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President: Mr. Mongi SLIM (Tunisia).

AGENDA ITEM 9

General debate (continued)

1. Mr. UNDA MURILLO (Guatemala) (translated from Spanish): Mr. President, on behalf of the people and the Government which I have the honour to represent in this distinguished world-wide assembly, I am pleased to express to you our warmest congratulations on your very fitting election as President of the sixteenth regular session of the General Assembly, and we tender to you our heartfelt wishes for your success in discharging this high and delicate responsibility.

2. Guatemala appears before this Assembly today deeply moved by the irreparable loss which all mankind has suffered through the untimely death of our distinguished Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, who fell while striving to fulfil his task of achieving peace and security throughout the world.

3. The people and Government of Guatemala share the deep sorrow that is felt today by all men of goodwill in a world made fearful by the gravity of the international situation and filled with consternation at the tragic disappearance of a man who devoted his entire life to the fulfilment of the noble principles embodied in the Charter of our Organization. We bow in reverence to the memory of this great man, and we hope that his life will serve as a shining example to those in whose hands the destiny of nations now appears to rest.

4. Guatemala believes that the office which has been so tragically vacated by Mr. Hammarskjöld must be filled as quickly as possible and in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

5. I must state that my country does not accept the idea of altering the structure of the office of Secretary-General along the lines proposed by the Soviet Union. We believe that it is neither desirable nor in the interests of our Organization or of the peoples

represented therein for the office of Secretary-General to be filled by three persons, because we are convinced that any kind of collective leadership would make it difficult to secure the prompt and expeditious action that executive organs must be able to take.

6. The troika may be suitable for hauling a vehicle over the Russian steppes, but we are convinced of its complete ineffectiveness as a means of ensuring that our Organization will function correctly.

7. This regular session of the General Assembly of the United Nations opens at a dramatic moment in the history of the world. It is faced with one of the gravest crises in international relations, on the solution of which the very existence of mankind may depend.

8. My country appears before this Assembly full of concern for the future of all nations. On surveying the world scene, we find a truly depressing spectacle: during the last year, international tension has increased rather than abated; in many parts of the world human rights are still being ignored, and excesses and aggressions are daily taking place; positions are being maintained by the use of force, against the will and aspirations of the people; commitments solemnly entered into are being flagrantly violated; and the terrible threat of war, the possibility of which has come to depend on a mere miscalculation, is now hanging over the heads of millions of innocent men, women and children in all continents.

9. During the last quarter of a century, the normal evolution of juridical and cultural institutions in general has been outstripped by the vastly accelerated development of certain branches of science and technology, and these advances, instead of being used to further the aspirations for peace and economic and social betterment, without any discrimination, of all the peoples on this planet, are being put to unavoidable uses in order to threaten the security and the very existence of enormous sections of the world's population.

10. We have been grieved to see how in the last decade the crisis of moral and juridical values has become more acute, and how this deepening crisis is placing mankind in situations of increasing difficulty. We believe that it is essential for the coexistence of nations that the essential principle of respect for the rights of others—which is the basis of international law—must be obeyed. The sanctity of international conventions is a matter that no longer admits of discussion; however, these conventions must be respected and executed strictly in accordance with the commitments entered into, because their fulfilment, which depends in the last analysis on the good faith of the parties concerned, is the means by which the use of force, with all its disastrous consequences, can be avoided.

11. We note, for example, with deep concern the attitude of the Soviet Union towards the Berlin prob-

lem. That Power, disregarding previous undertakings, has presented the world with the possibility of a war which, waged with modern weapons of destruction, would have overwhelming consequences for mankind, since neither the victim nor the vanquished would survive.

12. The problem of Berlin is an integral part of the problem of German reunification. We have on various occasions heard the Soviet representatives at this rostrum speak out when it suits their purposes in favour of the self-determination of peoples, and yet they categorically refuse to permit nations that have been artificially partitioned to exercise this right of self-determination in making a decision with regard to their future. This negative obstinacy has weighed heavily in the cold war and has been one of the greatest causes of friction in international relations.

13. If the principle of the self-determination of peoples is to be generally observed, it would be desirable for the great Powers to agree that in the case of Germany the Germans themselves should decide on their destiny by means of a plebiscite, which would be supervised by the United Nations and be carried out simultaneously in both of the parts into which that country is at present divided.

14. Furthermore, the Soviet Union, deaf to the worldwide outcry and flouting specific resolutions of this Assembly, has resumed nuclear testing in the atmosphere. Although it is true that it has not been possible to reach a final agreement on this problem as an integral part of the general problem of disarmament, it is also true that, out of consideration for world public opinion and for the harm caused by atomic radiation in many parts of the world, the great Powers had agreed to a temporary suspension of these tests.

15. Guatemala wishes to place on record that it strongly protests against the attitude of the Soviet Union in resuming these tests, which constitute a real affront to all mankind. It was encouraging for all to hear the views expressed on this matter, as well as on disarmament in general, by Mr. John F. Kennedy, the President of the United States of America, in the magnificent speech which he made in this Assembly last Monday, when he proposed the immediate conclusion of an agreement for banning nuclear tests. We had hoped that this proposal would be considered by the other interested party with the same good faith in which it was made, but we were most discouraged to note its rejection by the Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union in his latest statement before this Assembly.

16. The Government and people of Guatemala have placed all their faith in the United Nations, which is the hope of the smaller nations. We consider that this Organization, inspired by the principles and postulates which gave it life—and to which Guatemala, through me as its representative, reconfirms its firm and full allegiance—must be in a position to find a saving formula which will preserve peace, the rule of law, freedom, security and justice in the world and also promote the material and spiritual advancement of all peoples.

17. It is with this hope that Guatemala comes before this Assembly prepared to co-operate to the fullest extent possible in seeking the best solution of the grave problems with which the United Nations is now faced, and it reaffirms its position in the world scene as one of absolute dedication to the democratic principles of justice and freedom and of absolute rejection of aggres-

sion, violence and the disguised conquest of peoples and nations. We belong to the Western bloc of countries, which has a deeply Christian tradition and is energetically opposed to any attempt to impose a system of political and social slavery, a totalitarian, materialistic and atheistic system which shackles the conscience of peoples and individuals.

18. Guatemala was one of the first countries in the western hemisphere which found it necessary to take up arms to repulse such aggression and threats of subjugation. It is still in the process of defending itself against penetration by international communism, which has its American base in an island in the Caribbean whose Government continues to give every kind of military and economic assistance to the communist ex-President of Guatemala, Colonel Jacobo Arbenz, in his future plans for invading Guatemala and overthrowing its truly democratic Government, which is the product of the popular will expressed in completely free elections and is deeply respectful of law and human rights.

19. My country is not, however, the only one that has suffered from this foreign intervention; others, too, have been invaded by mercenaries and by intensive communist propaganda, and for these reasons—and others too numerous to mention—we have been obliged to break off diplomatic relations with that Caribbean country. Ten American nations have had to make such a decision, as a logical and proper consequence of this interference in their internal affairs. Respect for the principle of non-intervention has been forgotten. I said in this Assembly last year, and I repeat now, that in this America of ours, the cradle of such great men as Washington, Bolívar and San Martín, there can be no acceptance of systems of slavery in which men are denied every freedom and become mere units instead of subjects of the law.

20. My country trusts that the machinery of the Organization of American States or of the United Nations, as the case may be, will be able to prevent such interference, as well as other undesirable actions, in good time. It also hopes that our Organization will continue to struggle, as in the past, against aggression, intervention, the abuse of power, economic exploitation, poverty and ignorance, and to fight for the integrity and independence of nations, for the legal equality of States and their peaceful coexistence, for freedom and the full observance of human rights, as well as for the material and spiritual progress of all peoples.

21. In this gigantic task, Guatemala renews its promise to support the work and faithfully carry out the constructive resolutions of the United Nations and to lend its determined co-operation in finding just and appropriate solutions to the innumerable problems which our Organization has to face.

22. The attitude of my country towards the problem of colonialism is well known in this forum. Guatemala firmly maintains its position of rejecting every form of colonialism. Today it is more convinced than ever of the truth of what it has stated on various occasions before this Assembly, namely, that it does not believe that the colonial system prepares the peoples for independence, because the passage of time has provided proof to the contrary. We continue to hold that view because many millions of human beings are still suffering under this iniquitous system.

23. It follows that we recognize and applaud the work accomplished in this field by the United Nations, whose

influence is responsible for the fact that great colonial empires are in process of liquidation and that the number of free countries has correspondingly increased during the last few years. Guatemala is deeply sympathetic towards this movement of liberation and wishes to express at this rostrum its sincere congratulations to the new countries which have obtained their independence and have become Members of the United Nations.

24. We welcome the entry of Sierra Leone as a new Member of our Organization. The Government of Guatemala wishes to extend to Sierra Leone its warmest congratulations.

25. On the other hand, my country rejects the new form of colonialism now being practised by the Soviet Union in a great number of subjugated countries, and it considers that, for the complete liberation of these peoples, the troops which now occupy them must be withdrawn and that there must be no repetition of unfortunate events such as those that occurred in Hungary.

