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THIRTIETH SESSION

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Temporary President: Mr. Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA (Algeria).

President: Mr. Gaston THORN (Luxembourg).

AGENDA ITEM 1

Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Algeria

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I declare open the thirtieth regular session of the General Assembly.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Minute of silent prayer or meditation

2. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I invite representatives to stand and observe one minute of silent prayer or meditation.

The representatives stood in silence.

Address by Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, Temporary President and Chairman of the delegation of Algeria

3. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I trust this Assembly will be indulgent of me if, transgressing the traditional rules of reserve, I yield to a natural impulse to tell you of my recent

experience, and I should like at once to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

4. The task of a President is not easy when he refuses to seek refuge in an unimaginative attitude. This might give one a feeling of false confidence and of deceptive equilibrium. We have in fact all elected to respond in conformity with the ideals of the Charter of the United Nations to the fundamental questions posed by the urgency of the affairs of the moment, which weigh so heavily on the fate of the international community.

5. The pending problems, by reason of their number and gravity, and the violation of the fundamental rights of peoples in the Mediterranean and in the mountain ranges of the Andes, which endanger peace and security throughout the world, make complacency impossible and demand constant watchfulness.

6. Now, even those peoples who are far removed from the decision-making centres, because of their increased collective awareness, bring to bear their full influence on the fate of mankind, thus making an original and positive contribution which rejects outmoded concepts and patterns of domination.

7. It is in the area of decolonization that this evolving process is particularly apparent. Were it necessary to give an illustration of the foregoing, the problems of Palestine and South Africa would undoubtedly be the most striking examples. In fact, the consistent manner in which the General Assembly has dealt with the affairs of Palestine and South Africa, and the decisions taken in regard to their respective status, bear witness to the progress achieved in the realization of the principles of the Charter and give proof of the determination of the Assembly fully to discharge its responsibilities, with all the seriousness and urgency demanded by the plight of peoples who have been kept unjustly away from the mainstream of the international community.

8. The effects of decolonization are already noticeable as we look at the composition of the Assembly, with the admission of Guinea-Bissau to the United Nations and the expected entry of Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Cape Verde and Angola. This last country is at present living through tragic times. The case of Angola is, moreover, symptomatic of a new imperialist offensive in that part of Africa, where the liberation of the peoples of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia is hindered by a whole series of acts of political, economic and military interference in an attempt to thwart their aspiration to freedom and independence.

9. To oppose those aspirations is to assume the responsibility of confronting the African peoples with new challenges. In any event, the ideal of liberation will triumph in the end. The will of peoples has always

determined the course of history and if proof is required it is clearly to be found in the history of the peoples of Indo-China.

10. It was precisely in the Indo-Chinese peninsula that the impotence of the United Nations to master or to anticipate events was clearly shown. And yet, in this case, the elements of the solution to the problem were very much within the grasp of the United Nations, which could have affirmed more clearly its mission of peace had it not been paralysed by an obstructive policy the rule of which is to use the United Nations rather than serve its objectives of justice and progress. Be that as it may, we must pay a tribute to the contribution made by the peoples of Indo-China to the consolidation of international security, particularly at a time when they are getting ready to bring to peace the greatness of spirit and moving genius which in war have aroused the respect and admiration of all. This new face of Indo-China, its appeal for co-operation, its will to participate in the efforts of the community in order to create a more just and humane world, deserve the full consideration of the entire international community.

11. The return of the legitimate Cambodia, so long excluded from this body, which I have the honour to welcome on behalf of the Assembly, is a sharp reminder of the opportunities of playing its true part missed by the Organization and enjoins me to bring solemnly to the Assembly's attention the past mistakes which led to the deadlocks of which we are all aware and compels me to request that you ponder the possibility of their recurrence which would inevitably lead to the same difficulties.

12. By the defiance of the will of the international community to welcome as full Members the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam, the Organization is being deprived once again of its vocation of universality and the possibility of fulfilling its first duty, that of assisting that martyred region of the world to heal the wounds of a devastating war.

13. The interest of the United Nations demands this, as it demands, moreover, that we pursue our efforts to create propitious conditions for the peaceful reunification of Korea. We hope that the days of rancour are over and that lucidity, which generates hope, may open the way for the great meeting of the peoples.

14. On the solution of the political problems we are to confront depends the credibility of this Organization and, therefore, its power to give to its decisions all the weight they need to bring about qualitative changes in an ever more interdependent world.

15. The United Nations in fact has arrived at a crossroads in its orientation, and, since its very destiny is at stake, we must together seek out common and appropriate lines on which to ensure its reconversion, with a view to overcoming the political and economic uncertainties of our time and reducing antagonisms.

16. True, the machinery with which our Organization is endowed does not work well. The institutional imbalance between the principal organs of the United Nations and the hypertrophy of powers inherent in abuses of the use of the veto have accentuated this anomaly to the extent that the balance in their relations as originally defined is upset and no longer

corresponds to the reality of the new forces that have emerged since 1945. The world has witnessed the emergence of forces whose constant will has been to propose for the good of all solutions capable of doing away with the serious distortions affecting all international political and economic relations. In this connexion the twenty-ninth session, like the seventh special session, is the result of a long and patient search for a dialogue designed to overcome the contradictions, too long ignored, in various international meetings.

17. The cohesion and the careful solidarity of the developing world have imposed a global vision of the problems of the world and paved the way for a new world order. For their part, the wealthy countries appear today to recognize that the maintenance of their own peace demands that the arguments of their less privileged partners concerning the necessary reform of a system in a critical condition no longer be rejected. It was precisely this attitude which made it possible for first the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order [resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI)] and then the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States [resolution 3281 (XXIX)] to appear. Nevertheless, we still have to promote political conditions favourable to the establishment of a new international economic order.

18. Perhaps we should also say that the countries of the third world, which possess neither military nor economic power, today have the historical privilege of contributing by their moral force to the realization of the ideals of the Charter.

19. The work of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly begins with the questions included on an especially heavy agenda, while the activities of the United Nations have certainly known no respite, since the seventh special session has just ended and the twenty-ninth session closed only a moment ago. This increase in work which, I am sure, is felt by all will in any event have the merit of showing more clearly what the various positions on the questions before us are and what course future debates will follow. But, since we are faced with the burning problems of today, we shall be led to confirm this will to reflect the changes that are shaping the new face of mankind. We should like to believe this, and we hope that we shall embark on this course.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Credentials of representatives to the thirtieth session of the General Assembly:

(a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee

20. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Rule 28 of the rules of procedure provides that the General Assembly at the beginning of each session shall appoint, on the proposal of the President, a Credentials Committee consisting of nine members.

21. Accordingly, I propose that, for the thirtieth session, the Credentials Committee should consist of the following Member States: Belgium, China, Costa Rica, Libyan Arab Republic, Mali, Mongolia, Union

of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America and Venezuela.

22. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the countries I have mentioned are hereby appointed members of the Credentials Committee.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 4

Election of the President

23. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now invite the members of the General Assembly to proceed to the election of the President of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly. In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election will be held by secret ballot.

At the invitation of the Temporary President, Mr. Jamal (Qatar) and Mr. Datcu (Romania) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Number of ballot papers: | 137 |
| Invalid ballots: | 0 |
| Number of valid ballots: | 137 |
| Abstentions: | 0 |
| Number of members voting: | 137 |
| Required majority: | 69 |
| Number of votes obtained: | |
| Mr. Thorn (Luxembourg) | 135 |
| Mr. Ramphul (Mauritius) | 1 |
| Mr. Baroodi (Saudi Arabia) | 1 |

Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Gaston Thorn (Luxembourg) was elected President of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly.

24. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I call on the representative of Mauritius.

25. Mr. RAMPHUL (Mauritius): The election of the President of this Assembly is held by secret ballot; I therefore feel it would be improper for me to explain my vote or to comment on the general voting. However, I would like to state that I am not at all amused by the delegation which voted for the representative of Mauritius; I find it rather embarrassing.

26. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Mr. Gaston Thorn of Luxembourg has been elected nearly unanimously. By electing Mr. Gaston Thorn of Luxembourg with virtual unanimity to preside over the thirtieth session, the General Assembly has just reached a wise and important decision.

27. Our friendship for him is thereby corroborated. Because of that friendship and because we are familiar with the virtues of this statesman, I should like, on behalf of the General Assembly and on my own behalf, to extend our heartiest and most sincere congratulations to our new President, out of our conviction that the mission which has just been entrusted to him will be carried out successfully.

28. I invite him to assume the presidency of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly.

Mr. Thorn (Luxembourg) took the Chair.

Address by Mr. Gaston Thorn, President of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly

29. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): It was with genuine emotion that I followed the Chief of Protocol as he conducted me a moment ago to this rostrum. You have just chosen for the thirtieth time, from among yourselves, the one to whom you have decided to entrust the responsibility of directing your important deliberations in the coming months. I wish sincerely to express to you my deep appreciation for this. I consider my election, and the confidence which it demonstrates, primarily as a tribute to the country which I have the honour to represent and which, in its foreign policy, has always worked for a better understanding among all nations; a tribute to a country which, since the founding of the Organization, has been the advocate here of conciliation and co-operation.

30. I wish this tribute to be shared by the group of Member countries with which Luxembourg maintains and is developing very special links of political kinship, or even of integration, the countries in fact which proposed my candidacy.

31. My admiring thoughts turn next to the great statesmen who have preceded me in this high office, all of whom have brought great credit to our world Organization. I am thinking in particular of my immediate predecessor, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Algeria, my great friend, Mr. Bouteflika. He has presided in an outstanding manner, often in difficult circumstances, over both the twenty-ninth session and the recent seventh special session of the General Assembly. I, for my part, will try to draw inspiration from the best examples set by those who have occupied this position before me.

32. It is reassuring for me to know that in our work we shall be able to count on the full support and the selfless and untiring devotion of the Secretary-General and all his colleagues. They will bring us the benefit of the enormous store of wisdom and experience in international relations which they have accumulated over the years.

33. The responsibility which has fallen to me by virtue of your choice is a very heavy one—I am perfectly aware of it—and I will endeavour to prove myself worthy of the great trust that you have been kind enough to place in me. My dearest wish is to do everything I possibly can to ensure that this jubilee Assembly will produce effective results for the good of mankind. It goes without saying that this difficult task far exceeds the capacity of one person or even of a group of persons, and it is clear that we can make true progress only through the effective collaboration of all delegations.

