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CONTENTS

•	Oyo
Agenda item 1:	
Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Chile	1
Agenda item 2:	
Minute of silent prayer or meditation	1
Address by Mr. Maza, Temporary President, Chairman of the delegation of Chile	1
Agenda item 3:	
Appointment of a Credentials Committee	2
Agenda item 4:	
Election of the President	2
Address by Prince Wan V'aithayakon, President of the eleventh session of the General Assembly'	2
Statement by the President regarding the procedure for the admission of the Sudan, Morocco and Tunisia to membership of the United Nations	3
Agenda item 25:	
Admission of new Members to the United Nations	3
Applications for membership of the Sudan, Morocco and Tunisia	3
Establishment of the Ad Hoc Political Committee	5

President: Prince WAN WAITHAYAKON (Thailand).

AGENDA ITEM 1

Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Chile

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I declare open the eleventh regular session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Minute of silent prayer or meditation

2. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): In accordance with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, I invite the representatives to rise and to observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation.

The representatives stood in silence.

Address by Mr. Maza, Temporary President, Chairman of the delegation of Chile

3. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I extend a warm welcome to the representatives of the peoples of the world who, in a spirit of good will, have come to this eleventh session of the United Nations General Assembly determined to save mankind from the scourge of war, to reaffirm faith in

fundamental human rights, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for obligations can be maintained and to promote social progress in larger freedom.

- 4. Not quite a year ago, I bade you farewell with my faith in the United Nations strengthened. Now I am receiving you with that faith racked by anxiety but not diminished.
- 5. The tenth session was of outstanding importance, and marked a great step forward along the path of trust. The months that followed were full of promise, but recent dramatic events, deeply to be regretted on all counts, have jeopardized the peace of the world and put the effectiveness of the Organization to the test.
- 6. The debates and decisions of the General Assembly meeting in emergency special session are proof that the United Nations has reacted with prudence and justice. This eleventh regular session has the duty, however, not only to safeguard and to supplement those decisions, but also to take the effective measures necessary to ensure their speedy and faithful implementation.
- 7. The object of world concern and world public opinion is the action of the General Assembly and the Security Council in whatever pertains to the political relations between States, because the peace in the immediate future depends on whether or not those relations are good.
- 8. We, however, who are convinced that the United Nations is also working gradually to change the course of history and to produce conditions in which world peace cannot be overthrown, must pause briefly to refer to the efficient work so unobtrusively carried on by those many and varied organs, councils or commissions, through which the United Nations contributes to the economic, intellectual, social, industrial, agricultural and human development and to the greater health of the people of the world. It is this great work, so many-sided and effective, which will raise living standards for all men and will some day banish fear.
- 9. That purpose will never be achieved, however, while the interests of States or individuals take precedence over the notion of their duties and even over an awareness or their rights.
- 10. If these organs persevere in their task, and if the General Assembly and the Security Council continue

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to exercise constant vigilance for the maintenance of peace, the peoples will gradually come to have greater confidence in the work of the United Nations and in the binding force of its decisions.

11. As a living organism which is growing, developing and progressing, the United Nations must gradually adapt itself to changing circumstances. That means that there is an urgent need to embark upon certain changes in the Charter, which the General Assembly did not succeed in doing at the last regular session. Among the necessary changes, there must be an increase in the membership of the councils, particularly of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council. A membership of eleven and eighteen respectively for those two Councils was proportionate to the fifty nations which signed the Charter at San Francisco, but does not adequately represent the seventy-six countries now Members of the Organization, at 1 still less the even larger number which will result form admissions at this and future sessions. Other changes are also necessary, such as the elimination of the veto in the Security Council, which will one day have to be undertaken in accordance with the principle of the sovereign equality of all Members, as referred to in the Charter.