26. Guatemala utterly condemns the policy of racial discrimination that is being applied to the indigenous population of the Union of South Africa. I would like to bring to the Assembly's notice the following statement made by General Miguel Indígoras Fuentes, the President of Guatemala:

"The Government over which I preside, giving expression to the feelings of the people of Guatemala, a country where equality among men is the rule, publicly condemns the policy of discrimination known as apartheid, which is applied in the Union of South Africa against the Negro race has culminated in violence and bloodshed. At the stage the world has reached to-day, racial inequality is nothing but bondage in disguise. Guatemala calls upon all Governments and peoples of the American continent to protest strongly against the acts of genocide and persecution in South Africa that are being directed against the Negro race, whose internal struggle is aimed solely at obtaining equality, fraternity and the restoration of its violated rights. America must be watchful to ensure freedom for human beings all over the world, without distinction of race or colour."

27. The Government of the Union of South Africa has also pursued its policy of apartheid in South West Africa, a territory that was entrusted to it by the former League of Nations. The refusal of the Government of the Union of South Africa to place this mandated territory under the Trusteeship System established by the United Nations Charter and its systematic denial to the indigenous population of the most elementary rights make it essential that our Organization should change its attitude. As a member of the Committee on South West Africa that was established by this august Assembly, Guatemala profoundly regrets that the Government of the Union of South Africa refused even to allow the delegation appointed by the Committee to enter its territory or the territory of South West Africa for the purpose of verifying, in view of the numerous complaints received, the real conditions obtaining in the mandated territory, and also of consulting with members of the Union Government to find an appropriate solution for the problem. Guatemala strongly protests against this disrespect for the authority of the United Nations and believes that the Organization should take immediate steps to revoke the mandate entrusted to the Union of South Africa.

28. As is well-known to this Organization, Guatemala continues to be affected by another kind of intervention by one of the most civilized of nations which, contrary to reason and right and the most elementary principles of justice and equity that are essential for intercourse among nations, has persisted in retaining part of Guatemala's national territory, which by history and law belongs to it, thus impeding development of one of the country's richest areas and impairing the vital interests of the nation. Guatemala is struggling, and will go on struggling with all legal means within its reach, to restore to its rightful ownership this part of the national territory where colonialism is responsible for living conditions of the most distressing and wretched kind.

29. My country maintains, as it has always maintained, that Belize is an integral part of its national territory, and it declares that it has at heart the advancement and aggrandizement of its people, of our brothers of Belize. That is why it sponsored Belize's admission to the Economic Commission for Latin America [ECLA] and is desirous that Belize should participate in the programme for the economic integration of Central America.

30. Once again on this solemn occasion, Guatemala reserves its rights in respect of the territory of Belize and reiterates its protest against the injustice that continues to be perpetrated against a Member of the United Nations.

31. Guatemala believes that one of the most urgent of the problems awaiting solution throughout the world, but more especially in Latin America, is the problem of economic and social development. As is well known, the extremely low levels of living and the hunger, poverty and disease that afflict the masses in every continent are breeding grounds for political instability, infiltration of doctrines prejudicial to democracy, and other evils. We consider that a very great and praiseworthy effort has been made by the United Nations in this regard, but we believe that these activities must be increased and be better co-ordinated and that they must be concentrated on certain areas of the American continent that seemingly have not benefited to the full from the Organization's large-scale programmes.

32. We feel, on the other hand, that the big countries which are unselfishly providing economic aid and technical co-operation to under-developed areas, and are giving preference to certain regions far distant from the western hemisphere, should pay greater attention to the Latin American peoples that are in need of such aid and co-operation. My country was therefore highly gratified to learn of the magnificent "Alliance for Progress" scheme that has been evolved by President Kennedy and it took part in the conference at Punta del Este, Uruguay, in the firm conviction that this scheme constitutes the most extraordinary and helpful step that has been taken for the future development of the peoples of Latin America.

33. In view of the advantage to be gained from a unified economy among countries of a given geographical area, Guatemala has been promoting a programme of economic integration in Central America. It was thus that the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee was established in 1952, with the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America acting as its technical secretariat.

34. This programme of economic integration has been gradually developing. It began to gain strength in

1958, with the signing of the Multilateral Treaty on Free Trade and Central American Integration, the Agreement on the Régime for Central American Integration Industries, the Central American Agreement on Road Traffic, and the Central American Agreement on Uniform Road Signs and Signals. Also that same year, the five Central American countries adopted the Standard Central American Customs Nomenclature. Guatemala's present Government has redoubled its efforts to ensure that the programme shall develop to the full. In 1959, there were concluded, the Central American Agreement on the Equalization of Import Duties and Charges and the Treaty on Economic Association between Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, providing for the establishment of a free trade area and for special arrangements such as preferential tariffs, quotas and gradual reduction of duties on some products. The Treaty further commits the signatory countries to setting up a development fund to finance public works and private projects designed to integrate their economies. At the end of 1960, the integration programme culminated in the signing by Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration, the Agreement Constituting the Central American Bank for Economic Integration, and a Protocol to the Central American Agreement on the Equalization of Import Duties and Charges, the object of which is to establish a Central American import tariff corresponding to the needs of economic integration and development in the area.

35. The entire programme of economic integration in Central America is operating satisfactorily, and thus when the countries of the isthmus went to the Punta del Este Conference, they presented a united front and were able to submit problems of joint concern to the whole Central American area, which will undoubtedly be solved if they are given due attention and adequate technical and financial assistance.

36. I have great pleasure in discharging my task of expressing, on behalf of the people and Government of Guatemala and of my delegation, our most heart-felt wishes for the General Assembly's success in the arduous work of this sixteenth session. We trust that the resolutions to be adopted will truly serve to safeguard peace and the well-being of all mankind.

37. Mr. MARTINEZ SOTOMAYOR (Chile) (translated from Spanish): Mr. President, may I present Chile's congratulations on your election as President of the General Assembly for this session.

38. We also congratulate Sierra Leone on its admission to the United Nations, which we supported both by word and vote in the Security Council.

39. The circumstances in which the sixteenth session of the General Assembly is meeting are grave. Grief and anxiety permeate and trouble our debates.

40. The Chilean delegation wishes to pay a tribute to the Secretary-General whose tragic demise has deprived the world community of a most active and effective defender of peace and upholder of man's progress. In applying his intelligence, his political ability and his resolute will in the service of mankind's higher interests and in giving up his life for that cause, Dag Hammarskjöld exemplified the kind of international civil servant that is envisaged in the United Nations Charter.

41. Sorrow is not, however, the only weight pressing upon us here today. The hour is also one of grave

anxiety. Mankind is threatened by the greatest danger it has ever confronted in the whole of history: the danger of total destruction. This compels us to speak our thoughts with the bluntness the circumstances demand and with the candour that has always marked my country's international policy.

42. Chile, as a founding Member of the United Nations, has steadfastly supported the cause of peace, both within and outside the Organization. This support has been loyal and true, though limited because Chile is a small country far removed from the main centres of international friction and also because we trusted that the great world Powers would fulfil their obligations under the San Francisco Charter, which conferred upon them special privileges and special responsibilities for the maintenance of peace and security.

43. Despite the political and ideological differences that emerged at the end of the Second World War, we continued to be buoyed up by the hope that peace would be maintained and that an era of harmonious relations would eventually be ushered in whereby man's progress would be assured. These objectives have not been realized. The world we are living in is torn by dissension; acts of war are common talk, and intimidation has seemingly become the norm in international relations, bringing back to mind the tragic years preceding the last world conflagration.

44. Recriminations have given way to threats, and now the stage has been reached of military displays and shows of strength that can at any moment bring on a generalized conflict. Worse still, just as though panic were meant to be used as a psychological weapon, we witnessed a few weeks ago the ending of the atom moratorium that had been agreed between the great Powers only by dint of superhuman effort. Our planet has been shaken by the exploding of bombs of an inconceivable power of destruction, and the disastrous effects of the resulting radio-activity have spread to encompass peaceful areas. Side by side with the conquest of space through technical progress that, put to good use, might contribute to the general well-being, man is seemingly at the same time and by the same means carving out his own destruction.

45. In the face of such acts, threatening not peace alone but man's survival, Chile, as a small country, is bound to take a stand different to the one it has hitherto maintained. We cannot go on putting our trust in the great Powers. We are in duty bound to safeguard the fate of our own countries; it is our duty to take timely and effective action, since we know but too well that a conflagration these days cannot be limited to given countries or predetermined areas. Consequently, every nation and every Government must make the utmost effort to avert a general catastrophe. In this regard, Chile, as a Member of the United Nations, has a responsibility which it neither can nor will evade.

46. This rule of conduct—in essence, active pacifism—must govern our acts at this session of the General Assembly.

47. Chile is convinced, from its own experience and on the strength of a tradition it has steadfastly upheld, that a way of solving any international problem can be found through the means enshrined in the United Nations Charter. No controversy, however intractable, can be beyond the bounds of a peaceful settlement. No problem can fail of a solution, provided all sides have the honest will to tackle it realistically in accord with the rules of law. An essential prerequisite, however,

that negotiations should take place in an atmosphere free of threats and that there should be no resort to force to compel one side to give in.

48. It is also essential that any solution, to be lasting must respect international morality and the purposes and principles of the San Francisco Charter, particularly the principle of self-determination. For we firmly believe that representative democracy is the best system of internal government; we likewise hold that the fate of peoples cannot be determined without consultation of their sovereign will. This is the basic tenet of self-determination that must be applied in every area of the world, without exception, and notably in the case of Germany.

49. Accordingly, Chile's support will not be lacking for any proposal made at this session with the object of restoring peaceful international relations.

50. We shall likewise support any proposal aimed at banning nuclear tests and restoring the principle that atomic science must be used exclusively for peaceful purposes with a view to helping resolve the problems besetting mankind, rather than bringing about its destruction.