34. It is now 30 years since the United Nations was founded in the aftermath of the cataclysm of the Second World War. In his report, the Secretary-General, Mr. Kurt Waldheim, reviews remarkable changes which have taken place during the last three decades. I fully endorse his statement that:

"The evolution of the post-war world—including the introduction of nuclear weapons, the establishment of regional military pacts, the accelerated pace of decolonization, the extraordinary advances

of applied science and technology, dramatic increases in population and the emergence of a large group of independent developing nations—has created a new geopolitical structure in the past 30 years. Thus the basis of power, both political and economic, in the world as a whole has changed radically in a way which could not be foreseen at San Francisco.” [A/10001/Add.1, sect. I]

35. The United Nations has contributed, often substantially, to the developments I have just cited. This is an achievement which we all too often tend to forget. In fact, we have thus been able to confirm that the aims of our Organization coincide with the aspirations of the growing number of Member States, and that its basic rules are sound and its structures sufficiently flexible to be able to adapt to new demands.

36. The slow but steady progress towards universality has without doubt been the most striking and satisfying development of this period. There were only some 50 of us founder Members in 1945. If the Assembly so decides, in a few moments we shall be more than 140 Member States, representing in this Hall more than 95 per cent of the population of the world.

37. This essential development, I wish to stress, has not come about by chance. It is the reflection of a resolute political will. We must do everything we can to carry it to a conclusion and avoid anything which might jeopardize it.

38. We know that we do not all share the same view of political life; that, unfortunately, our ideological struggles still all too often sow the seeds of mistrust; that our economic interests, although interdependent, often diverge; and that too many differences still make understanding difficult. However, it is here, in this Hall, that we have all come together—that we must all come together—to make known our differences, examine our motivations and, if possible, find solutions. For there are, beyond all that can divide us, common purposes, common objectives, to which we have all promised to adhere and which our Charter proclaims in Article 1 in an order which it is worth recalling on this thirtieth anniversary.

39. We have in fact solemnly undertaken to “maintain international peace and security”, to “develop friendly relations among nations” and to “achieve international co-operation”.

40. The maintenance of international peace and security is a necessary condition for all progress. Wars, be they declared or undeclared, always cost lives, resources and energy. They are always destructive.

41. On various occasions the United Nations has played an important role in the maintenance of peace in the world. I am thinking in particular of the Middle East and Cyprus. It is true that success has not been total, a fact we must recognize, since the disputes are far from settled.

42. Thus the problem of the Middle East remains, unfortunately, one of the permanent items on our agenda. However, I am most happy to note that, thanks to the joint efforts made through United States Secretary of State Henry Kissinger by the leaders of Egypt and Israel, considerable progress has been achieved just recently by the conclusion of new dis-

agement agreements. They do not yet concern more than very partial aspects of this dispute. It is my most sincere wish that the Assembly, without of course infringing the statutory prerogatives of the Security Council, may contribute to a peaceful and lasting solution. Such a solution, as we are all aware, may be built only on respect for the rights of the Palestinians and for the right of the peoples of all the States of the region to live in peace within secure and recognized borders. May the dialogue among all the parties concerned, for which this Assembly is providing an opportunity, serve to reconcile the viewpoints on these two aspects of the question. That is my desire.

43. With regard to the problem of Cyprus, the United Nations is on the spot and is playing a particularly active role in a settlement thanks to the good offices of the Secretary-General, under whose auspices the intercommunal negotiations are being held. From this rostrum I should like to thank Mr. Kurt Waldheim for the devotion he has shown and to encourage him in the difficult task that still lies ahead. I am sure that the Assembly will do everything in its power to support him. It is particularly important that the intervals that inevitably occur from time to time between the negotiations do not serve to harden attitudes but rather that they be put to good use to clarify the positions and to make serious preparations for subsequent stages which should lead to a peaceful solution in the not-too-distant future.

44. In the meantime, the presence of an international force on the spot, in both cases, is unquestionably helpful, since it separates the belligerents, if only by a very thin line, and because it ensures a minimum check on compliance with the agreements that have been reached.

45. The success of these peace missions is all too often not recognized in the world. Every human life is precious and every war brought to an end or halted temporarily represents progress in mankind's arduous struggle to ensure a worth-while life for all.

46. It is regrettable that the Security Council has never been able to set up a real international force, one which would be available in case of need, as provided for in Article 43 of the Charter. Pragmatic solutions can certainly—and happily—be found, but I wonder how the United Nations would be able to play this role if the various States concerned with these conflicts were not full-fledged Members of our Organization and if, in particular, their presence among us in this Assembly did not provide the international forces with indispensable moral support.

47. Peace must be accompanied by security, that is to say, above all mutual trust as to our intentions in the medium term and even in the long term, so that the inevitable political developments, the pressing social adjustments and the onerous task of economic restructuring can take place in a calm and tranquil atmosphere, and not amidst violence and disorder.

48. If we are really looking to solve political problems by peaceful means, we must not abandon the hope that the participation of all concerned in our debates will one day truly bear fruit.

49. There is, of course, yet another test of our peaceful intentions, namely, disarmament. I must note with regret that our Organization cannot report any real

progress in this field. I am well aware of the complex nature of the problem—the modalities, control and spheres of application—and I will not dwell on them. It is true that a lack of trust which is not always groundless, the continuing rivalry of ideologies and the aggressive impatience of many aspirations do little to persuade States that they will be able to dispense henceforth with the means of safeguarding their own security. Nevertheless, it is rather discouraging to see that armaments are proliferating, to see so many resources and so much energy expended on stockpiling and on developing systems of destruction.

50. That is why the Charter enjoins us to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples.

51. Just looking around this Hall brings home the realization that all mankind is represented here—with its convictions, with its contradictions, but also with its hopes.

52. As we meet together here for more than three months every year and as we establish relations among ourselves, even if they are only formal, in the course of discussions, we get to know one another better. Even through the most virulent criticism, even through condemnation, this humanity which we represent is trying to find itself. In any event we can no longer ignore each other. Perhaps we shall ultimately meet and be reconciled.

53. The fact that this Assembly has gradually become an instrument of universal dialogue is due first and foremost to the success of the work done by the Organization and its Members in the field of decolonization, work which regretfully still remains to be completed.

54. We must note once again this year that completely intolerable situations continue to exist in southern Africa. It is essential for the United Nations vigorously to pursue its activities with a view to ensuring that in southern Africa too the fundamental rights of human beings and peoples are finally guaranteed. The General Assembly has consistently and very forcefully expressed its determination to ensure that the right of self-determination is implemented in this region too. May we hope that the still faint signs of progress we have detected these past few months will gain in strength and scope and that the movement thus begun will lead to the desired result within a reasonable period of time? It would in any event be wise for the authorities who still hold the key to the situation to make the necessary concessions in their own interest.

55. I hope I am not wrong in stressing these positive aspects nor too optimistic in daring to believe that the second generation of the United Nations will be one of conciliation—an era in which, once the vulnerability of each and the interdependence of all have been amply demonstrated in the matter of security and of economic and social development, and once the folly of confrontation has been exposed, States will make a determined effort to achieve, as the Charter enjoins them to do, “international co-operation in solving international problems”.

56. From the very outset our Organization has made a special effort to co-operate in the field of human

rights. First, we had the ambitious Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and later the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Unfortunately, the Declaration has no binding force. As for the Covenants, they have not yet received a sufficient number of accessions to enter into force. Their provisions are often considered not far-reaching enough. Even though a number of countries, such as mine, for example, belong to an effective regional system of surveillance over the implementation of human rights, much still remains for our Organization and for those who subscribe to its principles to do in this field. Moreover, our citizens are well aware of the fact that in their day-to-day life the instruments in this field are less important than the actual behaviour of States.

57. One particular aspect of human rights, namely, the role and status of women in society, was the subject this year of a major world conference held in Mexico City a few months ago. It will be for this Assembly to provide the necessary impetus to ensure that the results of the conference will be rapidly translated into reality.

58. International economic co-operation has been slower in starting and the aims of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade are far from being achieved. More than half of the world's inhabitants still live in want and millions of human beings remain condemned to absolute poverty. Although world food production is steadily increasing, the balance between supply, which is still dangerously subject to climatic fluctuations, and demand, which is continuously inflated by the growth in the world's population, remains extremely precarious.

59. The soaring rise in oil prices, which began scarcely two years ago, has dealt a severe blow to the expansion of the world economy. Concurrently—and I must point this out without going into either the scope or diversity of its causes at this juncture—inflation has gathered speed at an alarming pace in all countries.

60. The continuing dislocations in the international monetary system are a further element of insecurity. The decrease in world demand and the consequent slowing down of production have led to a massive rise in unemployment.

61. Owing to the interdependence of national economies, it is the non-oil-producing developing countries which, faced with a fall in their export earnings that are often based on one or a few commodities, are feeling the full weight of and suffering most from the slowing down of economic activity in the world.

62. This balance sheet of the situation is far from encouraging and hardly conducive to optimism. Nevertheless, for many years great efforts have been made to remedy this highly unsatisfactory state of affairs: at the sixth special session of the General Assembly, at the World Food Conference and at the Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization [UNIDO], to mention only a few examples.

63. Finally, after long weeks of absorbing discussions and negotiations characterized by the earnest-

ness and determination of the participants, the seventh special session of the General Assembly, devoted to development and international economic co-operation, has just ended. At that session the facts of the world economy were thoroughly re-examined.

64. The idea of a far-reaching and necessary transformation of the international economic structures has just been given practical expression in terms of a highly important political undertaking bearing on a coherent set of policies and actions which open up the way to a more equitable sharing of the world's riches and herald the striking of a new balance of interests between industrialized countries and developing countries in favour of the latter.

65. Thus the United Nations is once again demonstrating its capacity to adjust to challenges of a hitherto unknown magnitude.

66. The constructive climate in which the negotiations have been held constitutes a triumph for the spirit of conciliation and international co-operation. It was created partly by the new political will and partly by a clearer comprehension and a more unconditional acceptance of the economic interdependence of all States.

67. All the participating countries deserve equal credit for the unique and sometimes unexpected efforts they contributed to the success of the seventh special session.

68. After the Lomé Convention, signed on 28 February of this year between 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries,¹ after the opening of the European-Arab dialogue, the European Economic Community has found here a further opportunity to confirm its dedication to and desire for co-operation with the countries of the third world.

69. I was pleased to hear that the President of the French Republic, Mr. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, had decided to convene a new preparatory conference of industrialized and developing countries on 15 October at the latest in Paris.

70. The Group of 77, which originated the idea of the new international economic order and promoted it with determination and conviction, has, by the maturity and sense of responsibility it has shown here, established itself as a new force, as a factor for progress and peace, dedicated to the cause of development.

71. The thirtieth session of the General Assembly will have the difficult task of maintaining, if not intensifying, the impetus of transnational solidarity and of furthering the cause of justice among nations with a view to ensuring that the work begun at the seventh special session is translated into reality through specific and tangible actions for the benefit of all the developing countries, especially the least developed among them.

