



President: Mr. Jorge E. ILLUECA (Panama).

AGENDA ITEM 30

**Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte:
report of the Secretary-General (concluded)**

1. Mr. KOENTARSO (Indonesia): My delegation begins by stressing the fraternal and constructive relations that Indonesia has long maintained with both France and, since its independence, the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. Furthermore, I am pleased to note the positive relationship between France and the Comoros that exists in many endeavours. It is in this light that I have asked to express our sincere hope that the question of Mayotte may be resolved as expeditiously as possible and in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions.

2. It should be recalled that in 1974 the General Assembly adopted resolution 3291 (XXIX), which reaffirmed the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoro Archipelago. Subsequent General Assembly resolutions also emphasized that the Comoro Archipelago comprises the islands of Anjouan, Grande-Comore, Mayotte and Mohéli, and established the sovereignty of the Comoros over all four of the islands. Thus, the United Nations has emphasized that an equitable solution to this question should be based on the restoration of Mayotte as an integral part of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros.

3. Besides the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity [OAU], the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Organization of the Islamic Conference have all supported the Comorian position, not only because it is just, but also because it is in conformity with the principle of the territorial integrity of States. In its decisions, the OAU has emphasized that, during the signing of the agreements in June 1973 between the Comoros and France relating to the accession to independence of the Comoros, the French Government undertook to consider the results of the 22 December 1974 referendum on self-government for the entire territory and not on an island-by-island basis. That referendum on self-determination resulted in a total of 95 per cent of the voting electorate opting to accede to national sovereignty over the entire Comoro Archipelago.

4. For its part, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries has expressed its solidarity with the people of the Comoros in their legitimate efforts to recover the island of Mayotte and thereby preserve the independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros. The Organization of the Islamic Conference has also adopted decisions in line with the same objective.

5. My delegation is pleased to note the positive attitude of France, which has demonstrated that the French Government has an open mind in seeking a solution. The Government of France has previously explained that, in

the light of the complexities involved, Mayotte's status is a provisional one and does not preclude its eventual relationship with the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. We welcome the assurances by France that it will make all necessary arrangements to bring the four islands closer together. This is most encouraging as the negotiations between the two parties continue on the basis of their joint determination to reach a successful outcome.

6. Despite those favourable developments and the numerous decisions by various forums, the negotiations have not yet resolved the outstanding issues. None the less, we believe that we should continue to encourage those efforts as the parties themselves have indicated their confidence in this ongoing process. In his statement to the General Assembly on 12 October, the Foreign Minister of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros, Mr. Saïd Kafe Madi Soilihi, again reaffirmed his Government's sincere search for a negotiated settlement when he said: "As far as we are concerned, we are completely open to dialogue and to a meeting of the minds in an effort to bring about a just solution to this problem, in conformity with the recommendations of the relevant resolution of the Assembly". [29th meeting, para. 36.]

7. Thus, we hope that the negotiations will proceed smoothly and satisfactorily to a speedy, equitable and lasting solution, so that the people of the Comoros may be allowed to live in unity by having all four islands within the sovereignty of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. It is with the goal in mind that Indonesia supports draft resolution A/38/L.19, since it seeks to further the negotiating process initiated in good will by France and the Comoros for the return of Mayotte to the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros.

8. Mr. KOROMA (Sierra Leone): The Sierra Leone delegation attaches great importance to the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte, as it involves some of the fundamental principles of both the United Nations and the OAU—namely, the inalienable right of all peoples to control their own destiny, and our joint determination to safeguard, defend and consolidate the hard-won independence as well as the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all African States. It is particularly the latter principle with which the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte is concerned.

9. Before proceeding further, however, my delegation would like to commend the Government and people of the Comoros for their faith in and commitment to the United Nations and for the decision to continue to discuss this matter before the General Assembly and to help find a peaceful solution to the problem. My delegation would also like to pay a tribute to the Foreign Minister of the Comoros, whose presence here among us is vivid testimony to his country's confidence in the United Nations and the importance which his Government attaches to the matter.

10. The question of the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros has been outstanding for too long now, and it is the view of the Sierra Leone delegation that

urgent efforts must be made to restore and respect the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoro Archipelago, of which the islands of Anjouan, Grand-Comore, Mayotte and Mohéli are component parts. In this connection, we view with favour and hope the explicit statement by the President of the Republic of France, for which the Government of Sierra Leone has the highest respect and maintains feelings of friendship, that France will seek actively to promote a just solution to this problem.