51. Every effort must also be made to put an end as soon as possible to the preparations for war and the increase in armaments. I have been instructed by the President of Chile—who has been pressing strongly for a reduction of military expenditure in Latin America in order that large sums may be freed for purposes of economic development—to support any move designed to promote general and controlled disarmament.

52. This serious question, which has been under discussion in United Nations meetings for years past, has far-reaching consequences for every country, whether large, medium-sized or small. For expenditure on armaments inevitably leads to international incidents, and we well know that the astronomical sums now being expended on means of destruction would, if devoted to combating hunger, poverty, ignorance and disease, contribute to universal peace. It is the duty of every country, we believe, to join in a concerted effort, within a body that should be created forthwith, to find ways and means for speedily eliminating these problems. That is why we, in common with other delegations, were favourably disposed last year towards a Canadian proposal to initiate disarmament negotiations in which countries that do not possess nuclear weapons, that is to say, small and medium-sized countries, would participate. They could, we are convinced, make a valuable and effective contribution towards attainment of the objectives our peoples are calling out for.

53. Causes of international friction do not, however, exist solely among the great Powers. We have also witnessed in other parts of the world, in vast continents, the emergence of problems caused by the fact that there are still peoples who have not yet achieved full political or economic independence. These problems jeopardize all the efforts that are being made on behalf of peace.

54. As a country which, a century and a half ago, attained an independent life after a long and cruel struggle to gain its sovereignty, Chile takes a firm and resolute stand in support of peoples that are still subject to colonialism in some form or another and shares in their aspirations to be free. It believes that the example given by the American countries in main-

taining unbreakable ties of brotherhood with the Powers that formerly ruled over them is worthy of emulation. This course has yielded fruitful results, not only in our own hemisphere but also in other continents where countries which yesterday were engaged in colonial wars are today united by close ties of friendship.

55. This is clear evidence that we need have no fears regarding the liberation of peoples, nor qualms in face of the difficulties which the newly independent countries may encounter. In judging what is happening in Africa and Asia, we must always bear in mind the problems that beset Latin America in the years following the wars of independence and the way in which they came to be resolved.

56. These guiding principles of my own country are, I am sure, common to the nations of Latin America and are largely shared by Governments in other continents that are fundamentally concerned to ensure the maintenance of peace and security and to eliminate the causes of international friction. Thus it was that a large group of countries from every part of the world recently met at Belgrade for the purpose of exchanging views and seeking formulae for peaceful coexistence.

57. Although it does not fall to my Government to analyse the arguments put forward at that conference, I may say that it followed the discussions at Belgrade with the greatest interest and is of opinion that the conclusions which were reached offer much that is useful and profitable for the achievement of our common goal of banishing the spectre of war and building again a world capable of peaceful survival in justice and freedom.

58. The principle of respect for fundamental human rights, without any distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, is given a prominent place in the United Nations Charter and is defined there as an essential factor for the maintenance of international peace and security. This relationship is affirmed in the very Preamble to the Charter, is reiterated in Article 1 which defines the purposes and principles of the Organization, and is reaffirmed in Article 55 which constitutes the key provision governing the entire chapter on economic, social and cultural co-operation. The San Francisco legislators were fully aware that systematic violation of the individual's rights and man's implacable persecution of man on no other ground but that of belonging to a certain ethnic group are not only heinously criminal acts in themselves but were contributing causes of the Second World War. Peace will always be in danger and peaceful relations among the nations always threatened unless the world is able once and for all to root out every notion of racial superiority, of privileged class or group and of the exploitation of one people or one human being by another. It is thus the view of the Chilean Government that compliance with our obligation under the Charter to ensure full respect for the basic human rights, without discrimination of any kind, is just as urgent as the adoption of measures to abolish the armaments race and suppress nuclear weapons.

59. The Chilean delegation will therefore support speedy adoption of the Covenants on Human Rights, including economic and social rights, which have now been under discussion for more than twelve years. It will also speak in favour of and vote for any resolution aimed at preventing discrimination and strengthening the action of bodies established for that purpose, and will endorse any constructive measures in conformity with the Charter that are designed to eliminate the

racial discrimination that has been a main concern of the General Assembly since its first session.

60. With respect to Latin American problems, I take this opportunity to state once again that Chile is a member of a regional system which, while not a military alliance, provides for solidarity in the face of any aggression against an American country. We have pledged ourselves to take joint action to repel such aggression and to determine, through the lawful method of consultation, what course is the most appropriate in the event of America's peace and security being threatened.

61. Furthermore, in relation to systems which seek to predominate by violence and deny the spiritual values inherent in the personality of the individual, our stand is squarely taken in support of the principles of freedom and justice. This is the logical consequence of our faith in representative democracy, steadily enhanced by free periodic elections, as the best system of government and the only one capable of securing to man the happiness to which he aspires.

62. We also have faith in the ability of this system of representative democracy to provide prompt and adequate solutions for all problems—economic, social or cultural—affecting the Latin American nations.

63. Our approach to questions of specific interest to the American hemisphere is characterized by the same spirit of peace and harmony as our approach to the international situation on the world level. We are sure that all these questions can be solved by the peaceful means set forth in the Charter of our regional Organization. In order, however, to accomplish this, we must courageously apply the methods laid down in that Charter and must respect all the principles which have been solemnly agreed upon. Only in this way can we restore the solidarity which today is seriously shaken.

64. Our mutual relations must be based on the full compliance with the principle of non-intervention in the internal or external affairs of States. They must be based on scrupulous respect for the self-determination of peoples, on recognition of the right of each State to develop its cultural, political and economic life freely and spontaneously, provided only that it respects the rights of the human person and the principles of universal morality.

65. I should also like on this occasion to say how essential it is for the restoration of continental solidarity that all the American Republics should base their political organization on the effective exercise of representative democracy and by so doing honour the commitments they have formally and repeatedly entered into. This obligation should be fulfilled with all due respect for the domestic sovereignty of States and without the use of international measures of a coercive nature.

66. The world has been astonished by the truly prodigious scientific and technical progress which mankind has made in the last few decades. In this period mankind has discovered and put to work a source of energy thousands of times more powerful than those previously known, has begun the conquest of outer space and has made surprising improvements in communications and in methods of agricultural and industrial production.

67. Although these advances have substantially raised levels of living in the industrial countries, which contain about 500 million of the earth's inhabitants, they

have not yet brought about any appreciable change in the living conditions of the greater part of mankind, who live in the developing regions. In some twenty countries the length of human life has increased from thirty-five to seventy years in this century, and the per caput income ranges from \$1,500 and \$3,500 a year; yet in the rest of the world—which includes the nations of Asia, Africa and Latin America, with few exceptions—the life expectancy is less than forty years, and the average annual per caput income is less than \$300.

68. The world's food production—taken as a whole—is growing more slowly than its population, and this growth is so unbalanced that whereas in North America, Australia, New Zealand and Europe the per caput food production has increased by 20 to 40 per cent since 1939, in the other continents it is lower than it was before the Second World War.

69. The "population explosion" which has taken place in the under-developed world has coincided with a small increase in food, whereas the food surpluses of certain industrial countries are growing. This illustrates with dramatic eloquence the degree of responsibility which falls to the United Nations and the specialized agencies, which under the Charter are made responsible for directing international co-operation in order to ensure and promote "higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development" [Article 55 a of the Charter].

70. Only a few weeks ago the American countries adopted the Charter of Punta del Este, which gave concrete expression to the "Alliance for Progress" initiated by the President of the United States of America, Mr. Kennedy. In this instrument the Governments of the contracting countries laid down specific objectives of economic development and social progress for the next ten years, and undertook to unite their resources and forces to achieve those purposes and to initiate the land, tax, educational and health reforms which are indispensable, if these aspirations are to be converted into fact and, above all, if the advantages of this great effort are to be equitably distributed among all the people and are to reach the common man, particularly in the most needy sector. The United States, for its part, undertook substantially to increase its financial and technical co-operation in the preparation and execution of the development programmes.

71. The prospect which has thus opened before Latin America promises well for the solution of the problems which so grievously beset it. This will require much effort and sacrifice by our Governments and peoples. As far as Chile is concerned, I can assure you that its President, Mr. Jorge Alessandri—who, being moved by a deep sense of social justice, anticipated these agreements by working out plans for national economic development—will continue with the greatest energy the work already begun in order to satisfy the aspirations for progress of my people and my country.

72. This action, which is similar to what has been undertaken in other regions, does not cause us to overlook either the economic interdependence of all parts of the world or the common destiny of all peoples and all human beings. We still think—as Chile has said so many times in the United Nations—that the survival of hunger, poverty and need anywhere in the world en-

dangers the prosperity of the rest, and even compromises world peace.

73. We are still opposed to the idea of economic self-sufficiency, either national or regional, and advocate a balanced, harmonious and co-ordinated economic development of all geographical areas and an increase in trade between all nations. This is why we appeal to all peoples represented here to initiate a vigorous policy that will strengthen the action of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, that will increase commercial intercourse and cause the terms of trade to become favourable to the under-developed nations, and that will intensify the technical co-operation and increase the financial resources needed to put the plans for economic and social development into effect and, in general, to strengthen the activities of organizations engaged in promoting better living conditions for all the people of the earth.

74. That is why Chile will advocate a policy consistent with this course of action at this session of the Assembly and at the forthcoming Conferences of FAO and UNESCO.