72. The development strategy must be viewed as a whole. It cannot be reduced to a redefinition, however fundamental, of the economic relations among States. To be really effective, world economic action calls for indispensable concurrent measures at several levels. To begin with the international level, the strategy must be supplemented by urgent and unflagging efforts to check and control the population explosion in the regions of the world in which it is occurring

at a particularly dramatic pace. Thanks also to particular initiatives taken during the present year, the improvement in environmental and housing conditions will help substantially to raise the living levels of our populations. Furthermore, at the national level also, far-reaching and often radical changes are to be promoted to ensure a fairer redistribution of wealth. The reform of social structures, the expansion and extension of rural development and the implementation of action programmes to combat poverty and under-employment are among the decisions which must be given absolute priority.

73. All these problems, which I have been able only to enumerate, all these activities which I have at most outlined, are, in the final analysis, linked to the essential objective, which is, as I have already said, to enable the inhabitants of the world to live better, in greater dignity and in greater freedom, as should not be forgotten. We shall achieve this only through the co-operation of all our peoples. This co-operation demands that trust, peace and security should prevail among States.

74. Otherwise, this statement is only a recapitulation of the Charter. I have quoted some of its provisions and referred to others. My main idea has been to show that, although there have been failures, although the successes have often been only partial and although the work still to be done is immense, we have found over the past 30 years constant inspiration and effective guidelines in our basic texts.

75. Our exacting and often tedious daily work should not make us forget this. All Member States have acceded to the Charter freely and in full knowledge of the facts. It is the Charter which must continue to guide our actions, both yours and mine. Only thus can the Organization, and more particularly the General Assembly, really become the "centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends".

76. That is, in any event, as I am quite convinced, what is expected of us by all the peoples of the world, whose eyes will be turned towards us in the days and weeks to come. I call upon you to ensure that we do our utmost not to disappoint the great hopes placed in our work. I for my part am resolved to do this.

AGENDA ITEM 22

Admission of new Members to the United Nations:

(a) Special report of the Security Council (A/10179, A/10238);

(b) Other reports of the Security Council

77. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): In accordance with the procedure followed in the past, I should now like to invite the General Assembly to consider, under agenda item 22, the positive recommendations by the Security Council in documents A/10187, A/10188 and A/10189 for the admission to membership in the United Nations of the Republic of Cape Verde, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the People's Republic of Mozambique.

78. This special procedure has been applied previously in order to give States recently recommended

by the Security Council for membership in our Organization the opportunity, if the General Assembly acts favourably on their requests, to participate from the outset in the work of the session.

79. In this connexion, I should like to draw the attention of the Assembly to a letter addressed to the President of the thirtieth session by the permanent observers of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam, which reads as follows:

"On behalf of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, we have the honour to request that the question of the admission of the Republic of South Viet Nam and of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam should be discussed at the thirtieth session of the General Assembly at the same time as the consideration of the recommendation of the Security Council on the admission of Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe or, at the latest, several days afterwards.

"We also request you to invite each of us to speak in the General Assembly when the debate is opened on the question of the admission of the Republic of South Viet Nam and of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

"We would be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly." [A/10238.]

80. As you are aware, it has become a tradition of the General Assembly to admit at the opening meeting those States whose admission has been the subject of a positive recommendation from the Security Council. If Members agree, the Chair would suggest that we proceed in the traditional manner with respect to the admission of Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe and Mozambique and that the request contained in the letter that I have just read be referred to the General Committee, which is meeting tomorrow afternoon.

81. I sincerely appeal to all Members of the General Assembly to allow me to proceed in the manner I have just explained. If there is no objection, and I see that there is none, we shall proceed accordingly.

It was so decided.

82. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): In documents A/10187, A/10188 and A/10189 the Security Council has recommended the admission of the Republic of Cape Verde, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the People's Republic of Mozambique to the United Nations. The draft resolutions concerning the admission of these new Members are contained in documents A/L.760 and Add.1, A/L.761 and Add.1 and A/L.762 and Add.1.

83. We shall consider first draft resolution A/L.760 and Add.1 on the admission to membership in the United Nations of the Republic of Cape Verde.

84. May I take it that the General Assembly accepts the recommendation of the Security Council and adopts the draft resolution unanimously?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3363 (XXX)).

85. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I declare the Republic of Cape Verde admitted to membership in the United Nations.

The delegation of the Republic of Cape Verde was escorted to its place in the General Assembly Hall.

86. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We turn now to draft resolution A/L.761 and Add.1 on the admission to membership in the United Nations of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe.

87. May I take it that the General Assembly accepts the recommendation of the Security Council and adopts the draft resolution unanimously?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3364 (XXX)).

88. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I declare the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe admitted to membership in the United Nations.

The delegation of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe was escorted to its place in the General Assembly Hall.

89. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We turn now to draft resolution A/L.762 and Add.1 on the admission to membership in the United Nations of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

90. May I take it that the General Assembly accepts the recommendation of the Security Council and adopts the draft resolution unanimously?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3365 (XXX)).

91. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I declare the People's Republic of Mozambique admitted to membership in the United Nations.

The delegation of the People's Republic of Mozambique was escorted to its place in the General Assembly Hall.

92. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Several representatives have expressed a desire to speak at this juncture, after the admission of new Members. I call first on the representative of Portugal.

93. Mr. da COSTA LOBO (Portugal): Mr. President, the Portuguese delegation today is delighted at your election to the presidency of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly and notes with pleasure the fact that circumstances have enabled it to be the first delegation to present to you its sincere felicitations. One of the reasons for the satisfaction which I have just expressed lies in the fact that Luxembourg and Portugal maintain close ties, based on common cultural traditions and reinforced during the last few years by human factors which have given a new dimension to the relations between our two countries. Furthermore, we are confident that your personality and experience will constitute valuable assets favouring the smooth progress and efficiency of the work of this Assembly. My delegation wishes you the greatest success in the fulfilment of your functions and promises you its loyal co-operation.

94. We are present today at the entry of three new States, Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe, into the United Nations.

95. To the peoples of these States, this event represents an important step in the path to accession to their rightful place within the international community and, to the United Nations, it marks an advance of equal importance with respect to its objective of universality. Thus, if on the one hand, the States joining this Organization gain new opportunities for action and new means to defend their interests, the United Nations, on the other hand, acquires greater legitimacy to represent humanity as a whole, as well as larger prospects for success in its activities.

96. It is with natural satisfaction that Portugal participates in the first actions of independent life of the Territories for whose administration it was responsible until a few months ago; and it is particularly gratifying to note that this new life has begun in a climate of co-operation and friendship with the Portuguese people.

97. At this time, I should like to render homage to the intelligence and clear vision of the leaders of the new nations, who, in their attitudes towards Portugal, were able to distinguish between the temporary and the permanent, between the consequence of the erroneous policy of a Government and the true sentiments of the great majority of the Portuguese people, and between the episodes that could divide us and the spontaneous friendship and common aspirations that should unite us.

98. I have no doubts that, thanks to the weight that history always lends to that which is permanent over that which is temporary, a closeness between Portugal and its ex-colonies, sooner or later, will become inevitable. But the fact that co-operation based on friendship has been initiated by the new States since independence is due in large part to their leaders.

99. Perhaps it would not be inappropriate at this time to point out that once the colonial policy of Portugal was radically changed by the revolution of 25 April 1974 the decolonization of the three countries just admitted into the United Nations took place in a relatively short period of time, in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions of the Assembly and with total respect for the agreements reached between the Portuguese Government and the liberation movements.

100. I do not wish to suggest that, in execution of the policy initiated on 25 April, we were doing a favour for which we now seek thanks, for in reality we were complying with an obligation. However, it would perhaps be fair to acknowledge that it was not an easy policy; and, in spite of this, at no moment was our determination to follow that policy to its final consequences weakened. For this very reason I believe that our sincerity in following this same policy with regard to the Territories in which the decolonization process has not yet been completed cannot be doubted.

101. The first of the three new Member States to obtain independence was Mozambique. The fundamental step in this process was the signing of the Lusaka Agreement with the Frente de Libertação de Moçambique [FRELIMO] on 7 September 1974. It was thus that the date for independence was set and the institutions on which political and administrative life would be based during the transitional

period were determined. The establishment of such institutions was based on co-operation between the Portuguese authorities on the one hand and FRELIMO on the other. It is with pleasure that we note that such co-operation was possible, was efficient and was friendly. Mozambique, because of its natural resources, its geographic position and the qualities of its people, will surely have an important role to play in the international community, which in turn should assist it to overcome the natural initial difficulties of the post-independence period. We are convinced that its admission to the United Nations will enable it to give full expression to this potential.

102. With respect to Cape Verde, the final step in its decolonization was set forth in the Agreement signed at Lisbon between the Portuguese Government and the Partido Africano da Independência da Guiné e Cabo Verde [PAIGC] on 18 December 1974. In this case also, and in accordance with the terms of the Agreement, political and administrative life were based on co-operation between the Portuguese authorities and the local liberation movement, in this case, the PAIGC. As the mission of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples which visited Cape Verde last February can testify, the collaboration between the parties took place without problems, although severe difficulties arising from the precarious economic situation of the archipelago had to be confronted. The distinct causes of this situation have been explained on other occasions. At this time, and with an eye on the future, it seems to me that it is most important to emphasize the necessity that, by international co-operation, the people of Cape Verde be assisted to create an economic structure that can allow it to overcome its difficulties in a stable manner.

103. The last of the three countries to achieve independence was Sao Tome and Principe, in accordance with the Agreement signed by the Portuguese Government and the Movimento de Libertação de São Tomé e Príncipe [MLSTP] at Algiers on 26 November 1974. Again, with respect to this territory, the final step took place in accordance with the stipulations of the pact, enabling Sao Tome and Principe to accede to independence on 12 July 1975. In the economic field, Sao Tome will have to overcome the difficulties inherent in a monoculture, a situation which unfortunately afflicts so many countries in the third world. Thus, also in this case, we believe in the indispensability of international assistance directed at the creation of a more diversified economy, and therefore one less subject to variations of climate and market fluctuations.

104. Please permit me to make a brief aside. I should like to take advantage of this opportunity to transmit the congratulations of my country to the people and Government of Papua New Guinea, which today achieved independence and which we hope to see as a Member of the United Nations in the near future.

105. Portugal feels particularly happy at the entry into the United Nations of the Member States whose admission was approved a few moments ago. We judge it opportune to note that the number of Portu-

guese-speaking delegations to this Assembly now rises from three to six.

106. My delegation confidently hopes that the brotherly relations existing between the Portuguese people and the peoples of the new States will also be expressed within the framework of the United Nations and concretized in the close co-operation between our respective delegations.

