

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

Official Records



**1723rd
PLENARY MEETING**

Tuesday, 19 November 1968,
at 10.30 a.m.

NEW YORK

CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 17: Election of nine members of the Economic and Social Council	1
Agenda item 35: United Nations Industrial Development Organization: report of the Industrial Development Board Report of the Second Committee	1
Agenda item 39: Permanent sovereignty over natural resources: report of the Secretary-General Report of the Second Committee	
Agenda item 40: Conversion to peaceful needs of the resources released by disarmament: report of the Secretary-General Report of the Second Committee	
Agenda item 43: United Nations Institute for Training and Research: report of the Executive Director Report of the Second Committee	3
Agenda item 18: Election of members of the Industrial Development Board	
Agenda item 17: Election of nine members of the Economic and Social Council (continued)	
Agenda item 18: Election of members of the Industrial Development Board (continued)	5

President: Mr. Emilio ARENALES (Guatemala).

In the absence of the President, Mr. Ould Daddah (Mauritania), Vice-President, took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 17

**Election of nine members
of the Economic and Social Council**

1. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): The first item on the agenda for this morning is the election of nine members of the Economic and Social Council to replace those whose term of office expires on 31 December 1968. The nine outgoing members are: Czechoslovakia, Iran, Morocco, Panama, the Philippines, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela. These nine countries are eligible for immediate re-election.

2. I should like to remind Members of the Assembly that the following States will still be members of the Economic

and Social Council after 1 January 1969: Argentina, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), France, Guatemala, India, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Sierra Leone, Turkey, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Upper Volta. The names of these eighteen States may not, therefore, appear on the ballot papers.

3. Ballot papers taking account of the provisions of paragraph 3 of resolution 1991 B (XVIII) of 17 December 1963 will now be distributed.

4. In accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the election will be held by secret ballot.

5. I request Members of the General Assembly to write on their ballot papers the names of the nine Member States for which they wish to vote. Ballot papers bearing more than nine names will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. King (Barbados) and Mr. Daron (Belgium) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

6. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): As announced by the President yesterday [1722nd meeting] and as members of the Second Committee are aware, I intend, during the counting of the ballots, to submit some of the reports of the Second Committee to the General Assembly for consideration. When the results are available, I shall announce them at an appropriate moment and we shall then proceed to the election of fifteen members of the Industrial Development Board.¹

AGENDA ITEM 35

**United Nations Industrial Development Organization:
report of the Industrial Development Board**

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE (A/7332)

AGENDA ITEM 39

**Permanent sovereignty over natural resources:
report of the Secretary-General**

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE (A/7324)

¹ For the result of the vote, see para. 35 of this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 40**Conversion to peaceful needs of the resources released
by disarmament: report of the Secretary-General**

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE (A/7325)

AGENDA ITEM 43**United Nations Institute for Training and Research:
report of the Executive Director**

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE (A/7333)

7. Mr. CHRISTIANSEN (Norway), Rapporteur of the Second Committee: I have the honour to present to the Assembly four reports of the Second Committee concerning agenda items 35, 39, 40 and 43. I shall make one presentation of the four reports, but I shall deal with each item separately.

8. The first report [A/7332] that has to be considered by the General Assembly is in connexion with agenda item 35. I should like to point out that the draft resolution I, which appears in paragraph 15 of that report, will be referred to the plenary Assembly later, after the Fifth Committee has had an opportunity of considering the financial implications of that draft resolution in accordance with rule 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. In the circumstances I commend for the Assembly's consideration only draft resolution II, which also appears in paragraph 15 of the report, and deals with the inclusion in list A of the annex to General Assembly resolution 2152 (XXI) of certain Member States recently admitted to the United Nations.

9. I shall now turn to the report [A/7324] concerning agenda item 39. The draft resolution which is recommended for adoption by the Assembly appears in paragraph 8 of that report. The Committee adopted that draft resolution by 85 votes to none, with 12 abstentions. One change has been reflected in the draft resolution. It relates to the last operative paragraph, in which the Secretary-General is now asked to report at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly instead of the twenty-fourth session, as was originally proposed. I commend this draft resolution for the Assembly's consideration.