75. The death of Mr. Hammarskjold adds a new and important factor to the many others which have brought about a situation of international crisis, the extreme gravity of which has filled all peoples with anxiety. We accordingly consider that one of the General Assembly's most urgent and pressing tasks must be to restore the working of the Organization to normal as quickly as possible by electing a new Secretary-General who can fully discharge his duties as the highest instrument of collective action for peace and universal co-operation, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter.

76. To subordinate the fulfilment of this duty, which arises from an imperative mandate of the Charter, to the reform of the Charter is an open violation of that mandate and a flagrant abandonment of the obligations which all Member States freely accepted on signing the Charter and entering the Organization.

77. Chile does not oppose the discussion of amendments to the Charter at the proper time, but it insists on the inescapable need to comply with its provisions completely and on every occasion while they remain in force, especially with regard to such absolutely fundamental provisions as those relating to the establishment and working of the principal organs of the United Nations.

78. I must, however, make it clear that Chile will oppose any reform which involves weakening or diluting the responsibility of the Secretary-General as defined in the Charter. We disagree with the proposal that the responsibilities now held by the Secretary-General should be divided among three persons, coming from three so-called political and ideological blocs. Needless to say, we consider such a division to be arbitrary, and we think that it is dangerous to institutionalize it in a world like that of today which is essentially dynamic.

79. We agree with those who maintain that tripartite control of the Secretariat would become unworkable and would paralyse the Organization, because there can be no doubt that what is essentially the executive organ of the United Nations must, in order to ensure that the decisions of the Security Council and the General Assembly are complied with, act with a determination, vigour and speed which cannot be reconciled with a collective form of leadership, especially if this is

exercised by persons whose standards and views are contradictory. A collective form of leadership would inevitably lead its constituent members to become mere spokesmen for the sectors they represent, and the interests of the whole would be deprived of the protection provided for in the Charter. The weaker countries—which make up the immense majority of those represented here—need this protection, because their survival as sovereign nations, their freedom and the material and spiritual advancement of their citizens depend to a great extent on the maintenance of world peace according to the principles of the Charter. In these times of such great danger to peace when the balance between the military and economic power of a few nations and that of the rest of the world is so lopsided, we cannot afford to give up any of the gains which protect us against the abuse of force and of arbitrary power and which ensure the existence of an international legal order based on the principles I have just mentioned.

80. In this world in convulsion, we must keep alive any spark of hope. This is why the sixteenth session of the General Assembly opens under the weight of a tremendous responsibility—that of restoring tranquillity to the common man who lives his life in the anonymity of the great masses, of rescuing him from the tortures of constant care and anxiety and of inspiring him with confidence in the future.

81. When I see in this Assembly the different faces of so many peoples and races, I feel that the United Nations has been the means of revealing to us the vision of a single face, a face of many forms but at the same time the single face of mankind which has always longed for a better world from which hunger, ignorance, injustice and fear have been banished.

82. Being fully confident that the deliberations and decisions of this Assembly will be effective and fruitful, I offer my country's resolute co-operation. Chile is a nation which has risen above the periodic turbulence of the forces of the earth. Other forces, no less dangerous, threaten mankind. But, although the fury of nature is beyond the control of man, the forces released by his intelligence can and must be mastered through understanding and co-operation between peoples, which are the only means of overcoming every threat and laying the foundations of a stable and lasting peace. It is the duty of the United Nations to contribute to this great enterprise, because the United Nations is supported by the faith and the inexhaustible energies of the people.

83. Mr. KRAG (Denmark): I wish to extend to the President my heartfelt congratulations on his election as President of the General Assembly. We are very happy indeed to see him as the first African representative to preside over this world assembly of nations. His election is an impressive recognition of his outstanding personality as well as of the rapidly growing importance to our Organization of the new African nations.

84. Over the last couple of years Africa has been the focus of world affairs. Most of Africa's peoples have attained independence within a shorter period of time than even foresighted men would have dared to predict only ten years ago. We welcome and support this truly progressive course of events.

85. A large share of the credit for the achievements made in Africa goes to the work of the United Nations. It has once been said that the United Nations is the

shield of the small nations, the peaceful forum for embattling great Powers, and the conscience of mankind. The new African nations must take great stakes in the continued strength of the United Nations.

86. On our agenda are important problems relating to Africa. Tragedy came to the United Nations last week in Dag Hammarskjöld's last attempt to solve the problems of independence and integration of the Congolese people. The Danish Government has noted with satisfaction the reconvening of the Congolese Parliament and the establishment of a central Government backed by wide segments of the Congolese people. May the endeavours of our late Secretary-General to foster a united Congo under a central Government be continued and crowned with success.

87. It is a cause of regret that the Government of the Republic of South Africa, by maintaining and expanding its policy of apartheid, has isolated itself from a universal trend. History shows that privileges of a small minority cannot in the long run be upheld. With regard to the mandated territory of South West Africa, the Government of South Africa has a direct responsibility to the United Nations for its administration. We deplore its refusal to co-operate with the United Nations, more particularly with the South West Africa Committee, which was denied access to the mandated territory during its recent journey to Africa.

88. Among the African problems the situation in Angola also gives rise to grave concern. Here again it seems to us that reforms based on the letter and spirit of the United Nations Charter would be in accordance with our common ideals, and also in the true interest of the parties concerned.

89. The tense situation in Berlin has been in the foreground of our minds for months. We have lived through moments of fear that miscalculation or a mistake about the intentions of the other party could mean disaster. Fortunately, there are now signs that the way is opening up for new negotiations among the Powers directly responsible.

90. We share the belief, expressed here by the President of the United States, Mr. Kennedy, that "a peaceful agreement is possible which protects the freedom of West Berlin and allied presence and access, while recognizing the historic and legitimate interests of others in assuring European security" [1013th plenary meeting].

91. If negotiations between the four Powers are successful, we would welcome arrangements placing the resulting agreement under the auspices of the United Nations. Thought should also be given to the possibility of moving the seat of one of the United Nations bodies to Berlin. It might have useful psychological effects if the world Organization were present in Berlin, sharing the same atmosphere as its citizens, and if Berlin, instead of being a point of tension, could become a centre of constructive international co-operation.

92. In the years since the Second World War nothing has preoccupied the peoples of the world more than the efforts to abolish war. And more than ever are the peoples of our burdened globe today looking to this Assembly in the hope that it may succeed in making a significant contribution towards disarmament.

93. After a deadlock of more than one year in the disarmament negotiations, new possibilities seem to emerge.

94. We welcome the "Joint Statement of Agreed Principles for Disarmament Negotiations" [A/4879] which was issued on 20 September 1961 by the Permanent Representatives of the United States and the Soviet Union to the United Nations. This statement expresses agreement, in principle, on the necessary elements for realistic disarmament, including the establishment of a United Nations Peace Force.

95. The new proposal made by President Kennedy on Monday to resume promptly disarmament negotiations and to continue without interruption until an entire programme for complete and general disarmament has been achieved, is a further, and highly important, step. It is true that the time is more than ripe for going beyond agreement in principle to reach agreement on actual plans.

96. Against the background of the joint statement and of President Kennedy's new, constructive disarmament programme, I see a glimpse of hope for the resumption of comprehensive talks.

97. My Government feels strongly that it is an overriding responsibility of this Assembly to bridge the gap on views as to how disarmament negotiations should be implemented.

98. The main reason why negotiations on disarmament have so far been unsuccessful is fear that, while progressing from one stage of disarmament to the next stage, we would run the risk of upsetting the balance of power which is the actual upholder of peace in the present-day world. It should be possible, however, to devise a disarmament plan whereby both parties feel convinced that transition from one stage of disarmament to the next would cause no shift in the balance of power. That would require detailed preparations on the expert level. It should be left to experts to give detailed and controllable directions as to how the balance of power can be maintained throughout the period of disarmament. The Danish Government feels that such expert assistance might make disarmament negotiations, if resumed, more realistic than they have been hitherto.

99. As long as agreement on a comprehensive disarmament plan has not been achieved among the most important military Powers, the smaller States have a responsibility of their own to consider in what way they might promote the common cause. During the fifteenth General Assembly Denmark declared itself ready to consider opening the territory of Greenland for inspection as part of a multilaterally balanced inspection arrangement. This offer still stands. We feel that an international team carrying out inspection of limited areas on a reciprocal basis would have favourable opportunities of gaining practical experience which would be of value in the planning of a more comprehensive inspection system. And let me add in this connexion that Denmark would be ready, within the range of our possibilities, to make available technical, scientific and military equipment and personnel for the implementation of any programme that may be mutually accepted as a suitable partial disarmament measure.

100. I wish to conclude my remarks on disarmament with a few observations on the question of the testing of nuclear weapons.

101. When we met here a year ago, it was in the earnest hope that the Geneva talks about discontinuance of nuclear tests would result in a treaty signifying the first step toward relaxation of international tensions and thus prepare the soil for further

disarmament measures. The Geneva talks went on for almost four years, and detailed and painstaking negotiations had brought about such a measure of agreement among the three major Powers that the failure to reach complete agreement on a test ban is hard to understand.

102. With deep concern and regret we have in the past few weeks witnessed the resumption by the Soviet Union of nuclear tests in the atmosphere, which in turn has led the United States to take up underground tests.

103. The immediate result of the resumption of tests in the atmosphere of the earth has been a sharp increase in radioactive fall-out in wide areas of the globe. We do not yet know enough to measure the danger which the increase in radioactive fall-out presents to humanity.

104. We are facing an unknown risk to human life and well being, and further nuclear tests in the atmosphere are bound to increase this danger.