107. We are dealing here with countries of different characteristics, problems and geographic locations. We believe, however, that the possibilities for co-operation depend less on similar points of departure than on agreement on final objectives. Furthermore, it seems to us to be significantly important for the United Nations that the common action of countries should not be based systematically on their identical characteristics but should be a combination of unity and diversity, which ensure, as far as possible, a global view of the objectives of this Organization. It is within this perspective that we view the co-operation of the Portuguese delegation with the delegations of Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe.

108. Mr. PETRIĆ (Yugoslavia): Mr. President, let me first of all congratulate you on your election to the high post of President of the General Assembly. At the same time, I should like to stress our great admiration for the way in which the President of the twenty-ninth and seventh special sessions, Ambassador Bouteflika, guided us through those historic sessions.

109. Again this year we have admitted three new States to membership in our world Organization. The very fact that almost no regular session of the Assembly can pass any longer without some new Members joining us is already a cause for the deepest satisfaction, as it is unassailable proof not only that the United Nations is an irreplaceable and vital instrument of the community of nations but that it constantly grows stronger, and is needed more all the time.

110. This time our Organization has again taken a new, long step towards full universality by admitting Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe to membership. On behalf of the Government and peoples of socialist, non-aligned Yugoslavia, let me congratulate the peoples, liberation movements, Governments and leaders of those three countries whose revolutionary liberation wars have contributed a new glorious page in the history of struggle against colonialism, imperialism and any other form of foreign domination. My country, which itself emerged 30 years ago from a liberation war that was at the same time a socialist revolution, maintained the closest links with the liberation movements of those three new Members and endeavoured to help them in all possible ways, conscious of the debt of solidarity. For, while the true liberation of every people and country must be the result of their own struggle, no one can fight in isolation, and every true revolution, every true liberation war, enjoys the sympathies and support of progressive freedom-loving humanity.

111. This day is a great one for the United Nations and, at the same time, it is a great day for the non-aligned movement. It is no accident that almost every new or newly liberated State wants to join, and joins, the group of non-aligned nations. Non-alignment, as

a world policy, is an answer to the most crucial requirements of international relations in our age. These are, among others, the sovereign equality and independence of nations, the democratization of international relations where all are sovereign and none is subordinate. It is for that reason that the policy and posture of non-alignment naturally offers a most viable position and framework for most. Therefore, it is not accidental that the increase in the membership of the United Nations in the last several years meant an increase in the number of non-aligned countries generally, and in their number and role in the United Nations particularly.

112. By the same token, their individual and joint responsibility for the progress and effectiveness of the United Nations in finding common solutions for mankind is commensurately greater. The recent non-aligned meetings at Havana and Lima pronounced themselves on that subject very specifically. We have no doubts that the presence in our ranks of Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe, their gifted peoples and cadres, steered by the struggle of liberation and socialism, will be a major contribution in that direction.

113. I would only like to state here that we very much hope that very soon we shall be in a position to admit to our membership the Republic of Angola, a country whose liberation movement has been waging a heroic struggle for so long, a struggle that must be permitted to culminate in the complete independence and territorial integrity of that important State, without any foreign interference whatsoever.

114. We cannot but address ourselves to what can be called the second part of item 22—"Admission of new Members to the United Nations"—of this thirtieth regular session, which is the right of admission of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the Democratic Republic of North Viet Nam.

115. The position of my delegation, a position of full and unwavering support for their due and speediest entry into our ranks, was fully explained in our statement in the Security Council,² and I do not need to repeat it here. It was most unfortunate and unjust that the veto of a single delegation prevented the representatives of the two Vietnamese States, of their heroic peoples who suffered so much in achieving their historic victory, to assume their rightful place among us. They cannot be long denied their right, as no stand against the tide of history can long endure.

116. They are supported by an overwhelming number of States from all groups. The Lima Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the non-aligned countries has indeed decided on behalf of the group of non-aligned countries to move a resolution by which this Assembly would request the Security Council to reconsider the matter. Our position is that neither the action of this General Assembly nor that of the Security Council—which will meet during this Assembly's session—should be unduly delayed.

117. I cannot conclude my statement without expressing our greatest pleasure at seeing the Royal Government of Cambodia, after their tremendous victory, resume their rightful place in the world Organization.

118. Mr. SAUDE MARIA (Guinea-Bissau) (*interpretation from French*): The thirtieth session is taking place in a period of great change in international relations. We welcome the efforts of the international community to eliminate various sources of tension in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Although our Organization, during the 30 years of its life, which have been filled with much experience, has demonstrated failings which are characteristic of any human undertaking, we must unanimously acknowledge that it has striven to create a better climate of peace, security and co-operation among nations.

119. Mr. President, speaking today in this Assembly, we wish first to congratulate you very warmly on your election to the presidency of the thirtieth session. We wish also to congratulate all the other members of the General Committee and to express our wishes for your success in the new tasks which you have just undertaken.

120. We express also to your predecessor, our brother, Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria, our best wishes for success in his career as a politician and a diplomat. He had the difficult mission of presiding over the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly, which he did with his customary skill, bringing to bear the great qualities which we recognize in him.

121. The Secretary-General is a fighter for peace who has worked unstintingly for its maintenance and continues to do so with great vigour, courage and perseverance. We pay a tribute to him and express our best wishes for good health and long life in his service to the great international community.

122. Inasmuch as Mr. Luiz Cabral, President of the Council of State of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, will in a few days' time be making a statement on behalf of our Government, on the international situation, we shall make but a brief statement today. We wish to say on this occasion that it is with great joy and pleasure that we welcome the admission to membership of the People's Republic of Mozambique, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the Republic of Cape Verde in our international Organization.

123. The year 1975 will surely go down in the annals of the history of the struggle of peoples for independence. In Africa, and particularly in the Portuguese colonies, a fresh wind has swept away oppression, bringing with it freedom. After many long years of war imposed by the Portuguese colonialists and requiring enormous sacrifices, the peoples of the Portuguese colonies, with an unshakable will to liberate their homeland, have won their independence, thereby contributing to the struggle of the peoples for freedom, peace and progress in the world.

124. Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe and the Cape Verde Islands, following Guinea-Bissau, have joined the other free peoples of the world and have taken their rightful place in the family of nations.

125. We have a common past of suffering and struggle, and now that we are sovereign nations, and are facing the great task of national reconstruction in our respective countries, we are well aware that our destiny requires that we strengthen further the bonds

which we have always shared. It is for this reason that our delegation warmly welcomes the admission of these fraternal countries, and we reaffirm our determination to work for the objectives which we have set for ourselves.

126. We are aware of the spirit underlying our struggle, and the victory of the peoples of the Portuguese colonies is, we believe, also the victory of all the peoples of the world who love peace, justice and freedom and who will close ranks and join with all those fighting for a better world notably in the international community.

127. Notwithstanding the tragic and complex situation in Angola, total liberation, even more than decolonization, is inevitable, for the Angolan people, who have already made so many sacrifices and shown such selflessness during the many long years of fighting colonial domination, will, with faith and honour, assume their historic responsibility.

128. We wish to take this opportunity to say that we are pleased that the new Portuguese authorities have respected their commitments to their former colonies. The process of decolonization has proceeded according to schedule, and it is our hope that, in spite of certain difficulties which exist in Angola, that country will attain independence in November next and will be seated with us in the international community.

129. In Asia, with the end of the war in Cambodia and in Viet Nam, international tension has been greatly reduced. While we are encouraged by that situation, our concern has not diminished, because of the veto against the admission of North and South Viet Nam to the United Nations. That country has experienced all manner of suffering in the name of the same peace for which we fought, for which we yearn, and we cannot imagine that the Vietnamese people will be denied their rightful place. That people have acquired great experience over many years of war, especially in the search for peace, and that experience might make a major contribution to the attainment of the objectives of our Organization. That people, then, must take their place in the United Nations.

130. Our delegation once again reaffirms its unfailing solidarity with the valiant and heroic people of Viet Nam, and it is with much regret that we see that that sovereign and independent people cannot join our international Organization, which is contrary to the objectives of the United Nations.

131. In conclusion, we wish to reaffirm here and now our determination to work unstintingly for the maintenance of international peace and security, and we wish our Assembly every success in the work that lies ahead.

132. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now call on the representative of Egypt, who will speak on behalf of the African Group.

133. Mr. ABDEL MEGUID (Egypt) (*interpretation from French*): Mr. President, before I make my statement on the admission of the three sister nations, I wish to convey to you my most heartfelt and sincere congratulations on your election to the post of President of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly. My Foreign Minister will express to you personally

and later in the general debate the official congratulations of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

[*The speaker continued in Arabic.*]

134. It gives me pleasure on behalf of the African Group, which Egypt has the honour of presiding over in the current months, to welcome the three sister States of the People's Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Cape Verde and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe as new, full members of the international community, on their attainment of the political independence for which their peoples fought so long. Many victims fell on the battlefield. The memory of those heroes will remain a symbol for their African brothers who have fought for the dignity, liberty and independence of the continent. The three States which have just been admitted by the Assembly need no introduction. We all know a great deal about them, thanks to the numerous documents prepared by the United Nations during the long years of struggle. Those documents were used in drafting a number of recommendations aimed at creating the situation in which we find ourselves today.

135. We are fully convinced that the peoples and Governments of Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe will contribute, together with the other peoples and Governments of the international community, particularly those belonging to the African Group and the developing countries, in playing a constructive role in the field of economic, social and cultural development in order to strengthen international security and in the interest of the welfare and prosperity of mankind.

136. The presence of Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe among us today, and during this session, can be considered as a landmark on the path towards the liquidation of colonialism, a path which was not hit upon accidentally but, as I have already said, was opened up by a long and bitter struggle. That path is marked by the sacrifices of the peoples of those three sister States. Had it not been for their convictions, their objectives, their principles, had it not been for the world-wide support embodied in the numerous resolutions of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity [OAU] and the conferences of the non-aligned countries and other bodies, along with the moral and material support of all the peoples of the world and, finally, the wind of liberty which began to blow in Portugal when that country at last responded to the conscience of the world, nothing would have been possible. The fact that the three States have become Members of the United Nations is proof that we are on the right road and that it is possible, within the international framework, to arrive at an acceptable form of international co-operation in the economic, social and cultural fields, in the interests of the welfare of mankind.

137. The independence of Mozambique and its entry into the United Nations should be duly taken into account in any United Nations resolutions or strategies drafted with a view to overcoming the colonialism and racism which still disfigure that part of Africa.