11. The problem of Mayotte must be resolved, and resolved quickly and peacefully, both in the interests of international peace and also in the interests of the people of the Comoros, for we have all witnessed the tragic consequences that can occur when a problem is left unsolved for too long and when the decisions of the United Nations are continuously ignored.

12. We therefore join in the invitation to the Government of France to begin immediately negotiations with the Government of the Comoros, with a view to ensuring the effective and prompt return of the island of Mayotte to the Comoros.

13. Mr. YANG Hushan (China) (*interpretation from Chinese*): The Chinese delegation has listened attentively to the statements by Mr. Said Kafe Madi Soilihi, the Foreign Minister of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros, and representatives of other countries on the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte. The Chinese delegation also wishes to take this opportunity to state our views on this question.

14. The island of Mayotte is an integral part of the territory of the Comoros and has always belonged to the Comorian people. It is completely fair and just for the Government and people of the Comoros to demand the recovery of the island of Mayotte, in defence of the independence, unity and territorial integrity of their country. Their demand has won the sympathy and support of the African countries and peoples, as well as all the justice-upholding countries and peoples throughout the world.

15. The United Nations, the OAU and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries have adopted resolutions and decisions on many occasions affirming the unity and the territorial integrity of the Comoros. The General Assembly, in resolution 3385 (XXX), of 12 November 1975, on the admission of the Comoros to membership of the United Nations, reaffirmed the necessity of respecting the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros and pointed out explicitly that the Comoro Archipelago is composed of the islands of Anjouan, Grande-Comore, Mayotte and Mohéli.

16. The Final Communiqué adopted by the Meeting of Ministers and Heads of Delegations of Non-Aligned countries to the Thirty-eighth Session of the General Assembly, held in New York from 4 to 7 October 1983 [see A/38/495, annex], reaffirmed that the island of Mayotte is an integral part of the sovereign territory of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. The Ministers and Heads of delegations also reaffirmed their support for the overwhelming results of the referendum carried out on 22 December 1974 in the entire territory of the Comoros and rejected all proposals for a new referendum in Mayotte.

17. However, the question of the island of Mayotte remains unresolved, despite the fact that the Comorian people has made unswerving efforts, winning wide support from the international community, to ensure the unity and territorial integrity of its country.

18. We hold that the State sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros must be maintained and

respected and that the island of Mayotte must be returned to the Comoros.

19. The Chinese delegation has always sympathized with and supported the just struggle of the Comorian people to recover the island of Mayotte and to safeguard its State sovereignty and territorial integrity. We hope that the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly will be implemented in earnest and that the parties concerned will consult with each other and, at an early date, reach a fair and reasonable solution to the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte through peaceful negotiations.

20. Mr. OYOUE (Gabon) (*interpretation from French*): Once again, the General Assembly has before it the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte. The delegation of Gabon has decided to take part in the debate on this issue because Gabon is a member of the OAU *Ad Hoc* Committee of Seven on the Comorian Island of Mayotte. That Committee, which has been asked to propose solutions to the question before us, was created in July 1976 under resolution CM/496 of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OAU. Its members are Algeria, Cameroon, Comoros, Madagascar, Mozambique, Senegal, and my country, Gabon, which has the honour of being its Chairman.

21. Last year, at the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly [91st meeting], my delegation spoke in order to express its hope that a prompt settlement would be reached. We were encouraged by the mutual understanding shown by the two parties, the good will they had manifested and their proclaimed desire to reach a just and lasting solution through negotiations. One year later, the position of my delegation remains unchanged, although it regrets that there have been no positive developments in the matter. None the less, my delegation welcomes the fact that the two parties have succeeded in keeping the door open for dialogue and negotiation. As we see it, this is a positive sign.

22. In these troubled times, when States, large and small, have an increasing and distressing tendency to settle their disputes by the strong-arm method, it is necessary to encourage States whenever possible to comply with the Charter of the United Nations, Article 2 of which, on the principles of the Organization, enjoins States to settle their international disputes by peaceful means.

23. It is to be regretted that no notable progress has been made since the discussion on this issue at the Assembly's thirty-seventh session. The present situation, which appears to be a kind of *status quo*, cannot continue indefinitely without constituting a flagrant denial of the fundamental right of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros to exercise its sovereignty over its entire national territory.