105. In line with the appeal of the Nordic Foreign Ministers at their meeting in Copenhagen in early September, my Government urges all the nuclear Powers of East and West to come to an early agreement on the halting of tests of nuclear weapons. This Assembly will, I am confident, see it as a mandatory task to work for the attainment of this objective.

106. My Government has noted with satisfaction that the question of China's representation has been placed on our agenda this year.

107. At their meeting the Nordic Foreign Ministers unanimously emphasized the desirability of reaching a solution on the question of the representation of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations. I believe that the admission of the Peiping Government may open up new possibilities of contacts and negotiations. No system of disarmament will be viable or of any great political long-term value if the Government of the People's Republic of China is not drawn into the work of the United Nations and committed, like all the rest of us, to the principles of the Charter.

108. Now I turn to economic problems and in particular to the question of how to assist the less developed nations.

109. For several years the Danish people and Government have shown the greatest interest in the question of assisting the less developed countries through the United Nations. In fact, my Government is being urged to augment further its contribution by an ever increasing number of Danish institutions and private individuals as well as by political parties in and out of Government. Denmark has from the very beginning participated in the constructive work of the existing organizations providing capital assistance such as the International Bank and the International Development Association.

110. Last year we were co-sponsor of a resolution urging that contributions to the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the United Nations Special Fund be increased to a total of \$150 million. The normal Danish share of this amount would be a little short of \$1 million. I hope that at the forthcoming Pledging Conference my Government will be able to pledge three times that amount.

111. We realize, however, and understand full well that the aspirations of the developing countries are to

see established—in addition to the existing organizations—a United Nations Capital Development Fund—as adumbrated in resolution 1521 (XV). We hope that an agreement for intergovernmental control and for voting likely to inspire the confidence of all participants in such a Fund can be reached. On this basis it will, in accordance with the existing statutes of the United Nations Special Fund, be possible to change its terms of reference so as to broaden its activity to allow capital investment in infrastructure. In this way there will—without creating new machinery—come into existence a United Nations Capital Development Fund, and the most articulate and persistent wish of all developing countries will thus be met. In case such a solution meets with general approval, Denmark will consider an even further increase in its contributions to the United Nations Special Fund.

112. I am convinced that the developing countries realize that economic as well as political independence can only be achieved as a result of their own efforts.

113. Only effective national planning, based on full knowledge of all relevant facts, can establish the optimum balance between a growing population on one hand, and on the other, a corresponding, or preferably even more rapidly growing, economic capacity. If this balance fails, all our endeavours will have been in vain, in so far as we did not achieve the improvement of living conditions which we jointly tried to provide for.

114. More essential than aid is trade. It is our belief that regional trade co-operation, based on liberal and outward-looking principles, further global expansion of trade and, in consequence, the new countries' sale of raw materials as well as industrial goods. Intentional endeavours in this direction should be a characteristic feature of the new market associations.

115. It is in our common interest to ensure that neither the European Economic Community nor the new Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development [OECD] becomes a closed club of the rich and highly industrialized countries, but that they, on the contrary, become active instruments of a far-sighted and open global policy allowing trade and prosperity to grow in all parts of the world. In the same spirit we welcome such regional arrangements as are beginning to take form in the Americas, Africa and Asia.

116. The loss of Dag Hammarskjold has precipitated a problem that would otherwise not have come up for solution until late 1962, namely the election of his successor.

117. The natural thing to do for a strong and united world Organization would have been that the Security Council, without delay, performed its function under Article 97 of the Charter by proposing a new Secretary-General to be appointed by the Assembly.

118. When last the United Nations changed Secretary-Generals, rather a long time elapsed—half a year or more—before agreement was reached on Dag Hammarskjold as Trygve Lie's successor. We all know that today it would be even more difficult and, for a variety of reasons, probably will require still more time, to obtain Security Council clearance.

119. The United Nations is today besieged by serious problems the solution of which cannot suffer delay without the risk of jeopardizing progress already made in the interest of peace. It is vital, therefore, that a decision be taken as a matter of great urgency to pro-

vide the Organization with an executive head pending action by the Council in fulfilment of its duty as envisaged by the Charter.

120. The unperturbed functioning of the Secretariat is indispensable to our work. We must see to it that we continue to keep its machinery in good order. The need for administrative efficiency is, in my view, a decisive consideration. The Government of Denmark urges that an agreement on this vital issue be reached as expeditiously as possible.

121. As my colleague, the United Kingdom Foreign Secretary Lord Home, so clearly and convincingly argued in his remarkable speech yesterday, there can be no doubt that it would seriously endanger the viability and effectiveness of this young world Organization if the so-called "troika" system were accepted in the form suggested by the Soviet Union.

122. The application of this principle would have a disastrous effect on our hopes and expectations in the United Nations as an effective tool for the preservation of peace and betterment of conditions of living for all regardless of differing ideologies and political groupings.

123. I hope that this General Assembly will very soon be able to solve this problem which may become most decisive for the future existence and possibilities of the United Nations.

124. May I avail myself of this opportunity to add a few words on a special occasion. Yesterday we unanimously adopted a new African Member State, Sierra Leone. On behalf of the following countries—Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and my own country, Denmark—it is my privilege to extend a most heartfelt welcome to the Government and people of our new Member State, Sierra Leone, which has justly taken its seat as Member State number one hundred.

125. It seems to me a happy omen that the United Nations is thus progressing towards our goal of complete universality.

126. The PRESIDENT (translated from French): I call upon the representative of the United Kingdom to exercise his right of reply.

127. Sir Hugh FOOT (United Kingdom): I very much regret that in the course of his interesting speech the representative of Guatemala found it necessary to refer to the territory of British Honduras. As is well known, the United Kingdom Government has no doubts as to its sovereignty over the territory of British Honduras, and I wish formally to reserve its rights on this question.

128. The PRESIDENT (translated from French): I call upon the representative of Cuba to exercise his right of reply.

129. Mr. GARCIA INCHAUSTEGUI (Cuba) (translated from Spanish): In compliance with instructions from the head office at Washington, the "Minister for Foreign Affairs" of the United Fruit Company has attacked the people and the Revolutionary Government of Cuba. As the representatives in this Assembly are perfectly well aware, colonialism as practised by the old European Powers has given way to neo-colonialism. Guatemala is a territory subject to the neo-colonialism of the United States in Central America.

130. Our Minister for Foreign Affairs will once again appraise the General Assembly of the acts of aggression that have been carried out against our country and of those which are being perpetrated from United States dependencies in the Caribbean. The Guatemalan people, we well know, are the victims of imperialist exploitation and have nothing to do with these attacks.

131. Suffice it to say for the moment that we shall not enter into polemics with lackeys when we are engaged in a hand-to-hand combat with the master.

132. The PRESIDENT (translated from French): I call upon the representative of Guatemala to exercise his right of reply.

133. Mr. UNDA MURILLO (Guatemala) (translated from Spanish): I naturally do not intend to take up the Cuban representative's gratuitous insults, for that is but their usual way of speaking in reference to other countries. My delegation reserves the right to answer those insults in due course.

AGENDA ITEM 92

Admission of new Members to the United Nations (continued)*

134. Mr. MALALASEKERA (Ceylon): The delegation of Ceylon is extremely happy that the resolution which we co-sponsored with several other countries, for the admission of Sierra Leone, has had such a happy consummation, and that Sierra Leone has now become the one hundredth Member of this world Organization. We wish to offer our heartfelt congratulations and our sincere good wishes to the Government and the people of Sierra Leone on this very auspicious occasion.

135. It is for us an interesting coincidence that the names of both our countries are associated with the lion, the brave and fearless lord of the forest. Sierra Leone, we understand, means "the lion mountain", while the ancient name of Ceylon, Sinhaladina, means "the country of the lion race". In fact, we ourselves have a well known mountain called "Sigiri", which itself means "the lion mountain".

136. As has already been pointed out, Sierra Leone has a history unique among the former dependencies of the United Kingdom, a history characterized by many episodes, both of great courage and of great hardship. The country was evidently known to the ancient Phoenician navigators as long ago as twenty-five centuries, but it was not until a couple of centuries ago that this country of great variety and great natural beauty was peopled by settlers from many lands.

137. It is to the great credit of the wisdom and the foresight of its former rulers, the United Kingdom Government, and the courage, energy and vision of its enlightened leaders that, during a period of 150 years, the economic, social and political advances which Sierra Leone has made earned for its people the right to full independence and enabled them to take their due place in this comity of nations. Foremost among the country's leaders who have led the people to complete independence in a remarkable atmosphere of cordiality and friendship is Sir Milton Margai whom we are happy and proud to greet here today. To him and to all his colleagues we should like to pay our mead of tribute.

138. Sierra Leone is rich in natural resources of diamonds and other minerals, of forest wealth; its

*Resumed from the 1018th meeting.

high agricultural potential, the enterprise and industry of its people, the progressive steps taken for the rapid spread of education and health services of all kinds throughout the country, its spacious harbour with the promise of expanding trade, its well trained public service, its fairly long and varied experience of democratic institutions—all these factors give hope and confidence that a very bright and prosperous future awaits Sierra Leone and its people. We, on our part, wish for the people of Sierra Leone the fulfilment of their hopes and ambitions and every happiness and success in their endeavours.

139. Mr. BROOKS (Canada): At the outset may I say that this morning I am greatly honoured in that I am speaking on behalf of the New Zealand delegation as well as my own—this, of course, at the gracious request of that delegation.