138. The admission of the three new States to membership in the United Nations is of great significance. Those States need international economic and tech-

nical support in order to enable them to stand on their own feet. The period of transition must be very short—and I am speaking of the period which generally follows political independence. Mozambique, with all its endowments in the way of natural resources, also needs the support and assistance of the Organization and its specialized agencies, as well as that of Member States.

139. On behalf of the African group I should like on this occasion to emphasize the positive role played by the Portuguese Government in recent times in responding to the struggle of the peoples who have in the past been under its domination. The participation of Portugal with the other sponsors in the drafting of the various resolutions submitted to the General Assembly today is a direct result of the wind of liberty which is blowing over Portugal and which heralds a spirit of constructive co-operation that will bring together Portugal and the African States.

140. I do not doubt for a moment that Portugal will continue to play that role until complete independence has been attained by Angola and its people in spite of the difficulties, which we hope will disappear, difficulties between brothers who are struggling and between the three national liberation movements which are fighting for the freedom of Angola. We have great hopes that Angola will attain independence at the date fixed, at any rate before the end of this calendar year, and that we shall see Angola among us as a full, active Member of this Organization in the very near future.

141. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now call upon the representative of Turkey, who will speak on behalf of the group of Western European and other States.

142. Mr. TÜRKMEN (Turkey) (*interpretation from French*): The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey, in his capacity as head of our delegation, will within a few days have an opportunity of expressing to you, Mr. President, his congratulations and good wishes on your election to the presidency of the General Assembly. However, at this stage I should like personally to extend to you my warmest congratulations.

143. On behalf of the group of Western European and other States may I say that it is with great happiness and emotion that we welcome the Republic of Cape Verde, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the People's Republic of Mozambique as Members of the United Nations. We pledge them our full support in the efforts that we shall be called upon together to deploy in order to achieve the objectives of our Organization.

144. With the decisions we have adopted today the United Nations has taken a new step towards the achievement of universality of the Organization and recognition of the right of all peoples to be represented in this Assembly. The process towards universality in our Organization is an irreversible one in contemporary history, exerting a profound influence on the march of world events. We are convinced that, in this context, the new Members will contribute new ideas and initiatives to the United Nations.

145. The group of Western European and other States is gratified at the admission of Cape Verde, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and

the People's Republic of Mozambique. Their admission represents the crowning of the efforts of those countries and a new stage in the decolonization movement.

146. May I add here on behalf of Turkey that it is with special joy that we welcome the new Members, which have taken their places as sovereign States after a struggle fraught with great sacrifice. We wish them every success at this turning-point in their history.

147. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now call on the representative of Uganda, who will speak on behalf of the Organization of African Unity.

148. Mr. ABDALLA (Uganda): I should like to take this opportunity, Sir, to congratulate you on your election to the high office of President of the General Assembly during its thirtieth session. Your election to this office is a clear indication of the confidence the General Assembly has in your personal qualities as a statesman, and a great honour to your country. Your long experience in international affairs will no doubt facilitate our deliberations. May I assure you, Mr. President, that we shall fully support and co-operate with you as you steer the deliberations of this Assembly.

149. Allow me to pay a special tribute to the outgoing President, Mr. Bouteflika, whose untiring efforts in guiding the work of the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly and the seventh special session, which has just ended, will go down in the history of this Organization as a great achievement by that valiant son of Africa; our continent will remain proud of him.

150. I should like to pay a tribute to the Secretary-General, whose diligence in the conduct of the work of the Secretariat of the United Nations, regular visits to hotbeds of tension, and contribution towards peace-keeping and peace-making missions have won him a reputation among, and the respect of, the Member States of this world body.

151. The thirtieth session is taking place at a historic moment when the world is undergoing tremendous political, economic and social changes. In the giant continent of Africa we are witnessing the beginning of the end of the shameful colonial system that has for centuries subjugated the African peoples and plundered their wealth. May I in this respect pay a special tribute to the valiant freedom fighters in Mozambique, the Cape Verde Islands and Sao Tome and Principe, who by their courageous struggle regained their human dignity and in so doing made a remarkable contribution to the reinforcement of the noble ideals embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and gave great hope and encouragement to those still struggling against colonial domination on our continent. We are proud of these young and dynamic African nations, and we take great pleasure in welcoming them to this world body. We also assure them of our co-operation in the important role which they will be playing in shaping a better world for ourselves and future generations.

152. In celebrating the well-deserved victories of these young nations we should not forget our sisters and brothers who are still languishing under abomi-

nable colonial and racial domination in Zimbabwe, Azania, Namibia, so-called French Somaliland, the so-called Spanish Sahara and Palestine.

153. It is our conviction that there can be no lasting peace in the Middle East unless the usurped rights of the Palestinians are restored. We note with satisfaction the admission of the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO] as a full-fledged member of the non-aligned movement. We also recall with pride the admission of the PLO to the United Nations with observer status and we are looking forward to the day when it will become a full member of this world body. Uganda has always supported and will continue to render every possible support to all oppressed peoples, be they in Africa, Asia or Latin America.

154. Perhaps at this juncture we should remember and adhere to the dictum of that brilliant son of Africa, the late Kwame Nkrumah, that "no African nation can consider itself completely free and independent until the whole African continent has been liberated". We firmly believe that as long as millions of innocent people continue to suffer under the outdated and inhuman systems of colonialism, imperialism, racism and Zionism, justice, equality and other noble ideals will never have any meaning.

155. We are also aware of the intrigues and manoeuvres being engineered by the imperialists with the aim of restoring neo-colonialism in those parts they have been forced to leave. It is with this in mind that we should like to warn our brothers and sisters in the newly liberated nations against wolves that might knock at their doors dressed in sheep's clothing. This warning also applies to those now fighting for their freedom: they must guard against the same imperialist manoeuvres, designed to confuse and divide them.

156. Uganda's experience, like that of many other independent States, has proved that gaining political independence is difficult, but maintaining it is even harder and calls for determination and sacrifices. In this connexion, may I, on behalf of the Chairman of the OAU, Mr. Idi Amin Dada, extend our gratitude to the Secretary-General for his valuable contribution to the process of decolonization. Our thanks go also to the socialist countries and the peace- and freedom-loving nations which have rendered moral and material support to the liberation struggle of the newly independent nations in Africa and elsewhere.

157. Having endorsed the admission of these countries, we should not sit back and relax. The world community, the United Nations specialized agencies and private organizations should continue to render economic and technical assistance to our new brothers who have just regained their independence. The world should know that these countries have had terrible wounds inflicted on their economies. Their natural resources have been depleted for so long that if we do not extend a helping hand to them they will not be able to stand on their feet. We must patch up these wounds.

158. The OAU has already taken the lead in assisting these countries by creating a special fund to render economic assistance to them, and it is our hope that the United Nations specialized agencies and all Member States will continue to foster efforts to attain the goal of economic development of these new States.

159. I would like to reiterate here that Uganda has always given material and moral support to these emerging States and that we shall continue to support them in their efforts to consolidate their political and economic independence. I would like to assure our brothers that Uganda will not falter in this task.

160. Our welcome is also extended to those brothers of Indo-China whose indomitable fight against imperialist machinations has gone a long way towards bringing about peace in that part of the world.

161. To our friends in Papua New Guinea we extend congratulations on their hard-won independence and welcome them to this family of nations. We look forward to their contribution to the objectives of this Organization.

162. In conclusion, while we welcome the initiatives that Portugal has so far taken in granting independence to its former Territories, we would like to sound a warning to those divisive imperialist forces that continue to meddle in the affairs of Angola to stop this practice immediately, and we hope that nothing will stop the people of Angola from attaining their well-deserved freedom and independence as scheduled.

163. As far as the OAU is concerned, Portugal is responsible for the administrative malaise that has sprung up in Angola in recent months and it holds Portugal responsible for the current events in that Territory.

164. Mr. RAE (Canada) (*interpretation from French*): Mr. President, on behalf of the Canadian delegation, I wish to congratulate you most warmly on your election and to assure you of the fullest co-operation of the Canadian delegation in the execution of your important functions. We feel confident that your presidency will prove to be an important element in the further development among Member States of working practices of co-operation and conciliation on the important political, economic and other issues which this session of the General Assembly will have before it.

[The speaker continued in English.]

165. On behalf of the Canadian Government, it is my pleasure to welcome as new Members of the United Nations the Republic of Cape Verde, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the People's Republic of Mozambique. The entry of these three States in the United Nations reflects the maturing process of the decolonization effort begun by Portugal in April 1974. The process as regards these three States has been a peaceful one and makes us optimistic about their future as independent members of the international community. The two smaller nations, the Republic of Cape Verde and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, will face many problems common to island territories and in addition will be required to cope with the resettlement of large numbers of returning citizens. The task is a major one, and the Canadian Government has great sympathy for their aspirations. It will support the fullest possible attention on the part of the institutions and the agencies of the United Nations to the development of appropriate programmes which respond to their Governments' priorities.

166. The emergence of Mozambique as an independent country is a watershed in the developing situation in southern Africa. We hope and expect that it will contribute to the solution of the remaining grave problems in that troubled area of the world. We offer our best wishes and firm support to the Government of Mozambique in its efforts to build a strong and cohesive nation and to unite its peoples to face a future of promise.

167. With the admission of these three States the membership of our Organization moves increasingly towards the ultimate goal of a truly universal membership; we may anticipate, before the end of this session, the admission of additional Members. We hope that within the span of a very few more sessions of the General Assembly political problems which are at present inhibiting the entry of independent nations will have been resolved; that the process of decolonization in even the smallest or most troubled Territories which are not yet independent will have reached a peaceful and successful conclusion; and that we may look forward to a time when the United Nations will be well on the way to achieving a genuinely universal membership.

168. Mr. CORRÊA da COSTA (Brazil): In his statement at the opening of this session's general debate, my Foreign Minister, as head of the Brazilian delegation, will convey to you, Mr. President, our Government's congratulations on what we consider to have been your unanimous election to the presidency of the General Assembly. May I be allowed, nevertheless, to extend to you on this occasion my personal compliments on your assumption of the high office you now hold.

169. It is with deep satisfaction that the Government and people of Brazil welcome today the admission to this Organization of three new Member States, all three of them so closely linked to us by blood and culture. The decision we have just taken brings to six the number of Portuguese-speaking nations so far admitted to the United Nations.

170. We extend to the Republic of Cape Verde, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the People's Republic of Mozambique our most hearty congratulations, and we are certain that our common struggle in the international arena, and particularly in the United Nations, for those objectives which are common to us as developing countries will strengthen even more the bonds which our past and our culture have already provided to unite our peoples.

171. Mr. TIANDRAZA (Madagascar) (*interpretation from French*): Mr. President, may I, on behalf of my delegation, tell you how pleased we are to see you presiding over the thirtieth session of the General Assembly, and extend to you our most heartfelt congratulations. I shall have another opportunity to convey to you the expression of our highest regard and that of the Government of Madagascar.

