GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FIFTEENTH SESSION
Official Records



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941st PLENARY MEETING

Friday, 9 December 1960, at 10.30 a.m.

NEW YORK

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

AGENDA ITEM 15

Election of three non-permanent members of the Security Council (continued)*,

ELECTION OF ONE NON-PERMANENT MEMBER FOR 1961

- 1. The PRESIDENT: The first item on the agenda for this morning, the election of non-permanent members of the Security Council, will be dealt with now.
- 2. I assume that the Assembly will agree to take up first the election of a non-permanent member of the Council for the year 1961. In this connexion, Members of the Assembly will recall that during the fourteenth session a special understanding was reached to resolve a deadlock in the election of a non-permanent member of the Council. It may help to refresh the minds of delegations if I read from the record of the meeting. The President of the fourteenth session clarified the situation in these terms, and I quote his words:

"To date, the Assembly has cast fifty-one ballots in an attempt to fill the vacancy on the Council, no candidate having obtained the required majority and there being, apparently, no way out of the deadlock.

"Although it is not, of course, for the President to express an opinion concerning the differences which have given rise to this situation—and I shall express no such opinion—I regard it as my duty to inform the Assembly that, in view of the deadlock, consultations have taken place among delegations and an understanding has been reached between the two principal candidates for the Security Council vacancy and between the various delegations supporting one or other of them.

"According to my information,"—and I am still quoting the President of the fourteenth session—"this understanding is subscribed to by the majority of the Members of the Assembly. The understanding or agreement, so to speak, is as follows: Poland will at this time be the only candidate for election as non-permanent member of the Security Council and, if elected, will serve in that capacity during the year 1960.

"As an integral part of the agreement reached, Poland will withdraw from the Council on 31 December 1960. This would mean that, at the Assembly's fifteenth session, Turkey would be the only candidate to fill the vacancy thus created on the Council and to serve as non-permanent member during the year 1961—that is, during the remainder of the two-year term which we are now considering.

"We shall now hold another ballot on the basis of the agreement which I have just announced. In the vote, it is understood that the Members of the Assembly will confirm that agreement." [857th meeting, paras. 302-306.]

3. We shall now proceed, therefore, to the election of a non-permanent member of the Security Council to serve during the year 1961. Rule 94 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that the election shall be held by secret ballot and that there shall be no nominations. Ballot papers are now being handed out. May I request Members of the Assembly to write on the ballot papers the name of the country for whom they wish to vote to serve during the year 1961. Ballot papers containing more than one name will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Schmidt (Denmark) and Mr. Gebre-Egzy (Ethiopia) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	85
Invalid ballots:	-1
Number of valid ballots:	84
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	81
Required majority:	54
A7	

Number of votes obtained:

Turkey .		• •			 	74
Liberia.		•			 • • •	 4
Poland.	•	• •			 • •	 2
United A	ra	b I	Republic	3	 	 1

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Turkey was elected a non-permanent member of the Security Council for the year 1961.

ELECTION OF THREE NON-PERMANEN'T MEMBERS

- 4. The PRESIDENT: The General Assembly will now proceed to the election of three non-permanent members of the Security Council to replace the three members whose terms expire on 31 December 1960. They are Argentina, Italy and Tunisia.
- 5. Retiring members are not eligible for immediate re-election. In addition to the five permanent members of the Security Council and Turkey, which has just been elected to serve during the year 1961, the follow-

^{*}Resumed from the 914th meeting.

ing States will continue to be members of the Council after 1 January 1961: Ceylon and Ecuador.

6. The election will be held by secret ballot and there will be no nominations. Ballot papers are now being distributed. May I request Members of the Assembly to write on the ballot papers the names of three countries for whom they wish to vote. Ballot papers containing more than three names will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Schmidt (Denmark) and Mr. Gebre-Egzy (Ethiopia) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	94
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	94
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	93
Required majority:	62
Ministra of maken attended.	