140. The birth of a new nation and its admission to membership of this world Organization is always a significant event. It is particularly gratifying to our delegations to be able to participate today in welcoming the representatives of Sierra Leone, with whom both our nations already share so happy an association within the Commonwealth. It is especially fitting that the Prime Minister, Sir Milton Margai, whose personal abilities have won him wide recognition in Africa and elsewhere, is able to be with us on this occasion.

141. Our nations, New Zealand and Canada, have followed with close interest and deep satisfaction the orderly progress of Sierra Leone along the path towards independence. Our peoples have been particularly impressed by the statesmanlike manner in which its leaders, despite the stresses and problems inevitably associated with this transitional period, have assumed the new and challenging responsibilities of statehood. The record of Sierra Leone's progress to independence reflects the harmony and co-operation which has existed between that country and the United Kingdom and which was so well expressed yesterday by Prime Minister Sir Milton Margai. The Government and people of Sierra Leone and all who have been concerned with its achievements deserve our most sincere congratulations, and we wholeheartedly extend them.

142. As a new Member of this Organization from the rapidly developing continent of Africa, Sierra Leone will have a particularly significant role to play in our deliberations here. We welcome its participation with confidence that its representative will make a substantial and constructive contribution to the Councils of the United Nations. New Zealand and Canada are proud to be associated with their sister nation in this forum, as we have been already within the Commonwealth, and we warmly welcome the completion today of its accession to full international stature in the community of nations. We therefore consider it an honour to join in co-sponsoring Sierra Leone's admission as the one-hundredth Member of the United Nations, and we extend our sincere wishes that its people may always be happy and its country prosperous.

143. Mr. BEAVOGUI (Guinea) (translated from French): On this happy occasion, I have the honour of speaking on behalf of the delegations of members of the Union of African States, which is made up of Ghana, Mali and Guinea, to give a warm welcome to our brother State, Sierra Leone, on its admission to the United Nations.

144. The admission of a new State to our Organization is an event which fills us all with joy and with hope for

the future of the United Nations. We are convinced that we can decisively improve the conditions of international co-operation and universal peace when all countries of the world are seated in this Assembly, where each of them will contribute, to the best of its ability, to the search for solutions to the problems of the harmonious development of mankind.

145. This principle of the universality of the United Nations is in itself a sufficient reason for us to rejoice sincerely whenever a new State joins those represented here; and, when the new candidate is a completely free and independent African State, it is our delegations' duty to be among the first to wish a warm welcome to its representatives, since they can only be the active and conscious artisans of the complete rehabilitation of Africa.

146. In the case of the admission of Sierra Leone, the Republics of Ghana, Guinea and Mali have many further reasons to rejoice. First, a quick glance at the map of Africa will show that we are bound to the sister country of Sierra Leone by particularly close links, apart from our common African history. Our countries form a single natural whole, and we should never have been separated but for the brutal intervention and the confusing disputes between the colonial Powers. Yet, in spite of colonial rule, our different States have kept their natural bonds, of which the most indestructible, apart from the bonds of history and geography, is the bond of blood.

147. In spite of a difference in colonial rule, our peoples, which for the most part belong to the same ethnic groups, have kept the same customs and the same languages, and they still share the same aspirations. Our countries have never been separated in their hearts, their thoughts or their aspirations to a free and prosperous life in dignity.

148. Very recently, a few months before the independence of Sierra Leone, the Guinean Head of State, President Sékou Touré, and several members of his Government made an official visit to Freetown. On that occasion, the highest Guinean official was able to observe the great affection and the feelings of sincere brotherhood which bind the people of Sierra Leone to its African brothers in Guinea, Ghana, Mali and other countries.

149. This is why we now feel the same joy, mixed with emotion, which we felt on two recent occasions, at the admission of the Republics of Guinea and Mali to membership in the United Nations. Today we must take advantage of this solemn occasion to reaffirm our faith in the glorious future of Africa and our conviction that soon, very soon, our whole continent will be freed from the last bastions of foreign domination, which is, in our day, a shame and a disgrace to all concerned. In West Africa, apart from the new forms of neo-colonialism, which must be stamped out at any cost, only Gambia, so-called Portuguese Guinea and the Cape Verde Islands are still to be delivered from colonial subjugation. There is no doubt that these sister countries will soon regain their freedom through the decisive action of their peoples.

150. The peoples of Africa, inspired by the dynamic force of the fighters for just causes, will continue to add new victories to the annals of our time.

151. Today we welcome the victory of the people of Sierra Leone over the forces of subjugation, which debase those they enslave even as they degrade themselves. The admission of this new State to our midst

tolls the knell of the colonial system louder than ever and announces the glorious and stirring new age which lies before Africa.

152. In joining us, we are sure that our Sierra Leonean brothers will spare no effort to help us to accelerate the movement for the political, economic and social liberation of our continent. We are sure that the action of this sister country's representatives will be clearly and unequivocally based on our obligation to give our peoples complete freedom and rapid development in the economic and social fields, to assert the African personality, to bring about peace in Africa and the world and to achieve the purpose which is still fundamental in the eyes of all leaders of the Union of African States—African unity, desired by its peoples and brought about to their advantage.

153. The members of the Union of African States have sponsored draft resolution A/L.353 and Add.1-4, which provides for the admission of Sierra Leone, in order to show their feelings of friendship and affection for their Sierra Leonean brothers and to emphasize that they hope to see these feelings become stronger and more manifest day by day, in the interests of these countries' populations—that is to say, of the African people of the region, where unity is already a living thing.

154. Now that it has regained its freedom, at a time when the remains of colonialism are crumbling, we are entitled to hope that Sierra Leone will boldly and resolutely take the path of progress. By so doing, it can fulfil its mission as a free and sovereign African State and become a firm bastion of the Purposes and Principles laid down in the Charter of the United Nations. In this new struggle which it must undertake, for the honour of its people and the pride of its leaders, Sierra Leone can rely on the active and brotherly solidarity of Ghana, Guinea and Mali.

155. May the unanimous admission of Sierra Leone to our midst express all our wishes for its complete happiness, real prosperity, total success, in its regained dignity and respectability.

156. Mr. LOUTFI (United Arab Republic) (translated from French): I am most happy to associate my own delegation and that of Yemen with the congratulations addressed to Sierra Leone on its independence and its admission to membership in the United Nations, particularly since Sierra Leone belongs to Africa, as we do.

157. The United Arab Republic and its people have followed with great interest Sierra Leone's progress towards independence and the negotiations which led to the proclamation of that independence. We most warmly congratulate the Government of Sierra Leone, its able and eloquent Prime Minister and the Sierra Leonean people, and we express our most sincere good wishes for their well-being and prosperity.

158. We have diplomatic relations with this young African State, and we rejoice at the natural co-operation between it and our delegation which, I am sure, will exist at the United Nations. We are confident that Sierra Leone will make a valuable contribution to the work of the United Nations, particularly to the settlement of questions relating to international peace and security and of African problems. We hope that the other African States which are still fighting for their independence will soon take their place in the international community.

159. Mr. KAMIL (Federation of Malaya): My delegation was very happy and felt much privileged to have had the opportunity of associating itself with many other delegations in co-sponsoring the resolution recommending the admission of Sierra Leone yesterday. The fact that Sierra Leone is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, to which my country proudly belongs, gives us added satisfaction in this regard.

160. I should like now, on behalf of my delegation, to express our gratification and to offer our sincere and hearty congratulations to the Government and people of Sierra Leone on their country's admission as the one hundredth Member of this world Organization by unanimous acclamation.

161. In welcoming the admission of Sierra Leone my delegation looks forward to a friendly and fruitful co-operation with its delegation in all our endeavours in this Organization.

162. It is, if I may say so, to the everlasting credit of Great Britain that the transition of Sierra Leone from the status of a colonial territory to that of an independent and sovereign State has been made possible so smoothly and happily. It is our confident hope that this example will be followed by the other colonial Powers, and we look forward to the day when colonialism, in all its forms and manifestations, will be a thing of the past.

163. Mr. ROSSIDES (Cyprus): On behalf of my Government and the people of Cyprus I wish to extend a welcome to Sierra Leone on joining the United Nations as an independent and sovereign State. That another African people has reached independence and become a Member of the United Nations is a heartening sight, a step forward in the progress towards the universality of freedom and towards the universality of the United Nations as an instrument of peace. The fact that independence has been reached by peaceful means is another hopeful sign of our times. It reflects credit to the parties directly concerned and no less to the United Nations whose influence and constructive resolutions for the independence of all peoples is greatly facilitating the process.

164. In the general gloom consequent on the existing tensions and overhanging dangers, the peaceful achievement of sovereignty by one more country and its unanimous admission to the United Nations is one bright spot not only for its content of freedom but also for its message of agreement in peace.

165. We heartily welcome the Prime Minister of Sierra Leone, Sir Milton Margai, and the other members of the delegation. We look to this new Member as one more independent voice and one more objective vote in full support of the United Nations as an instrument for peace and human progress.

166. Mr. WACHUKU (Nigeria): It is with special pleasure and deep appreciation that I speak to welcome Sierra Leone to the United Nations. The admission of Sierra Leone gives me great satisfaction.

167. Up to yesterday I was the ninety-ninth member and the baby of the family. Now, I can walk with my head erect feeling that I am now mature and that there is a new baby of the family—the one hundredth Member. I look forward, in the course of this session, to having a second younger brother in Tanganyika.