172. The admission of new Members to our Organization has always afforded us an opportunity for rejoicing. The presence among us of the Republic of Cape Verde, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the People's Republic of Mozambique bears witness to the fact that the principles

of the Charter prevail over the belated defence of certain interests. We view their presence here, above all, as the victory of the cause of liberation and independence in Africa and other continents.

173. Colonialism, regarded in the past as an unshakable force, is no more than the shadow of what it was, thanks to the common struggle of erstwhile dominated, subjected, alienated and exploited peoples. That struggle, which is supported by peace-loving and progressive forces throughout the world, will not have been in vain; the sacrifices made by the united African people have borne fruit.

174. My country is honoured to be among those which firmly believe that it is just and noble to recognize the legitimacy of the national liberation movements and to grant them any support they may require. But regardless of the value of our recognition and our assistance, it is only the determination of the peoples concerned that counts. It is for this reason that we pay very special tribute to FRELIMO, to PAIGC and to MLSTP. For many years they have struggled to overcome all the difficulties and obstacles that colonialism and imperialism have placed in their way. They have chosen to fight to liberate their peoples and to build a new society free of all the constraints that stem from domination and exploitation.

175. The revolutionary experience that Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe bring to our Organization cannot but enrich it. It shows that the world can no longer remain insensitive to the upsurge of progressive forces. It gives the international community a new impetus. It offers a picture of what the world of tomorrow will be like.

176. Together with these three countries, we share the same destiny, the same aspirations and the same options. We are nurtured by the same traditions and have grown up in the same culture. It is for this reason that we most warmly applaud their access to international recognition. Because we have co-operated with them in other groups and regional bodies, we are acquainted with the committed and positive contribution they will bring to the promotion of our ideals and the achievement of our objectives. That contribution will do honour to Africa as a whole and provide proof that the peoples of Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe act responsibly.

177. Our satisfaction today would have been greater had we been able at the same time to applaud the admission to the United Nations of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam. We deplore the fact that manoeuvres inherited from the cold war and arbitrary conduct should have prevented these brotherly nations from being able to sit among us today.

178. Be that as it may, the struggle for the liberation of peoples will be pursued and we hope that the path traced by the national liberation movements of Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe will lead to the definitive elimination of colonialism and imperialism in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

179. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I call on the representative of the German Democratic Republic, who will speak on behalf of the Eastern European States.

180. Mr. FLORIN (German Democratic Republic) (*interpretation from Russian*): Mr. President, may I congratulate you on your election to the lofty post of President of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly.

181. It is with great pleasure that the socialist countries welcome the People's Republic of Mozambique, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the Democratic Republic of the Cape Verde Islands as new Members of the United Nations. We congratulate the peoples of those States who have conquered and won their national independence after a long struggle against the colonialist yoke and exploitation which took many victims. At the present time we pay a tribute to the victims of that struggle.

182. The fact that the German Democratic Republic and other socialist States have given support to the Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, the Cape Verde Islands and Mozambique, in their struggle for independence, is entirely in accordance with the traditions of the working classes in our countries and with the principles of the foreign policy of socialist States.

183. The declaration of the People's Republic of Mozambique on 25 June 1975 was not only a historic event in the life of that country, but it was also a further victory in the fight for the right of peoples to self-determination throughout the entire world. Friendly relations were established right away between our States. Those relations are based on our co-operation in the fight for the independence of Mozambique and are characterized by common aspirations for peace, security and social progress.

184. Under the experienced leadership of FRELIMO, the People's Republic of Mozambique at the present time is making a major effort to rid itself of the burdens left by the colonialists. We know that this is a difficult task and we wish to convince the people of Mozambique that it may always rely on our support.

185. We welcome the admission of the People's Republic of Mozambique, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the Cape Verde Islands to the United Nations. We have a duty, at the same time, to deplore the fact that the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam are not yet members.

186. I should like to stress the fact that the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam, in moral, political, and juridical terms, are fully entitled to be members of our Organization. It is our hope that the General Assembly in the coming days will come out in favour of the admission of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam, so that this matter will be resolved without further delay in the interests of the universality of the United Nations.

187. In conclusion, I should like to say to the representatives of the Republic of Mozambique, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the Republic of Cape Verde Islands that we are prepared to extend to them our close and friendly co-operation in the interests of achieving the goals of the Charter of the United Nations.

188. Mr. ACOSTA RODRÍGUEZ (Cuba) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Mr. President, my delegation wishes to reserve its right formally to offer congratula-

tions to you at a later stage. But here and now I wish to pledge our constant co-operation.

189. We are speaking at this stage, at the very outset of the session, for two specific reasons. The first is that we wish to join with others in bidding welcome to the new States which today are full-fledged Members of the United Nations. It is a source of sincere pleasure for Cuba to see how perseverance in the revolutionary struggle has demolished the foundations of colonialism and has led to triumphs over domination. The People's Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Cape Verde Islands and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe are then, in this context, entering our Organization today. Cuba wishes to congratulate them whole-heartedly and to pledge our militant solidarity.

190. Secondly, we wish to say that we support the righting of an historic wrong, the result of political short-sightedness on the part of those who have denied the obvious facts. Here I am referring to the vetoes of the United States cast against the admission of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam at the 1836th meeting of the Security Council which was held on 11 August 1975.

191. The delegation of Cuba spoke, when invited to do so at that meeting, and stated very clearly that if a veto was cast, then the discussion of the matter would be continued in the General Assembly. Consistent with that statement, we will associate ourselves with the contents of the letter addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Permanent Observers of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam.³ My delegation is convinced that the joy with which today we welcome Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe will, sooner or later, be part of the joy which we shall feel as we welcome the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam. Cuba will work constantly towards that end.

192. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now call on the representative of Lebanon, who will speak on behalf of the Asian Group.

193. Mr. GHORRA (Lebanon) (*interpretation from Arabic*): Mr. President, the head of the Lebanese delegation will, in due course, extend his congratulations to you. But I should like to take this opportunity to express to you my personal congratulations and those of the Asian Group, which Lebanon has the pleasure of presiding over this month, on your election as President of this session of the General Assembly. This appreciation is directed also to your country, which is noted for its civilization and for its love of peace.

194. On behalf of the Asian Group, including Lebanon, I would like to welcome the new Members which were admitted to the United Nations—namely, the Republic of Mozambique, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, and the Republic of Cape Verde. These States which have long struggled to achieve independence will undoubtedly contribute to the various activities of the Organization. Their presence among us is of particular significance as we are witnessing the liquidation of colonial times, the increasing independence of free countries, and the

attainment by this Organization of its goals and aspirations, namely, to bring about peace throughout the world and to win respect for mankind and its right to self-determination.

195. There are peoples who are still suffering under the yoke of colonialism and foreign occupation in Africa, Asia and other parts of the world. There are peoples who are still subject to racism and *apartheid*, and it is our duty to strive to liberate them. There are independent and other countries in the final stages of liberation, and we must hasten to bring them here among us. All our efforts should be deployed here in this Organization to bring about understanding and co-operation in international relations and to lay the foundation of justice, to consolidate peace and international security and to promote economic and social development in all areas.

196. This is not a day of rejoicing for Africa alone but also for Asia and the whole world. This is a day when we honour the victory of the struggle for liberation and we hope that the struggle of other peoples for their liberation will be successful and that all countries will take their place in the world community.

197. The world will only know peace when it hears the voice of all peoples, especially those who have been under occupation and who are still under domination. Our Organization must ensure that these efforts succeed; it must also ensure that justice prevails and that aggression is eliminated from the Earth so that justice and peace may reign in the world.

198. Mr. SARIN (Cambodia) (*interpretation from French*): Mr. President, my delegation associates itself with previous speakers in conveying to you its sincere congratulations and best wishes for success in your new office as President.

199. My delegation is very happy to welcome the representatives of the People's Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Cape Verde and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe at the time of the admission of these three countries to the United Nations. May I be permitted to extend to the brave peoples of these States the warmest and most brotherly congratulations and best wishes of the Government and people of Cambodia. We are convinced that they will make a most valuable contribution to our Assembly by bringing their co-operation and experience in order to promote the cause of peace and social progress throughout the world.

200. We must nevertheless deplore the absence of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam, which thus far, and by reason of the veto cast by the United States of America, have been unable to be in our midst. We believe that, after waging a long and heroic struggle for over 30 years for its national liberation and after winning a brilliant victory, the people of Viet Nam do not deserve to be further penalized by our Organization. We venture to hope that, in the very near future, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam will be represented in this Assembly.

201. For many years, although geographically far apart, the peoples of Cambodia, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe, as well as other countries of Asia and Africa, have waged a common struggle side by side in defence of

man's ideal of freedom and dignity. Our peoples have fought in the same trenches and are brothers in arms. Our countries belong to the same family of the non-aligned. We are all the more happy to find that the admission of these three countries to the United Nations should occur at the time when Cambodia has recovered its seat in this Assembly. And by this we mean that our peoples have won their victory almost at the same time, after an arduous struggle, waged at the expense of untold suffering and sacrifice.

202. Our victory is that of determination. Our peoples are poor, our countries are small. All we had were our empty hands with which to face up to imperialism and colonialism which possessed unlimited material means. But, prompted by the indomitable will to defend our rights, our peoples have triumphed over the barbarous, ferocious aggression of the colonialists and imperialists and have shown that a people determined to defend its just cause can conquer any aggressor, however great or powerful he may be.

203. My delegation is gratified at the happy conjunction of circumstances which enables us to recover our seat in the United Nations at a time when he who has constantly supported our people from the earliest dark hours of its struggle was still President of the General Assembly. In fact, Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, acting on the instructions of President Boumediène, took to heart the struggle of the people of Cambodia, which he has always regarded as the struggle of the Algerian people. That is why my delegation takes pleasure in reiterating the sincere thanks of the Government and people of Cambodia to our brothers, the people of Algeria, to President Boumediène and to Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly.

204. Mr. SAITO (Japan): Mr. President, the Chairman of the Japanese delegation will convey to you the formal congratulations of the Government of Japan on your election as President of this Assembly at a later date. However, allow me to take this opportunity to extend to you my personal congratulations on your assumption of this high office.

205. Similarly, I should like to express my gratitude to the President of the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly, Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, for his untiring service in guiding this body throughout its previous session and the seventh special session.

206. It is a great pleasure for my delegation that the General Assembly has just decided unanimously to admit the Republic of Cape Verde the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the People's Republic of Mozambique to membership in the United Nations. On this auspicious occasion I wish to express, in the name of the delegation of Japan, our sincere congratulations and warm welcome to these new Member States. My personal gratification is all the more because it was last month that the Security Council, during my term as its President, unanimously decided to recommend to the General Assembly that they be admitted.