10. The next report [A/7325] is in connexion with agenda item 40. As members will see, various amendments were put forward in connexion with the draft resolution which is now recommended for adoption by the General Assembly. These amendments are reflected in paragraphs 5 to 10 of the report. Needless to say, there are various aspects of this question and after a general discussion in which members of the Second Committee were able to express their views, the draft resolution appearing in paragraph 11 of the report was adopted by 75 votes to none, with 17 abstentions. I commend this draft resolution for the Assembly's consideration.

11. Finally, I turn to the report [A/7333] on agenda item 43. The work of the Institute on the basis of the report of the Executive Director was considered by the Second

Committee and after a debate, during which the draft resolution put before the Committee was considered and revised, the Committee adopted without objection the draft resolution appearing in paragraph 10 of this report. I commend this draft resolution for the Assembly's consideration.

12. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): In view of the explanation which the Rapporteur of the Second Committee has just given to the Assembly concerning draft resolution I, one of the two draft resolutions relating to agenda item 35 [A/7332, para. 15], we shall postpone consideration of that draft resolution until the Fifth Committee has had an opportunity to determine its financial implications. We shall, therefore, consider only draft resolution II.

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the reports of the Second Committee.

13. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): I invite representatives to consider agenda item 35 and to reach a decision on draft resolution II, which is contained in the report of the Second Committee [A/7332, para. 15]. May I take it that there is no objection to the adoption of this draft resolution by the Assembly?

Draft resolution II was adopted without objection [resolution 2385 (XXIII)].

14. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): We now come to agenda item 39. I put to the vote the draft resolution which the Second Committee, in its report [A/7324, para. 8], recommends for adoption.

The draft resolution was adopted by 94 votes to none, with 9 abstentions [resolution 2386 (XXIII)].

15. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): I now call on the representative of Poland for an explanation of vote.

16. Mr. KASPRZYK (Poland): I should like to take this opportunity to explain not only the vote of my delegation on item 39, but also the fact that Poland was one of the co-sponsors of the draft resolution just adopted.

17. The problem of permanent sovereignty over natural resources has been for a long time a very important factor in the economic and social development of developing countries. It is neither new nor unknown to this forum. In 1952 the General Assembly adopted resolution 523 (VI), stressing that all States have the full right to exploit freely their natural resources. In its further resolutions of December 1952 and December 1962 the Assembly gave great emphasis to the importance of the question, and kept it under periodic review in the sixties. In resolution 1803 (XVII), of 1962, the Secretary-General was requested to continue the study of the question and to report to the Assembly. A very important step in this direction was taken at the twenty-first session of the General Assembly, when, after a constructive discussion and after the Assembly had noted the report of the Secretary-General, resolution 2158 (XXI) on permanent sovereignty over natural resources was adopted by an almost unanimous vote. The

inalienable right of all countries to exercise permanent sovereignty over their resources was then reaffirmed, and the declaration on United Nations activities to enable all countries fully to exercise that right was adopted.

18. It gives me real pleasure to state that Poland has always supported all initiatives in this connexion and was one of the first co-sponsors of the above-mentioned resolution. In our view, the present resolution should be treated as a further step in the efforts of the General Assembly aimed at the implementation of the principles and recommendations set forth in resolution 2158 (XXI). We are very much interested in how the principles of that resolution are being implemented, and in what conditions foreign assistance to developing countries in the exploitation of their natural resources is being granted.

19. In requesting the Secretary-General to submit a further report to the General Assembly on this question, we hope to receive some detailed information as regards the extent to which natural resources are exploited and utilized by developing countries for their own economic advancement. It would also be extremely interesting to be informed about the forms in which foreign capital participates in the exploitation of natural resources in developing countries.

20. As may be seen, the problem of permanent sovereignty over natural resources not only is of utmost importance to the developing countries, but also has a rather long history in this Organization. That is why the Polish delegation became one of the authors of the draft resolution in question and that also seems to be an adequate explanation for our voting in its favour.

21. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): I invite representatives to consider agenda item 40. I put to the vote the draft resolution which the Second Committee, in its report [A/7325, para. 11], recommends for adoption.

The draft resolution was adopted by 94 votes to none, with 15 abstentions [resolution 2387 (XXIII)].

22. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): I call on the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for an explanation of vote.

23. Mr. KASSATKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*translated from Russian*): The position of the USSR on disarmament questions is well known. The Soviet Union is in favour of peace and the strengthening of international security, and urges all those who have the interests of peace at heart to slow down the arms race and to start disarming. Indeed, there is not a single people, not a single State which would fail to benefit thereby.

