

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

SIXTEENTH SESSION

Official Records



**1007th
PLENARY MEETING**

(Opening meeting)

Tuesday, 19 September 1961,
at 3.21 p.m.

NEW YORK

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Temporary President: Mr. Frederick H. BOLAND (Ireland).

AGENDA ITEM 1

Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Ireland

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: I declare open the sixteenth regular session of the General Assembly.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Minute of silent prayer or meditation

2. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: I request representatives to be good enough to stand and observe one minute of silent prayer or meditation.

The representatives stood in silence.

Tribute to the memory of Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and of members of the staff of the Organization

3. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: The sixteenth session of the General Assembly meets today in the shadow of an immense tragedy, in the midst of deep and heartfelt mourning which extends far beyond the walls of this chamber to millions of men and women throughout the world.

4. This is not the moment to speak of the loss which we have sustained, or to recount the high qualities and the virtues which gave those who have died so firm a hold on our respect and admiration. There will be opportunities for that later. For the moment, I would simply propose that, as a tribute to the memory of the late Secretary-General and of the devoted officers of the United Nations who died with him, and as a mark of our profound condolence with their families and relatives, we should stand and observe a minute of silence, after which this meeting should be adjourned until 10.30 tomorrow morning.

The representatives stood in silence.

The meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.

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