho): In fulfilment of my responsibilities as current Chairman of the African Group, I have the honour and privilege of announcing that Africa is fielding Algeria, Burkina Faso, Rwanda and Zaire to fill the vacancies pertaining to the African continent.

The PRESIDENT: Ballot papers marked A, B, C, D and E will now be distributed. I request representatives to use only those ballot papers and to write on them the names of the States for which they wish to vote in each group. Ballot papers containing more names than the number of seats assigned to the relevant region will be declared invalid. Names on a ballot paper of Member States which are outside the relevant region will not be counted at all.

At the invitation of the President, Ms. Habig (Belgium), Ms. Mbella Ngomba (Cameroon), Mr. Droushiotis (Cyprus), Mr. Makarevitch (Ukrainian SSR) and Mr. Monagas Iesseur (Venezuela) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 4.30 p.m. and resumed at 5.30 p.m.

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

GROUP A

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	157
<u>Number of invalid ballots:</u>	0
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	157
<u>Abstentions:</u>	1
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	156
<u>Required two-thirds majority:</u>	104
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Algeria	152
Burkina Faso	151
Rwanda	149
Zaire	138
Madagascar	1
Senegal	1

GROUP B

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	157
<u>Number of invalid ballots:</u>	0
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	157
<u>Abstentions:</u>	2
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	155
<u>Required two-thirds majority:</u>	104
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Bahrain	147
China	147
Pakistan	142
Islamic Republic of Iran	141
Syrian Arab Republic	2
Kuwait	1

GROUP C

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	157
<u>Number of invalid ballots:</u>	0
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	157
<u>Abstentions:</u>	0
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	157
<u>Required two thirds majority:</u>	105
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Ecuador	132
Jamaica	112
Mexico	108
Guatemala	64
Honduras	27
Chile	1
Costa Rica	1

GROUP D

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	157
<u>Number of invalid ballots:</u>	0
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	157
<u>Abstentions:</u>	4
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	153
<u>Required two-thirds majority:</u>	102
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Canada	149
Finland	149
Sweden	146
United Kingdom	139

GROUP E

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	157
<u>Number of invalid ballots:</u>	0
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	157
<u>Abstentions:</u>	7
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	150
<u>Required two-thirds majority:</u>	100
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	147
German Democratic Republic	146
Bulgaria	145
Hungary	1
Poland	1
Romania	1

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, the following States were elected members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year period beginning on 1 January 1990: Algeria, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Ecuador, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, Mexico, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zaire.

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

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

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.