24. At its present session, the General Assembly is considering the memorandum, submitted by the Soviet Government as an important and current problem concerning urgent measures to stop the arms race and achieve disarmament (A/7134). Only those who openly espouse a policy of aggression and banditry in international relations are opposed to disarmament and to measures to curb the arms race.

25. The Soviet Union has participated and will continue to participate in United Nations activities pertaining to the

study of the economic and social consequences of disarmament. However, the resolution just adopted goes beyond the normal scope of United Nations research activities in this field. For this reason, the USSR delegation abstained from the vote.

26. In this connexion, the Soviet delegation would like to say that, in our opinion, the diversion of financial and human resources to peaceful needs is a question of topical interest and one which can be solved positively only in the context of general and complete disarmament or at least only after steps have been taken to bring about a considerable reduction in armaments.

27. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): We now come to agenda item 43. The Assembly is to take a decision on the recommendation of the Second Committee [A/7333, para. 10]. As the draft resolution was adopted without objection by the Second Committee, may I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted without objection [resolution 2388 (XXIII)].

AGENDA ITEM 18

Election of members of the Industrial Development Board

28. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): We shall now proceed to the election of fifteen members of the Industrial Development Board to replace the fifteen members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1968. The fifteen outgoing members are: Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Finland, France, India, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Romania, Sudan, Thailand, the United Arab Republic and the United States of America. These fifteen countries are eligible for immediate re-election.

29. I should like to read to you a letter, dated 18 November 1968, addressed to the President of the General Assembly from the Permanent Representative of Hungary:

"I have the honour, in connexion with the forthcoming election of fifteen members of the Industrial Development Board, to inform you of the position taken by the Group of Eastern European States, as follows:

"On behalf of the States listed in part D of the annex to General Assembly resolution 2152 (XXI) and with reference to the elections to the Industrial Development Board at the current session of the General Assembly, I have the honour to request that Cuba be included on this particular occasion and in this particular case among the States listed in part D of the annex to the said resolutions."

30. This matter is before the Assembly. In the absence of any objection, I shall take it that the Assembly agrees to this request.

It was so decided.

31. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): Consequently, the ballot papers to be distributed for this

election will take account of the decision which the General Assembly has just taken.

32. I should like to remind Members of the Assembly that the following States will still be members of the Industrial Development Board after 1 January 1969: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, the Federal Republic of Germany, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Rwanda, Spain, Somalia, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Zambia. These thirty names do not, therefore, appear on the ballot papers.

33. In accordance with existing practice, the required number of candidates in each list which receive the largest number of votes, and not less than a majority, will be declared elected. In case of a tie for the last places to be filled, there will be a ballot restricted to the candidates obtaining the same number of votes. May I take it that the Assembly approves the procedure I have just described?

It was so decided.

34. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): In accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure, the election will be held by secret ballot and there will be no nominations. The ballot papers will now be distributed. On the back, they bear the letters A, B, C or D, corresponding to the four groups of States listed in the annex to resolution 2152 (XXI). Members of the Assembly are requested to use only these ballot papers, and to place a cross against the names of the countries for which they wish to vote. The number of members to be elected from each list is indicated on each ballot paper. When they have filled in the four ballot papers, representatives are requested to fold each one separately and to place it in the ballot box marked with the letter corresponding to that on the back of the ballot paper.

At the invitation of the President, the following representatives acted as tellers: Group A, Mr. Lynch (New Zealand); Group B, Mr. King (Barbados); Group C, Mr. Kachurenko (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic); Group D, Mr. Cyicarano (Rwanda).

A vote was taken by secret ballot.²

AGENDA ITEM 17

Election of nine members of the Economic and Social Council (*continued*)

35. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): The result of the vote concerning the election of members of the Economic and Social Council is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	116
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	116

<i>Abstentions:</i>	0
<i>Number of Members voting:</i>	116
<i>Required majority:</i>	78
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Norway	113
Yugoslavia	110
Jamaica	109
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	109
Uruguay	108
Sudan	105
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	100
Pakistan	81
Indonesia	70
Ceylon	63
Czechoslovakia	4
Cuba	2
Haiti	2
Nigeria	2
Romania	2
Syria	2
Albania	1
Brazil	1
Canada	1
Italy	1
Panama	1
Tunisia	1
Venezuela	1

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Jamaica, Norway, Pakistan, the Sudan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Yugoslavia were elected members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year period beginning 1 January 1969.

36. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): There remains one seat to be filled in the Economic and Social Council. We shall, therefore, hold a restricted ballot to elect this member.

37. I invite the representative of Ceylon to speak on a point of order.

38. Mr. AMERASINGHE (Ceylon): The delegation of Ceylon would propose formally that the restricted ballot be deferred to a date to be fixed by the President of the Assembly. Our reason is that at this time the Assembly is seriously depleted and we should have a better attendance for a proper election.

39. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): Members of the Assembly have just heard the proposal made by the representative of Ceylon. Does any representative wish to speak on this question?

40. Mr. VIAUD (France) (*translated from French*): I have not had time to check the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, because I do not have them at hand. I would, therefore, merely ask the President, who is responsible for the conduct of our debates, whether the Assembly may interrupt a vote while the balloting is proceeding. An election is a vote, and I am not sure that we are able to take such a decision. I should be grateful to the President if he would check on this point and let us know what the position is.

² For the result of the vote, see para. 47 of this meeting.

41. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): I call on the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs to reply to this question.

42. Mr. NARASIMHAN (Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs): As I understand the rules of procedure, the election has been completed for eight of the nine seats in the Economic and Social Council. The question in regard to the restricted ballot concerns only the ninth seat. Sometimes these restricted ballots have to be repeated over and over and over again; that has happened before. In such cases they cannot be held during the same meeting. Therefore, I would say that there is nothing in the rules of procedure which precludes the conduct of an election for one seat at a later time. So far as I can see, there is nothing in the rules which makes it obligatory, with regard to elections to the Economic and Social Council, to hold the election for the ninth seat at the same time as the election for the other eight seats.

43. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): Members of the Assembly have heard the reply of the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs to the question put by the French representative.

44. The Assembly will now vote on the proposal of the representative of Ceylon.

The proposal was adopted by 64 votes to 3, with 44 abstentions.

45. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): The date of the election for the ninth seat in the Economic and Social Council will be fixed in due course.

46. I shall now suspend the meeting until 1 p.m. When the meeting resumes, I shall announce the results of the election of fifteen members of the Industrial Development Board.

The meeting was suspended at 12.35 p.m. and resumed at 1 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 18

Election of members of the Industrial Development Board (*continued*)

47. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): The results of the election of fifteen members of the Industrial Development Board are as follows:

GROUP A

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	122
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	122
<i>Abstentions:</i>	0
<i>Number of Members voting:</i>	122
<i>Required majority:</i>	62
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
India	115
Iraq	115
Upper Volta	113

Kuwait	112
Sudan	111
Thailand	100
United Arab Republic	9
Jordan	2
Yugoslavia	2
Algeria	1
Equatorial Guinea	1
Kenya	1
Liberia	1
Libya	1
Morocco	1
Republic of Korea	1
United Republic of Tanzania	1
Syria	1

GROUP B

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	122
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	122
<i>Abstentions:</i>	0
<i>Number of Members voting:</i>	122
<i>Required majority:</i>	62
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
France	117
Netherlands	117
Japan	116
Denmark	113
United States of America	113
Finland	6
Holy See	2
Cyprus	1
Greece	1
Iceland	1
Luxembourg	1
Monaco	1
Norway	1
San Marino	1

GROUP C

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	122
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	122
<i>Abstentions:</i>	2
<i>Number of Members voting:</i>	120
<i>Required majority:</i>	61
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Brazil	116
Chile	114
Venezuela	5
Mexico	2
Costa Rica	1
Haiti	1

GROUP D

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	122
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	122
<i>Abstentions:</i>	4
<i>Number of Members voting:</i>	118
<i>Required majority:</i>	60

Number of votes obtained:

Cuba	101
Poland	96
Romania	19
Albaria	3
Hungary	2
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	1
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	1

Having obtained the required majority, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Denmark, France, India, Iraq, Japan, Kuwait, the

Netherlands, Poland, the Sudan, Thailand, the United States of America and Upper Volta were elected members of the Industrial Development Board for a three-year period beginning 1 January 1969.

48. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): I wish to thank the tellers for their assistance and to congratulate the countries which have been elected members of the Industrial Development Board.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.