Number of votes obtained:

United Arab Republic	74
Portugal	50
Liberia	32
Ethiopia	
Ghana	
Jordan	
Nigeria	3
Cuba	2
Ivory Coast	2
Panama	2
Cameroun	
Canada	
Dominican Republic	
El Salvador	
Guinea	
Morocco	
Norway	
Saudi Arabia	
Venezuela	

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Chile and the United Arab Republic were elected nonpermanent members of the Security Council.

- 7. The PRESIDENT: As one more vacancy remains to be filled, the Assembly will now proceed to hold, in accordance with rule 96 of the rules of procedure, the first restricted ballot. It will be restricted to the two Members who received the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, next to the two States elected to the Council. The two countries in question are Portugal and Liberia.
- 8. We will now hold a ballot restricted to these two countries. Ballot papers are now being handed out. Ballot papers containing any name other than that of either Portugal or Liberia will be invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Schmidt (Denmark) and Mr. Gebre-Egzy (Ethiopia) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	 $\chi + (p_1^2, t, z) = 1$	98
Invalid ballots:		1
Number of valid ballots:	4.7	97
Abstentions:		1
Number of members voting:	 The second second	96
Required majority:		64

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* ' W444	~~-			~~~~~~~~~	

Portugal	•	•	•		٠,	•	•			٠.	•	•	•	4 - 2 •	•		49	
Liberia.										•							47	

9. The PRESIDENT: Neither of the two countries having received the required two-thirds majority, the Assembly will now proceed to the next restricted ballot. As before, only Portugal and Liberia are eligible and papers containing the names of any countries other than these will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Schmidt (Denmark) and Mr. Gebre-Egzy (Ethiopia) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	99
Invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	98
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	97
Required majority:	65

Number of votes obtained:

Liberia	•		•		•		٠.		ė,	•	•	•		•		•	•	•		•	•	•	51
Portugal.	•.	•	•	ė	•	•	•	•	٠,	•	•	• •	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	٠	•	•	46

10. The PRESIDENT: Since neither of the two countries has obtained the two-thirds majority required for election, we shall now proceed to hold a series of three unrestricted ballots—not necessarily three, but we shall take the first of the three unrestricted ballots first. Papers are now being handed out. In this ballot all Members are eligible except those who are presently members of the Security Council, plus Turkey, and the two States which were elected first—that is, Chile and the United Arab Republic. All other Members of the United Nations are eligible in this ballot. The name of only one country should be written on the ballot paper. Papers containing the names of more than one country will be invalid. This is an unrestricted ballot.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Schmidt (Denmark) and Mr. Gebre-Egzy (Ethiopia) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot,

Number of ballot papers:		99
Invalid ballots:		(
Number of valid ballots:		99
Abstentions:		(
Number of members voting:		99
Required majority:		66
Number of votes obtained:		

 Liberia
 50

 Portugal
 42

 Burma
 1

 Ghana
 1

 Netherlands
 1

 Nigeria
 1

 Norway
 1

11. The PRESIDENT: This fourth ballot being inconclusive, and no conclusive result being apparently in view immediately, perhaps the Assembly would be prepared to turn at this point to the election of six members of the Economic and Social Council. If there is no objection, we shall interrupt the voting for the

vacancy on the Security Council and proceed to the election of six members of the Economic and Social Council.

- 12. Mr. COOPER (Liberia): I do not want to oppose the proposal made by the President, but I do not see any reason why we should not continue the voting. We have only had one unrestricted ballot; we generally have three before we go on to another item.
- 13. The PRESIDENT: Of course if there is an objection and if any Member of the Assembly feels that his position is being prejudiced by following the course I suggested, perhaps we could proceed to have two further unrestricted ballots and if they are inconclusive, perhaps we could then turn to the election of the members of the Economic and Social Council. As there is no objection, we shall proceed to a further unrestricted ballot for the remaining vacancy on the Security Council.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Schmidt (Denmark) and Mr. Gebre-Egzy (Ethiopia) acted as