12. Over the past eleven years, I have on many occasions acted as representative of a country which has demonstrated its indestructible faith in the United Nations. Now, as I relinquish my duties in a spirit of gratitude, I think that I am entitled to express my sincere and fervent hope that, with God's help, the United Nations will continue and redouble its untiring efforts to achieve human justice and world peace.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Appointment of a Credentials Committee

13. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): The first order of business in the organization of the work of this session is the appointment of a Credentials Committee as provided in rule 28 of the rules of procedure. In accordance with that rule, I should like to propose to the Assembly that the following Member States should be appointed to the Credentials Committee for the eleventh regular session: Argentina, Brazil, Burma, Iraq, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America.

14. If there are no objections to the list which I have proposed, I shall take it that the Cradentials Committee

will consist of the States mentioned.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 4

Election of the President

15. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (translated from Spinish): The election of the President for the eleventh regular session will be held in accordance with rules 31 and 94 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. Rule 94 provides: "All elections shall be held by secret ballot. There shall be no nominations." The Assembly will therefore proceed immediately to the vote.

At the invitation of the Temporary President, Mr. Trujillo (Ecuador) and Mr. Deressa (Ethiopia) acted

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Invalid ballots:

Number of valid ballots:

Abstentions:

Number of members voting:

Required majority:

Number of votes obtained:

Prince Wan Waithayakon (Thailand)... 75

Number of ballot papers:

76

Having obtained the required majority, Prince Wan Waithayakon (Thailand) was elected President of the eleventh session of the General Assembly, and took the Chair.

Address by Prince Wan Waithayakon, President of the eleventh session of the General Assembly

16. The PRESIDENT: I am deeply moved by the kindness of my fellow representatives in electing me to this high office of President of the eleventh regular session of the General Assembly. I thank all of you sincerely, for this is a great honour not only for me but also for my country, which is a firm and steadfast supporter of the United Nations. I also see in my election a recognition of the increasing importance of Asia and Africa.

17. I consider it a privilege to take over the gavel from the Chairman of the delegation of Chile; for Mr. Maza, during the regular session, and Mr. Ortega, during the emergency special sessions, have presided over our proceedings with efficiency, impartiality and patience—qualities so greatly needed now in these times of trial for the United Nations and for the world.

18. The tragic situations which have occurred are still grave and grim, and all our thoughts of compassion go to the afflicted peoples of Egypt and Hungary. It is a matter of reassurance, however, that the United Nations, for its part, has stood out as an efficient and effective instrument of peace. In moments of gloom, when thoughts of the possibility of war—atomic war—weighed heavily upon the hearts of men and women, the United Nations spread a bright ray of hope for peace throughout the world.

peace throughout the world.

19. The United Nations machinery came instantly into operation, and it has worked well. Two emergency special sessions of the General Assembly were convened, in accordance with the "Uniting for peace" resolution $[377 \ (V)]$, within twenty-four hours of the exercise of the veto power in the Security Council. The General Assembly promptly took measures to deal with the situations. Thus, in the Middle East there is now a cease-fire, with an agreement for the immediate with-drawal of foreign forces from Egyptian territory, while an emergency international United Nations Force to secure and supervise the cessation of hostilities has been established. With regard to Hungary, however, a report is being awaited.

20. For the settlement of these two situations, therefore, much still remains to be done by the United Nations. I am confident, however, that the General Assembly can be relied upon to play its full part, and my confidence is strengthened by the knowledge that we can count on the Secretary-General and his associates for invaluable assistance. The diplomatic role of the Secretary-General is a welcome and fruitful development, and the outstanding abilities and remarkable efficiency which Mr. Hammarskjold has shown in undertaking it deserve a warm tribute of appreciation and admiration from us.