207. We rejoice with the Governments and the peoples of these three nations on the achievement of their complete independence. Their glorious independence has made it possible for them to take their rightful place in this Organization and to join in our

concerted efforts for the accomplishment of the supreme objectives enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

208. My delegation is extremely gratified to see that these three States have acceded to independence in a peaceful and orderly manner according to the agreement reached with the Government of Portugal. We are firmly convinced that they will soon overcome the many problems they face in building their nations. The international community will assist them in their efforts for nation building and development.

209. My delegation believes that the Assembly's decision today will bring the United Nations significantly closer to the universality of membership. That in turn will strengthen the functions of the United Nations in the fields of decolonization and the maintenance of international peace and security.

210. The Government of Japan recognized the People's Republic of Mozambique on 25 June 1975, the Republic of Cape Verde on 11 July 1975 and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe on 22 July 1975. The Government and people of Japan strongly desire to co-operate closely with the peoples of the new Member States and to promote close and friendly relations with them both within and outside the United Nations.

211. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I call on the representative of Italy, who will speak on behalf of the European Economic Community.

212. Mr. VINCI (Italy) (*interpretation from French*): Mr. President, since this is the first time that I am speaking in the General Assembly, I wish first of all to perform a very pleasant duty. In a few days my Foreign Minister will perform this same duty with greater authority and more eloquence, but I wish to say that my Government and my country are very pleased at your election to the presidency of the General Assembly. Please accept our sincerest congratulations and our best wishes.

[*The speaker continued in English.*]

213. Speaking now on behalf of the European Economic Community and its member States, I should like to take this opportunity to welcome most warmly the three new Members of our world Organization—Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe. May I add that we regard this event, namely, the admission to the United Nations of these three former Portuguese Territories, as a most significant one, since it marks another shining milestone on the road to independence of most of the African peoples.

214. We rejoice furthermore that the accession to independence and self-determination by these countries has gone through its final and fruitful stage thanks to the full understanding, collaboration and support of the Government of Portugal. The EEC countries in fact have long advocated and urged such a constructive change in the relationship between Portugal and these peoples as well as with Africa as a whole.

215. On behalf of the EEC countries may I add, with your permission, Sir, that we all look forward to an era of full co-operation with the new Member States. Our expectations rely confidently on their capacity to bring into our Organization the healthy approach and stamina of youth as well as the expe-

rience and maturity acquired through a valiant struggle for independence and self-determination.

216. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I call now on the representative of Venezuela, who will speak on behalf of the Latin American Group.

217. Mr. CONSALVI (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Mr. President, as the representative of the Latin American Group, I have the honour to congratulate you upon your election to the high office of President of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly and, at the same time, to wish you every success in your important tasks.

218. On behalf of all the countries which compose the Latin American Group, it is for me an honour and a privilege to greet and extend a welcome to the three sovereign and independent States which this afternoon have joined the United Nations.

219. We share the profound emotion of the delegations of Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe. With their presence they will invigorate the United Nations, which, with each passing day, is becoming more democratic and more genuinely representative of all the peoples of the earth.

220. After 30 years we are witnessing the downfall of colonialism throughout the world. This is one of the great conquests of the United Nations and the realization of one of the fundamental principles in its Charter. The struggle for liberation of these peoples of Africa was not easy. Their triumph and their presence here show once again that it is always vain to oppose the forces of history. Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe are now sovereign States. But their fight is not over. In the United Nations they have their allotted task side by side with the countries of the developing world, in the joint efforts of the developing countries in this world forum.

221. Latin America, whose ties with the peoples of Africa are both close and of long date, greets these three new republics and pays tribute on this memorable occasion to those who led their liberation movements. On behalf of our group, which has always been known for its anti-colonialist views, I express our pleasure at seeing Mozambique, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe enter this world Organization where we shall be striving for common aims.

222. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now call on the representative of Qatar, who will speak on behalf of the Arab Group.

223. Mr. JAMAL (Qatar) (*interpretation from Arabic*): Mr. President, it gives me honour and pleasure, on behalf of the Arab Group and as Chairman of that Group, to extend to you our warmest congratulations on your election as President of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly. We are deeply convinced that this session will be crowned with success under your leadership. On this occasion I should like also to express our thanks and appreciation to your predecessor, our brother Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, for the great success he achieved during his presidency of the twenty-ninth session.

224. On this occasion I should like, on my own behalf and on behalf of the Arab Group, to welcome whole-heartedly those States which have been admitted to our Organization: the Republic of Cape Verde,

the People's Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the Republic of Mozambique, wishing them all success. We are convinced that their admission here among us will enable them to make a contribution and to play a role in attaining our common goals for the liberation and independence of those peoples who are still living under racist settlement régimes in Africa, in the Middle East and in other parts of the world.

225. We hope to see here among us in the very near future the true representatives of South Africa, Palestine, Rhodesia, Namibia, Angola and all the colonized peoples who are living under racist settlement régimes.

226. Mr. MALINGA (Swaziland): On behalf of my delegation, I ask you, Mr. President, to accept our sincere congratulations on your election as the thirtieth President of this body.

227. As Africans, my delegation's sentiments with regard to the acceptance of the three new brother States of Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe and the People's Republic of Mozambique have been eloquently expressed by the representative of Egypt, Chairman of the African Group for the month of September, and were again well articulated by the representative of Uganda, the current Chairman of the OAU.

228. As a southern African, as a friendly neighbour of the People's Republic of Mozambique and, above all, as a blood brother of the people of Mozambique, I would be failing in my duty if I did not express, on behalf of His Majesty King Sobhuza II and the people of the Kingdom of Swaziland, how happy we are in Swaziland that at last our brothers have done it. They have made it after a very long and bitter struggle. It was a high price to pay; I know no other price as high as the price of life. It was worth it.

229. The independence of Mozambique represents a new era to us. It is a significant step on the long road to the total liberation of the whole area. The gaining of independence by Mozambique through the gallant FRELIMO—the true heroes of the independence of that country—has brought a new ray of hope, not only to us as Swazis, but to the people of southern Africa as a whole. Words cannot convey with sufficient accuracy the expectations of our brothers who aspire one day to run the affairs of their people. Negotiating machinery is in motion to fulfil those aspirations. Talk of independence is in the air. The winds of change which have long been blowing in Africa have gathered new momentum; old men and children are dreaming dreams of freedom. It is the belief of my country that through peaceful means those dreams will one day materialize and our brothers in the region as a whole will one day participate in the decision-making process of their country, the country they helped to build.

230. The admission of our three brother countries symbolizes the resistance of the African people to a dominant superculture that has been imposed on them through the long, long years with vigorous brutality. They have survived. We have all survived the strongest "mega-machine" that this century has ever known. We all wish that our brothers in Mozambique look forward to the future with courage.

231. The inter-State system is witnessing a new era. We seem to be moving in a new direction of negotiation, and it is my delegation's wish that our unfortunate brothers in Angola should take advantage of this mood, that they should sit down and talk, talk to one another as brothers. This is the time for them to celebrate; this is the time for them to think of what they have done, and I hope that reason will prevail.

232. Mr. MITCHELL (United States of America): Mr. President, I am sure that the leader of our delegation would have me say that he congratulates you on your election to your high position. I am sure also that in his own way and at another time he will make a similar and more gracious statement.

233. As a representative of the host country, it brings me great satisfaction to welcome three new Members to the United Nations family. We are particularly pleased to welcome the delegation of the Republic of Cape Verde. As many of you who are here know, the greatness of the United States of America is due in part to the fact that we have been blessed by fortune with contributions from many lands. Our culture has been enriched by almost all of you who are here through those who left your countries to come here and become citizens of our nation.

234. A long history of friendship and co-operation exists particularly between the peoples of Cape Verde and the United States. We have enjoyed co-operation and there is a bond of kinship that binds us. Over the decades a large number of Cape Verdeans have emigrated to the United States. Leaders of the Cape Verdean community estimate that between 200,000 and 300,000 American citizens are of Cape Verdean descent. That number approaches the population of the Cape Verde Islands themselves.

235. We extend our congratulations to the representatives of the Republic of Cape Verde, the People's Republic of Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe. We assure them of the full co-operation of the delegation of the United States and extend to them the warm greetings of all the American people.

236. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now take pleasure in inviting the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cape Verde, Mr. Abilio Augusto Monteiro Duarte, to address the General Assembly.

237. Mr. DUARTE (Cape Verde) (*interpretation from French*): We had to travel a long and difficult road before reaching the historic date of 5 July last, when our national independence was declared. Our people's attainment of sovereignty and control of its own destiny and its recovery of its national identity is part of the great struggle of the peoples of the third world for true freedom, dignity, the well-being of all citizens and economic progress and social development.

238. Today is the day when our young State has joined the United Nations, the most important international Organization of all time. This is a red-letter day for our people. Today our people becomes a sovereign people and henceforth will make a contribution to its own development on an equal footing with all the other peoples of the world.

239. Many of our companions have fallen on the field of honour and they have not seen the sun of freedom shine. They have made the supreme sacrifice in order that we may today win back our dignity, which for centuries was clouded.

240. We would address to our heroic companions, and particularly to Amílcar Cabral, our highest tribute and the expression of our great respect, because, in their devotion to the sacred cause of our people, they showed themselves to be the most valorous of the sons of our country. We deeply regret that Amílcar Cabral is not with us today to experience these moving moments. He was our guiding genius and the principal architect of our victories; he foresaw the whole development of our struggle for liberation and mobilized the moral and material forces which were necessary for victory.

241. The gigantic efforts made by our people during our struggle for national liberation were never made in isolation. Thus, today, we have attained our objectives. Our sovereignty, formally recognized here today, is also the work of the United Nations, the African countries in the Organization of African Unity, the socialist countries and all peace-loving and freedom-loving forces throughout the world.

242. On this occasion, on behalf of our people and our Government, may I address our sincerest thanks to the Secretary-General, Mr. Kurt Waldheim, to the outgoing President, Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, to the African Group in the United Nations and to all those representatives who throughout the many years of our struggle for liberation stubbornly defended our cause in the Fourth Committee and in particular in the Committee of 24. Through their tireless efforts in defence of the fundamental rights of our people, they have made an inestimable contribution to our liberation, thus making it possible for their countries to rise to the level of the noble and lofty moral principles governing this international Organization.

243. Our warmest thanks also go to all those countries which recognized our country so promptly after the declaration of our independence. That gesture showed undeniably that they were in favour of the liberation of our people, and was a considerable contribution to the consolidation of our young State. Our warmest thanks go also to the members of the Security Council for favourably and decisively recommending our admission to this General Assembly.