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	99
Invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	98
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	98
Required majority:	66

Number of votes obtained:

Liberia	 •		•	•		•		 	٠	•				53
Portugal	 •						•	 	٠.		٠			39
Austria														
Netherlands														
Nigeria		٠			•								•	1
Norway														
Sweden														

14. The PRESIDENT: This ballot also being inconclusive, the Assembly will now proceed to the sixth ballot, which is the third unrestricted ballot.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Schmidt (Denmark) and Mr. Gebre-Egzy (Ethiopia) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	98
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	98
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	98
Required majority:	66
Number of votes obtained:	

Liberia																			
Portagal,		•		•		•	ě	٠	•				•					39	
Austria				ė						ė		٠	•		,			4	
Netherland	s			•		•				•.	•			•		•		1	

15. The PRESIDENT: This ballot being also inconclusive and the amount of time available between now and the adjournment of the meeting being hardly sufficient to enable us to proceed with the election of six members of the Economic and Social Council, perhaps the Assembly would proceed now to the first of a series of three restricted ballots, the ballots being restricted to Liberia and Portugal.

- 16. While the ballot papers are being distributed, may I suggest to the Assembly that, in view of the very exceptional circumstances and the approach of the end of the session, and the pressure on the available time between now and the end of the session, the Assembly might meet at 3 p.m. this afternoon simultaneously with the First Committee to endeavour to complete its voting on the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council vacancies.
- 17. Might I revise the suggestion I have made and suggest that, at the meeting this afternoon, we should deal only with the election of six members of the Economic and Social Council. That, I think, might be more convenient to the delegations attending the First Committee. The elections, then, this afternoon, would deal only with the election of six members of the Economic and Social Council.
- 18. I hesitate to make this suggestion because no meeting is scheduled in the Journal of the United Nations for this afternoon, and I hope very much that it does not cause inconvenience to the Chairman or to the members of the First Committee. The only justification I have for making the suggestion at all is the extreme shortness of the time available to the Assembly now for the completion of its work.
- 19. If I hear no objection, the Assembly will meet at 3 p.m. this afternoon to proceed with the election of six members of the Economic and Social Counciland I hope very much that this suggestion will be agreeable to the Chairman and to the members of the First Committee.
- 20. Sir Claude COREA (Ceylon), Chairman of the First Committee: In the circumstances it is handly possible to refuse to agree to the suggestion made by the President. We know the pressure, and we know that this business has to be got through. But we have a meeting of the First Committee also, and, if there is no serious objection on the part of the members who normally attend the meetings of the First Committeewhich is now engaged in considering a very important item—then so far as I am concerned I would say that we might be able to manage, as a special case, to have simultaneous meetings today. But I should like that matter to be in the hands of the members of the Committee, whose convenience no doubt will have to be taken into account. If there is no objection, I would have no objection myself to holding a meeting of the First Committee at 3 p.m., along with the plenary meeting here.
- The PRESIDENT: I am very grateful to the Chairman of the First Committee for his helpful attitude, and, like him, I am entirely in the hands of the members of the Assembly.
- 22. If I hear no objection, may I take it that it is generally agreeable that the plenary should meet at three o'clock this afternoon, to proceed with the election of six members of the Economic and Social Council?

It was so agreed.

23. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now proceed with the first of three restricted ballots for the vacancy remaining to be filled on the Security Council. The ballot is restricted to Liberia and Portugal, and only the name of one of those two countries should be written on the ballot paper.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Schmidt (Denmark) and Mr. Gebre-Egzy (Ethiopia) acted as tellers. A vote was taken by secret ballot.	Number of votes obtained: Liberia
Number of ballot papers: 98 Invalid ballots: 0 Number of valid ballots: 98 Abstentions: 5	24. The PRESIDENT: This ballot is also inconclusive, and it is now one o'clock. We might adjourn voting on this vacancy at this stage.
Number of members voting: 93 Required majority: 62	The meeting rose at 1 p.m.