168. The admission of Sierra Leone increases the membership of African States. I have no doubt at all that Sierra Leone is going to play a role far out of

proportion to its physical size, because those of us who come from West Africa know the role that Sierra Leone has played in the life and history of that part of the world through its educational institutions and, in its cultural activities and in the political and administrative spheres.

169. Sierra Leone and Nigeria are more or less like brother and sister. We have been so intermingled in our affairs that even until today we have Sierra Leoneans working in the administrative services of Nigeria, and in Sierra Leone's university we have our sons and daughters fraternizing with their brothers and sisters as if they were people from the same territory and under the same Government. Therefore, it is with the greatest pleasure that we welcome the Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister and those who followed him to witness the admission of their great country to this great and august body.

170. Sierra Leone is a traditional friend of Nigeria. Indeed, the Prime Minister of Nigeria, Alhaji Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, and Sir Milton Margai are personal and intimate friends; and that personal relationship which exists between them is symbolic of the relationship which exists between Sierra Leone and Nigeria. We look forward to these countries, based on their traditional friendship, having a far-reaching effect and making a great impact in the development of that part of the world.

171. The admission of Sierra Leone gives me greater satisfaction still because this is the type of independence that Nigeria welcomes— independence with responsibility, independence in tranquillity, independence in peaceful development—that is the type of thing we like to see on our continent. We do not want independence that is guided by remote control. We do not want independence in turbulence. We do not want independence in acrimony. Independence in mutual liquidation is of no value to us. Africa suffered long enough and Africa should suffer no more. The evidence of the tranquil circumstances under which Sierra Leone gained its independence is the type of what my country would like to see on the continent of Africa.

172. Sierra Leone, as I have said before, has cultural, moral, spiritual and social ties with Nigeria. I could spend hours speaking if I were to speak as I feel. But considering the time at our disposal, and as Ethiopia has authorized me to speak also on its behalf, I want to say that we wholeheartedly welcome Sierra Leone to this great Assembly. We look forward to very full and intimate co-operation between Sierra Leone, my country, Ethiopia and other African countries. I have not the slightest doubt in my mind that as soon as they are in a position to play a role, you, Mr. President, will be proud that Sierra Leone has become a member of this august Assembly because Sierra Leone has a rich reservoir of wisdom and understanding, a rich contribution which it can make to the United Nations. Indeed, I think Sierra Leone will prove that it is not only in size or in great power that one finds wisdom, but even in a small country wisdom might have the greatest salutary effect on an Organization such as ours.

173. Without detaining this gathering any more, I conclude by saying once again how happy I am, on behalf of my delegation, on behalf of the Government that I represent and our people, to welcome Sierra Leone to the United Nations and we look forward to its contribution.

174. Mr. MANESCU (Romania) (translated from French): I am very pleased to perform a task which the delegations of the Socialist countries did me the honour of entrusting to me: that of extending a warm welcome to the State of Sierra Leone which has just been admitted to the United Nations. The admission of the one hundredth Member of the Organization represents a step forward in the historic process of the achievement of independence by peoples struggling to free themselves from colonial oppression. The socialist countries and, indeed, all peace-loving mankind, are following with deep sympathy the brave struggle of the peoples of Africa against the colonialists and lend them their disinterested support and assistance. In that spirit, we demand that the principles of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, adopted on the initiative of the Soviet Union by the General Assembly in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, be implemented forthwith.

175. We express the hope that the new State, which has subscribed to the Purposes and Principles of the Charter, will make its contribution to the achievement of the noble objectives of our Organization, and to the strengthening of international peace and security.

176. We are sure that the people of Sierra Leone, who, during the years of colonial enslavement, nurtured their deep faith in and attachment to the lofty ideals of independence and progress, will dedicate themselves fervently to the development of their country, maintaining control of their own affairs and utilizing the natural resources of their soil for their country's benefit.

177. It is our sincere hope that the new State which has been admitted to the United Nations will be fully successful in thus strengthening its independence, in developing its national economy and its culture and in promoting a policy of peace and friendship with all peoples.

178. In conclusion, we wish to express our firm conviction that the admission of Sierra Leone will be followed shortly by the admission to our Organization of other States which will attain independence in the great movement of liberation of the colonial peoples.

179. Mr. PLIMPTON (United States of America): The United States is particularly happy to welcome Sierra Leone as the one hundredth Member of the United Nations. There is something significant and memorable about the number 100, and we are delighted that the one hundredth Member of our Organization should be an African State, symbolizing the great expansion and human enrichment from that great continent which the United Nations has enjoyed during the last years.

180. The Government of Sierra Leone, under the able leadership of the Prime Minister, Sir Milton Margai, will contribute significantly, we are certain, to the work of the United Nations.

181. On the occasion of its attainment of independence, Sierra Leone stated that it would immediately seek membership of the United Nations in order to play its part "...first, in promoting peace in the world and preserving it in Africa; secondly, in upholding the liberty and dignity of the individual everywhere; and, thirdly, in developing the United Nations Organization so that it not only represents the hope and conscience of the world, but becomes an effective and powerful assurance to small nations". Those are noble and worthy objectives, and the United States is glad to

subscribe to them and to pledge its own best efforts to further them.

182. We are honoured to have the Minister of External Affairs of Sierra Leone, Mr. Karefa Smart, also present today, and we very much look forward to co-operating with him and his colleagues in the years ahead.

183. Mr. N'THEPE (Cameroun) (translated from French): It is with genuine pleasure that the delegation of Cameroun, speaking also on behalf of the Republic of the Congo (Brazzaville), the Republics of the Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Gabon and Upper Volta, the Malagasy Republic, the Central African Republic, and the Republics of Senegal and Chad, associates itself with the previous speakers in sending to the Government and people of Sierra Leone its most cordial wishes on the occasion of that country's admission to the United Nations.

184. In spite of the uncertainty and the changing conditions of the modern world, we can discern the secret concatenation and orderly sequence that Providence always has ordained and observe that all events are governed by fate. Thus we have witnessed the destiny of African and of all the colonized peoples, whose awakening in this twentieth century is a part of this continuous process.

185. The principle of liberation and decolonization which the United Nations has now adopted as its policy, a principle which it upholds and wishes to see fully applied—does credit to the human race and is a factor contributing to world peace and security.

186. Great men and great Powers are not those which have less passions and more virtues than their fellows; they are those which have the noblest designs.

187. I would therefore ask the representative of the United Kingdom Government to be good enough to transmit to Her Majesty and to the British people our commendation of the work of emancipation which has resulted in today's admission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations. I hope that he will convey to the people of the United Kingdom the gratitude of Africa, as well as our hope to see represented among us the peoples for which it is at present responsible. Credit is indeed due to that country, whose civilization conquered two-thirds of the world. Nothing can equal friendship among peoples and we hope that the example set by the United Kingdom will be followed by certain States Members of this Organization which are still colonizers and which should show less passion and brutality and follow the example of other countries.

188. To Sierra Leone we say that our first feeling of joy on witnessing the happiness of our friends comes neither from our kindness nor from our friendship for them. It is, in fact, attributable to pride. We are proud at the idea of working with them to build a society where men are equal and may work together for peace.

189. The fact that this friendly State attended the Conference of Independent African States, held at Monrovia in August 1959 is, in our eyes, a striking justification for the confidence which we place in the representative of Sierra Leone in this Assembly. The aim of the participants in the Monrovia Conference was to build Africa in peace and concord. Sierra Leone has given its support to that objective.

190. To the people and Government of Sierra Leone and to their leaders, we reiterate the good wishes with which we greeted the national independence of

that sister country. We are sure that the representative of Sierra Leone will show here the political maturity which is needed to establish peace in the world and maintain international security.

191. Mr. AMMOUN (Lebanon) (translated from French): The delegation of Iraq has asked me to extend on its behalf, as I do on behalf of my own delegation, a welcome to the Republic of Sierra Leone. It is an honour which I fully appreciate to speak on behalf of a delegation which I have admired ever since the foundation of the United Nations for its untiring and vigorous efforts to help oppressed peoples and to extend to all peoples of the world the application of the provisions of the Charter, particularly the principle of the right of peoples to self-determination, which was formerly largely ignored.

192. In the United Nations Iraq has always been the ardent spokesman of all peoples struggling for independence and freedom. On behalf of my own delegation and of that country I wish to express most sincere congratulations to the Government and people of our sister African Republic.

193. May I also say that in speaking on behalf of my Government and of my compatriots in Lebanon, I know that I am also expressing the feelings of several thousands of Lebanese who settled in Sierra Leone half a century ago and who also rejoice in this event. That country, which I gladly welcome here, welcomed them upon its soil and under its skies, and its children have been sharing with them, for more than one generation, the joys and sufferings of a common existence.

194. Although today they joyfully celebrate this day together, the Lebanese in Africa have witnessed considerable suffering, but have also been able to admire the constant struggle and labours of the citizens of Sierra Leone to build their State and the independence of their nation. My compatriots are in a better position than any others to bear witness to the patient efforts made by these valiant Africans, in the economic and educational fields and in the political arena, in order to free themselves from the bonds of colonialism and to stand before the world an independent, free and prosperous State.

195. The Republic of Sierra Leone may pride itself on being one of the nations which are now masters of their own destiny and are capable of contributing effectively to the development and progress of the international community.