- 21. And we must not forget that we have ourselves to count upon, too. We are now the representatives of seventy-six Member States, with more to join us during the present session, and we have among us many members of gov ruments to share in our deliberations. The United Nations is not only a world organization for peace, but it is practically a world-wide organization for peace, and the General Assembly is now truly a world forum for the discussion of any problem of peace in any part of the world. Of course, there is diversity in our Organization and in the General Assembly, but out of diversity there can come harmony. Indeed, the United Nations is a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations for peace and international cooperation.
- 22. The unifying influence of the United Nations Charter was clearly demonstrated at the Asian-African Conference at Bandung. We can be certain that if the purposes and principles of the Charter are adhered to, the world will enjoy peace not only in the negative sense of non-war, but also in the positive sense of happiness in tranquillity, which is the meaning of peace in my country and in the United Nations Charter.
- 23. The world must be saved from the scourge of war. The recent establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency reminds us that the use of atomic energy is for peace and not for war, and, if a real attempt could be made to bring about a positive step forward in the matter of disarmament, it would be hailed by all man'tind.
- 24. The world must also be given the blessings of peace, namely, freedom on the basis of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, justice on the basis of international law, and social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom.
- 25. The present session of the General Assembly is starting its work in an atmosphere which, in the United Nations as in the country in which we meet, is one of renewed dedication to the cause of peace, and I am confident that, with a united spirit of tolerance and good will, our deliberations will be blessed with successful results for the peace, freedom, justice and economic and social well-being of mankind.

Statement by the President regarding the procedure for the admission of the Sudan, Morocco and Tunisia to membership of the United Nations

- 26. The PRESIDENT: The next item on the agenda for this afternoon is one which it gives me particular pleasure to place before the Assembly, the item concerning the admission of the Sudan, Morocco and Tunisia to membership in the United Nations.
- 27. The consideration of this item at this stage represents a recourse to a special procedure calculated to meet the special circumstances of the present case, and it does not constitute a precedent. Perhaps I might be allowed to review the circumstances that have made it desirable and appropriate to raise the issue today before the usual measures relating to the adoption of the agenda have been taken.
- 28. As we all recall the very last days of the tenth session, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Security Council, decided to admit sixteen additional countries to membership in the United Nations [555th meeting]. Owing to the late date on which the decision was made, there was no opportunity to prepare a fitting reception for the new Members.

- It was felt, therefore, that the opening of the eleventh session should be the occasion to mark this great gain in the life of the United Nations by formally welcoming the new Members to full participation in the work of the General Assembly and by hearing from the heads of their delegations in this hall.
- Since that time, we have all been happy to learn that the Security Council has unanimously recommended the admission of three additional countries. On 6 February 1956, the Security Council adopted a resolution recommending the admission of the Sudan; on 20 July 1956, it recommended the admission of Morocco; and on 26 July 1956 it recommended the admission of Tunisia. At the meetings when those recommendations were adopted, the hope was expressed by members of the Council that steps be taken to enable the General Assembly to make a favourable decision on the admission of the applicant States at the beginning of the eleventh session, thus making possible the inclusion of their representatives in the ceremony of welcome for the new Members and their participation in the work of the Assembly from the outset.
- 30. I understand that the Secretary-General, with these observations in mind, some months ago, in informal consultations with all the permanent missions, discussed this matter of the procedure that might be followed at the beginning of this session. Mr. Hammarskjold has informed me that he found a very warm response from Members in this regard. I may point out that the general question of the admission of new Members appears as item 25 in the provisional agenda [A/3191].
- 31. I would now propose, bearing in mind the provisions of rules 40 and 67 of our rules of procedure, that we approve item 25 fo. incluson in the agenda for the purpose, I repeat, of considering immediately the applications of the Sudan, Morocco and Tunisia.

32. I will now put this proposal to the vote

The proposal was adopted by 73 votes to none.

AGENDA ITEM 25

Admission of new Members to the United Nations

Applications for membership of the Sudan, Morocco and Tunisia

- 33. The PRESIDENT: We turn now to the application of the Sudan for membership in the United Nations. I should like to draw the Assembly's attention to the resolution of the Security Council on the application of the Sudan [A/3125], and to the draft resolution sponsored by Afghanistan, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand, Turkey and Yemen $[A/3326 \ and \ Add.1]$.
- 34. I should like to suggest that members, at the time of the interventions in the general debate, will have an opportunity to express their views on the significant step that has been taken in the life of the United Nations through its increased membership, as well as to make observations on the individual Members; and that the new Members, upon whose applications action is being taken today, will have an opportunity to respond to the affirmative action taken here at the ceremony of welcome which has been arranged for tomorrow afternoon.
- 35. Before proceeding with the vote, I should like to express what I believe is the general feeling of the

a new Member whose sovereignty is recognized and respected by all and whose newly established independent life will contribute to the development of the Organization, which derives its strength from the vitality and diversity of its Members, with their rich national cultures and distinct personalities.