244. We are pleased and proud that when our country attained independence the United Nations acted consistently in respect of the inalienable rights of our people to independence, progress and peace.

245. Our bonds with our companions from Guinea-Bissau are very special. We are militants in the same party, we fought side by side for the same cause. We pay an earnest tribute to our brothers who made a direct contribution with their sacrifices and their blood to the liberation of Cape Verde.

246. The thirtieth session of the General Assembly is taking place at a particularly complex time in international relations. On the one hand, we welcome with joy the liberation of many countries in Africa and Asia and a certain degree of détente in one part of the world; but on the other hand, we see that elsewhere peace is in danger, the legitimate rights of people

are not respected everywhere in the world and the under-developed or developing peoples of the world are fighting stubbornly for the establishment of a more equitable and just international economic order.

247. Regardless of the many responsibilities arising from this complex international situation which weigh so heavily on the Secretary-General's shoulders, he found the time, even before the declaration of our independence, to concern himself with the serious social, financial and economic problems to which we were heir as the result of Portuguese colonialism. The appeal which he made to the international community shows very clearly that he has concerned himself with the problems of the great as well as the smaller countries of the world.

248. This is a time of great importance for the future of our people. At this time we would urge representatives to convey to their respective Governments the appeal made by the Secretary-General. After a long colonial night, which was the legacy of unimaginable under-development, after the emergency that arose as a result of seven and a half years of drought, we now have the difficulties in connexion with the early return of thousands of refugees originally from Cape Verde as a result of the situation of instability and war in Angola in its legitimate struggle for national independence.

249. On behalf of our Government, we reaffirm our sincere desire to establish the best of relations, on the basis of friendship and co-operation, with all countries of the world, provided that our right to follow our own path be respected. We wish to respect the principles of peaceful coexistence, non-interference in internal affairs, equality and common advantage. Our Government intends to establish friendly relations of co-operation with those countries that have already traditionally welcomed our emigrants, countries such as Argentina, Brazil, France, the Ivory Coast, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Senegal, Sweden and the United States of America.

250. Having won back our dignity, which had for centuries been flouted, our country will now make a contribution in freedom to the great human adventure of building a new world of peace and happiness for all men. We shall make Cape Verde a country for men of goodwill, for people who cherish peace. In order to do that in accordance with the principles of non-alignment, we are firmly determined to make it impossible for our homeland to constitute a point of departure for aggression against anyone. We are convinced that that position is in keeping with the fundamental interest of our people. We shall also work tirelessly to create the economic, social and cultural foundations necessary to make Cape Verde a meeting-place for all its citizens scattered throughout the world.

251. We welcome with joy the admission to membership in our Organization of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the People's Republic of Mozambique and we express our sincerest hope that they will enjoy great success in this new and difficult stage of national reconstruction. The thirtieth session of the General Assembly is of great significance in view of the burning problems of the present international situation. For that reason, Mr. President, we congratulate you on your election. We are convinced that you will discharge your duties

with skill, honesty and wisdom, as you undertake the difficult task assigned to you.

252. In conclusion, we wish solemnly to declare that our Government will always be prepared to respect strictly the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and to work for the application of these noble objectives which are the defence of peace and the strengthening of fraternity and co-operation among all nations.

253. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now have pleasure in inviting the Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, Mr. Miguel Trovoada, to address the General Assembly.

254. Mr. TROVOADA (Sao Tome and Principe) (*interpretation from French*): In the life of man there are such exalting moments that sometimes he is tempted to believe that he has achieved the aim of his whole existence. I am living one of these moments by coming to this rostrum of the General Assembly to convey to you the feelings of my people at a time when you have just unanimously admitted the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe as a State Member of the United Nations. I would have wished to do so with all the serenity demanded by the solemnity of this act and the august atmosphere of this Assembly. But I must confess that I feel unable to do so because I am so deeply moved by my feelings. You will understand the authenticity of these feelings when you realize that I happened to be the first spokesman of Sao Tome and Principe in the Fourth Committee at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly and that I am today the first to make its free, independent voice heard in the highest international forum on Earth.

255. The message I bring the Assembly is first of all to convey the profound relief of our people who, on 12 July last, saw five centuries of dreadful colonialism brought to an end. It is next a message of thanks to all those who far and near, directly or indirectly, have made a concrete and positive contribution to the liberation of my country, thus making its presence possible in this great family of nations which you and we from now on represent.

256. In fact, the declaration of national independence on 12 July 1975 and the accession of my country to full sovereignty were made possible thanks to our unswerving determination to break the chains of colonial subjection. This was a great victory for our people who, under the banner of the liberation movement of Sao Tome and Principe, once again have shown the sceptical that a determined and resolute people, however small, can change the course of its own history. Then came the victories of the peoples of Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde and Mozambique who, weapons in hand, destroyed Portuguese colonialism and brought Salazar-Caetano fascism to its knees. It was also the victory of the Portuguese people themselves and of their revolutionary army, which recovered its dignity and honour by participating actively and honestly in the liberation of those who had helped them liberate themselves. It was a victory for the OAU, which has made the liberation of Africa its very *raison d'être*. It was a victory for the United Nations, too, which has taken persistent, many-sided action in favour of territories under foreign domi-

nation. It was, finally, a victory for all the oppressed peoples and progressive forces of the world against the obscurantist machine of domination and exploitation which is still struggling, vainly but desperately, in Africa and elsewhere to stop the forward march of progress towards dignity and justice.

257. To all of them I wish to express here the profound gratitude of the people of Sao Tome and Principe, and that gratitude can find no better expression than in our will to participate in and contribute to the extent of our very limited means to every action aimed at accelerating the reconquest of freedom for peoples deprived of liberty. Our support of all measures aimed at achieving that end will be unstinting, and we commit ourselves to helping all victims of domination and exploitation.

258. Yesterday, as slaves, the people of Sao Tome and Principe gave their blood and sweat to nourish the sugar plantations of America. Later they continued to shed their blood and sweat for the prosperity of a few colonizers producing coffee. Today, having taken their fate into their own hands, those people are firmly determined to expend even more blood and sweat in order to build their own future, a future of peace, prosperity and progress. They have faith in themselves and in the community of men of good will, with whom they intend to work for the building of a better world.

259. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now call upon the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Mozambique, Mr. Joaquim Alberto Chissano.

260. Mr. CHISSANO (People's Republic of Mozambique): I am speaking today to express, on behalf of the People's Republic of Mozambique and its vanguard organization FRELIMO, our profound appreciation and gratitude for the warm welcome to the United Nations given to our country. I should like particularly to thank all those who sponsored our entry into the United Nations, and the members of the Security Council for having unanimously and without hesitation decided that Mozambique deserved to be represented in this Assembly. That was one of the aims of our struggle—for our people to take their place in the concert of nations so that they might represent themselves and discuss the world issues which affect their destiny.

261. The admission of Mozambique to the United Nations is one more victory in the struggle of the Mozambican people against colonialism and imperialism. It is one further step for the consolidation of the independence achieved through a bitter struggle in which many lives were lost and much blood of our people was shed. We are glad to state that this victory is a victory also for the United Nations. For more than one third of the lifetime of this Organization, in this same Hall, a bitter struggle has been waged particularly against Portuguese colonial domination, the only retrograde colonial system. It was through the United Nations that the people of Mozambique tried, first of all, to persuade the fascist Government of Portugal to accept the right of the Mozambican people to independence, but the refusal of that fascist Government led our people and the Portuguese people into an undesirable struggle which resulted in calamity

not only for our people in Mozambique but also for the people of Portugal.

262. Today we are happy that we may speak another language with the Portuguese representatives in this Hall. That is due to the fact that we in Mozambique, as in the other Portuguese colonies, knew how to co-operate with the revolutionary forces in order to annihilate not only colonialism but also fascism in our countries.

263. We wish the Portuguese people success in their continued struggle to consolidate that victory over fascism. We know that many countries represented in this Hall have not always been in favour of our liberation. It took a long time to make them understand that this was also our right. But today it seems that there is no reason for us to harbour any bitterness, and we are glad to state here that we are ready to co-operate with all in order to achieve international peace and security, co-operation and understanding, and the well-being of humanity. We are ready to co-operate with all those who will respect our independence and sovereignty; and judging by the congratulatory speeches which we have just heard, we have reason to be optimistic and to say that this is a new era, one in which co-operation among nations will grow steadily, and the objectives of the United Nations will be achieved with greater success.

264. Allow me to congratulate the Committee of 24 on the arduous work it undertook during the struggle for the liberation of the Portuguese colonies. In particular, I should like to stress the efforts of the Chairman of that Committee. May I also indicate our appreciation to the African Group in the United Nations for its unwavering interest in us and for the way it constantly supported our struggle against Portuguese colonialism.

265. We are appreciative also of the interest shown by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, particularly at the final stage when we had to struggle against the vestiges of fascism in Portugal, which attempted to turn us away from the path of independence or to delay it, or to change the meaning of independence and to install neo-colonialism in our countries.

266. Today we have come into the United Nations together with the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and the Republic of Cape Verde. This is just, and it is not by chance, because we have been fighting together; we have been co-ordinating our strategies together. In fact, we have been moving as one against colonialism and imperialism. To congratulate them would be the same as to congratulate our own country. May I just say that we in Mozambique are happy that we could share this new achievement.

267. It is very difficult to speak of small sacrifices and big sacrifices. In this world, we who have been fighting with weapons in hand know only sacrifices; we have always felt the same way, whether we lost one soldier or 100 soldiers. We have always felt that it was a matter of bloodshed and sacrifice.

268. But I think the Assembly will agree with us if we say that the people of Viet Nam, in the North and in the South, have been one of the fundamental factors in the victories of those peoples in the world which have fought against imperialism. I think the Assembly

will agree with us also that although we rejoice at our admission to the United Nations our joy is incomplete and tinged with pain without the presence among us, as full Members of the United Nations, of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and of the Republic of South Viet Nam. We hope sincerely that during this session—and, if possible, during the early days of the activities of this session—our brothers of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam will be seated together with us so that we may continue to strengthen co-operation and solidarity and to consolidate peace in the world.

269. We know that our admission to the United Nations is a new responsibility, and we are ready to undertake this responsibility and to perform our duties for the achievement of the noble goals of the United Nations.

270. Last but not least, allow me, Mr. President, to congratulate you on your election to preside over this Assembly and to wish you a good and successful leadership so that we may achieve the best results from our activities, as expected of us by all our peoples.

The meeting rose at 7.45 p.m.

NOTES

¹ A/AC.176/7.

² *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirtieth Year*, 1835th meeting, paras. 94-107.

³ *Ibid.*, *Thirtieth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1975*, document S/11798.