196. The delegation of Sierra Leone would be disappointed in me, however, if I did not mention on this day of great, but not unalloyed joy, the fate of brother peoples which are still fighting for their national independence. One year after the adoption of resolution 1514 (XV) on final and complete decolonization, only the country which we welcome today has freed itself from the colonial régime. The Power which kept it under its authority has freed it from its bonds, but we hope that that same Power and all the colonial Powers will heed the clearly stated intention of the United Nations to put an immediate end to colonialism in all its manifestations.

197. As regards the young Republic which now sits among us, we know that, having fought for its national independence, it will now join us, as the representative of Guinea said earlier, with the same determination to fight for the liberation of the still subjugated or dependent nations. Its admission already constitutes a victory for the principles and purposes of the United

Nations: the right of peoples to self-determination, the sovereign equality of nations and the universality of our Organization. Now that it has become a Member, Sierra Leone will play an active role in seeing that those principles ultimately triumph.

198. Mr. BENJELLOUN (Morocco) (translated from French): I previously had the honour and pleasure, at the forty-fifth session of the International Labour Conference held last June at Geneva, of conveying to Sierra Leone on behalf of His Majesty the King of Morocco and the Moroccan Government and people, our congratulations on that country's admission as a member of the International Labour Organisation.

199. Morocco has always lent its full support to the admission to membership in international bodies of truly sovereign States. My own country, which has always staunchly defended the sacred principle of the freedom of peoples and has supported their accession to independence, is particularly happy to express today its cordial and fraternal congratulations to this African country which is joining our ranks.

200. That it obtained unanimous approval for its admission is certainly not the least important fact which we may list to the credit of this new Member. Such unanimity clearly shows the friendship and admiration which all the peoples represented in this Assembly have for the wisdom, maturity and humanistic principles of the leaders and of the noble people of Sierra Leone. It also demonstrates that this State fulfils all the requirements for membership laid down in the United Nations Charter.

201. May I welcome this State, on behalf of my delegation, in the conviction that it will play its part in promoting and upholding the purposes and ideals of our international Organization. Henceforth, Sierra Leone, which may rightly pride itself on having a capital with the prophetic name of Freetown, will itself be free, independent and master of its destiny. I am convinced that Sierra Leone will be one of the most ardent defenders and upholders of freedom and will thus help in building a fraternal world of peace, co-operation and justice.

202. Mr. WIRJOPRANOTO (Indonesia): It is my privilege and pleasure to extend to the Government and people of Sierra Leone the warmest congratulations of Indonesia upon the achievement of its national independence. We welcome Sierra Leone with happy hearts as a new Member State. We rejoice in the days of their rejoicing. It is no more than natural that Indonesia should share in that joy and happiness. We shared the same fate in the past, we have the same goals for the future, and we enjoy the same freedom in the present.

203. Our congratulations are accompanied by the wish, the prayer and the confidence, that the Government of Sierra Leone will be strong, stable and effective—strong in mind, stable in thinking, effective in action. We know the tremendous task of rebuilding which faces Sierra Leone. It must transform its country from a colony into a prosperous and free nation. It must develop to the full its political, economic, social and cultural life on a national basis. It must meet the material and spiritual demands and expectations of the people. We are convinced that, in turn, these will be met by national unity and the mobilization of national resources. Sierra Leone can count, in this, on our friendship and encouragement.

204. Newborn nations such as Sierra Leone at present enter the international arena in a time of trouble and difficulty. This is an additional burden and responsibility. Not only must they bend their efforts to the achievement of international stability and consolidation but also the removal of existing tensions and the promotion of international co-operation—for we, the newborn foreign nations need, and must have, peace in the world.

205. Mr. FUKUSHIMA (Japan): We extend our warmest congratulations to Sierra Leone upon her admission to the United Nations. During the opening days of this sixteenth session we have been pondering grave international issues in our determination to make all possible efforts to find workable, just and peaceful solutions. Thus, the unanimous election of Sierra Leone at this stage is a refreshing event and a happy augury for the future.

206. After many years of dependent status, Sierra Leone has achieved complete independence. On 27 April 1961 a solemn ceremony was held at Freetown to commemorate it, and on that day, too, Japan established diplomatic relations with the new nation. A special envoy travelled from Japan to attend the ceremony. Now Sierra Leone joins our ranks as a full partner in the quest for a durable peace. We are confident that this stalwart new nation will make an outstanding contribution to our collective efforts in producing harmony among all men. It is with very sincere pleasure that we look forward to working in a close and friendly way with Sierra Leone as we advance together along the road to peace, freedom, justice and prosperity.

207. Mr. COMAY (Israel): I am happy to associate the Government and the people of Israel and my delegation most warmly with the welcome extended to the new sovereign State of Sierra Leone on its becoming the one hundredth Member of our Organization. This occasion marks a great milestone in the historic process of the emancipation of African peoples from colonial rule, and their attainment of freedom, equality and dignity in the family of nations. We feel it would be proper for us to recognize the achievement of the United Kingdom in facilitating the independence of its former colony in a spirit of mutual friendship and respect. This event fills us with the greatest pleasure and we look forward to brotherly relations and close co-operation with our new sister State, with which we already enjoy diplomatic relations.

208. Mr. DEMAJO (Yugoslavia) (translated from French): I am particularly glad to extend, on behalf of the Yugoslav delegation, our sincere congratulations to the people and Government of Sierra Leone on the occasion of that country's admission to membership in the United Nations. The fact that we are witnessing the entrance of this young African State on the world stage as an independent nation marks a further success in the struggle of the African peoples for their independence and against colonialism, the liquidation of which should be accelerated with still greater energy. The number of countries of the African continent which have freed themselves from colonial ties is increasing constantly and their active and constructive participation in the work of the United Nations is of great importance for the establishment of better international relations and the creation of more favourable conditions for the solution of many unsettled international problems.

209. The admission of Sierra Leone to the ranks of the free countries and to the community of nations certainly represents a step further in that direction. I should like to take this opportunity once again to express the sincere friendship of the people and Government of Yugoslavia for the people and Government of Sierra Leone and to wish every success, both in its internal development and in its international relations, to this young African country which is today taking its place among us as a Member of our Organization.

210. Mr. Sarwar HASAN (Pakistan): The delegation of Pakistan has the honour today to speak for the delegations of Turkey and Iran as well as for itself. We heartily welcome the admission to this Organization of the new sovereign State of Sierra Leone. With that State, Pakistan has many ties. Many of our nationals are working in diverse fields, particularly in the field of social service, in Sierra Leone. They have reported that they have friendly and fraternal relations with the people of Sierra Leone and that the Government of that country has extended to them every courtesy and consideration. That is a matter of profound satisfaction to the people and Government of Pakistan.

211. On behalf of the delegations of Iran and Turkey as well as that of Pakistan, I wish to say that we look forward with pleasure to our association with the delegation of Sierra Leone in promoting the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations.

212. Mr. LIU (China): Last year, at the beginning of the fifteenth session of the General Assembly, we witnessed an historic event in the simultaneous admission of a large number of African States. Yesterday was another memorable and equally moving occasion, when we welcomed Sierra Leone, another African State, as the one hundredth Member. Nothing, I think, bears more eloquent testimony to the important role of Africa in modern international life. As we salute Sierra Leone, and as more and more African nations are admitted to membership in the near future, the United Nations itself should feel particularly gratified that one of its principal objectives, the progressive development of free political institutions toward self-government and independence, is being rapidly translated into reality.

213. We of China are confident that Sierra Leone, like the other new African States which have achieved freedom and independence through long and arduous struggle, will be among the staunchest defenders of the great principles and ideals enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

214. Mr. PAZHWAQ (Afghanistan): On such an occasion, I do not feel that I need apologize for taking the time of the Assembly, even at so late an hour.

215. Yesterday we had the pleasure of witnessing a most welcome event: the admission to the United Nations of its one hundredth member, Sierra Leone. I wish to express our great joy and to extend our heartfelt congratulations on this occasion to the people of Sierra Leone, their Prime Minister and their delegation.

216. The representative of the United States referred to the significance of the number 100, and the Prime Minister of Denmark referred to the occasion as a happy omen. Among the people of my country, it is said that the hundredth comer brings blessings to the whatever is ninety-nine.

217. In our language, we say that a superstition that brings hope is no longer a superstition. I personally prefer to believe in a superstition which brings hope, rather than in any philosophical reality which would deprive man's mind of the greatest gift of God to the human mind. We do hope that the blessing needed by the United Nations will be bestowed upon it now that its one hundredth Member has joined it.

218. We were deeply impressed by one part of the statement made by the Prime Minister of Sierra Leone, which I should like to quote on this occasion. The Prime Minister said:

"... we persistently champion the cause of a speedy and final end to every variety of colonial rule everywhere in the world, we wish the fact to be remembered that we do not speak out of bitterness, but out of conviction that the right of self-determination which we ourselves now enjoy is a right which all men everywhere must enjoy. We wish, further, to make it clear that we reserve the right to express ourselves fully and independently on all issues." [1018th plenary meeting, para. 229.]

"... I pledge, further, on behalf of my Government and people, that we shall do all in our power, while Sierra Leone is a Member of the United Nations, to deal with all questions brought before the Assembly with an open and impartial mind and with no predetermined position or alignment. Our yardstick will always be the yardstick of truth." [*Ibid.*, para. 230.]

219. With such a pledge, this new Member has given us, and with great dignity, a chance to put all our sincerity in the hearty welcome we extend to it, and pledge, on behalf of our delegation and Government, our full and close co-operation to the mission of Sierra Leone for the realization of the above quoted common aspirations that this country has expressed.

The meeting rose at 1.45 p.m.