We shall now proceed to vote on the recommendation concerning the Sudan contained in the joint draft resolution [A/3326 and Add.1].

A vote was taken by roll call.

The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote

In favour: Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of South Africa, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iroladias, Italigary, Relaid, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Turkey.

Against: None.

The recommendation was adopted unanimously.

The delegation of the Sudan was escorted to its place in the General Assembly hall.

- 37. The PRESIDENT: I will now put to the Assembly the question of the admission of Morocco to membership in the United Nations. The Assembly has before it in this conexion the text of a Security Council resolution [A/3152] and a draft resolution sponsored by Afghanistan, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand, Turkey and Yemen [A/3327 and Add.1].
- 38. I need not dwell on the qualifications of Morocco for membership; we are all well aware of them. But may I, on behalf of the Assembly, say that the vote which is about to be taken will be the formal expression of a deep satisfaction in the knowledge that in future we will have the benefit of the co-operation of the representatives of a proud and ancient civilization, whose new nationhood marks yet another step in the road of peace, freedom and progress to which the Charter points.
- 39. We shall now proceed to vote on the recommendation concerning Morocco contained in the joint draft resolution [A/3327 and Add.1].

A vote was taken by roll call.

China, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of South Africa, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, Chile.

Against: None.

The recommendation was adopted unanimously.

The delegation of Morocco was escorted to its place in the General Assembly hall.

- The PRESIDENT: May I now submit to the Assembly the question of the admission of Tunisia. I would draw the Assembly's attention to the Security Council resolution concerning Tunisia [A/3153] and to a draft resolution sponsored by Afghanistan, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, and Yemen [A/3328 and Add.1].
- The General Assembly has just approved the applications of the Sudan and Morocco, and it will now decide upon a third, also from the important continent of Africa, whose qualifications are equally clear, valid and pressing. Tunisia has unequivocally expressed its willingness to accept the obligations of membership of the United Nations, and I am sure that, in so doing, it will bring, along with the expression of the particular viewpoint of its people and Government, a sincerity of purpose which will be evident in our deliberations in the days to come.
- We shall now proceed to vote on the recommendation contained in the joint draft resolution [A]3328 and Add.1].

A vote was taken by roll call. .

Argentina, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of South Africa, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Albania.

Against: None.

The recommendation was adopted unanimously.

The delegation of Tunisia was escorted to its place in the General Assembly hall.

Establishment of the Ad Hoc Political Committee

43. The PRESIDENT: The Secretary-General, in his memorandum on the organization of the eleventh regular session of the General Assembly [A/BUR/142], which was circulated to members on 8 November 1956, states that he assumes that the Assembly will wish to establish an Ad Hoc Political Committee. Since the Assembly's decision on this question has a bearing on the composition of the General Committee, I would suggest that the decision be taken now, so that the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Political Committee may be elected immediately, along with the chairmen of the other Main Committees of the Assembly.

44. In connexion with the establishment of this committee, the Secretary-General has recommended that

its name be changed to "Special Political Committee". I would suggest that a decision on this aspect of the matter be deferred until the General Committee has considered the memorandum and submitted to the Assembly its recommendations thereon.

45. Unless I hear any objections to the suggestion for the establishment of an Ad Hoc Political Committee, I will consider that the Assembly has decided to establish such a committee for the eleventh session whose Chairman, under rule 38 of the rules of procedure, will be included in the membership of the General Committee.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 4.20 p.m.