24. May I recall that, under colonial administration, the Comoro Archipelago formed an integral geographic entity. Moreover, the referendum on self-determination organized by the administering Power in 1974 applied to that territorial whole in a global manner, not island by island. The referendum, in which 95 per cent of the Comorian people voted in favour of independence, therefore resulted in the liberation of the whole of the territory from the colonial yoke. The independent State which supplanted the colonial Territory logically comprises the whole of the former colonial Territory, that is, the islands of Anjouan, Grande-Comore, Mayotte and Mohéli.

25. At the regional level, the OAU still has the matter before it. As Chairman of the OAU *Ad Hoc* Committee of Seven on the Comorian Island of Mayotte, Gabon has tried on two occasions to convene the members of the

Committee, but because of internal difficulties in the OAU this has not proved possible. Members could not agree on a timetable for their meetings, either at the thirty-eighth session of the Council of Ministers, held at Addis Ababa in February 1982, or in Tripoli in November 1982. None the less, the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Seven intends to press ahead with and develop its work. In this connection, the many initiatives and unceasing efforts undertaken by El Hadj Omar Bongo, President of the Republic of Gabon, should be stressed. Gabon intends to reactivate the work of the Committee with a view to making new proposals.

26. In this context, Gabon, as Chairman of the OAU *Ad Hoc* Committee of Seven on the Comorian Island of Mayotte, wishes to make an urgent appeal to the French Government to redouble its efforts and to continue its dialogue with the Government in Moroni in order to find the most suitable ways and means of arriving at a definitive settlement which will take due account of the legitimate rights and interests of all concerned, with absolute respect for the full sovereignty of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros over the whole of its territory, including the Comorian island of Mayotte.

27. Mr. MONDJO (Congo) (*interpretation from French*): It is a sincere concern that prompts my delegation to take part in the debate on the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte. The persistence of this problem constitutes both a denial of the tradition heretofore followed by France in the field of decolonization and a breach of the principles of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), of 14 December 1960. However, my delegation is one of those that believes that we should not give this debate an unnecessarily emotional character which might make it difficult to achieve a peaceful solution of the question before us.

28. Clearly, all the speakers who have preceded me have taken an objective approach to the situation created by the uncompleted decolonization of the Comoros, which is really the issue. By selectively interpreting the results of the referendum organized on 22 December 1974, the Government of France is seeking to justify its decision to occupy the island of Mayotte—which is and continues to be an integral part of the territory of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. It is doing so by invoking specific regional characteristics or feelings, which are to be found in all countries of the world. We believe that the time has come for France to look beyond short-term interests and to concentrate on co-operating with the United Nations in seeking a just and lasting solution to this problem of decolonization. It has been invited to do so by several international conferences, most recently the Meeting of Ministers and Heads of Delegations of Non-Aligned Countries to the Thirty-eighth Session of the General Assembly, held in New York from 4 to 7 October 1983, which reaffirmed:

“... their active solidarity with the people of the Comoros in their legitimate efforts to recover that island and preserve the independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros” [A/38/495, *annex, para. 41*].

29. There are no doubt many factors which attest to the ever-growing solidarity with the Comorian people in its quest to defend its territorial integrity. We are fully convinced that France, whose policies have been very positive with regard to the developing countries and is always deserving of our encouragement, will without further delay prepare the way for a final solution to this matter.

30. Mr. LOULICHKI (Morocco) (*interpretation from French*): The General Assembly once again has before it the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte, which continues to be of concern to the international community, particularly the African nations, because it involves respect for a cardinal principle of the Charter of the United Nations, that of the territorial integrity of a State Member of the Organization, the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros.

31. The Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi from 7 to 12 March 1983, expressed:

“... their active solidarity with the people of the Comoros in their legitimate efforts to recover that island and preserve the independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros” [A/38/132 and *Corr. 1 and 2, annex, sect. I, para. 72*].

The same support was constantly reiterated by the Organization of the Islamic Conference and also by the OAU, which, seeking to find a solution to the problem, set up in 1976 an *Ad Hoc* Committee of Seven on the Comorian Island of Mayotte, the Chairman of which is the representative of Gabon.

32. While continuation of the process of negotiation between France and the Comoros gives us reason to hope that the question will be resolved in a spirit of understanding and co-operation, and in the clear interests of the two countries, the successful conclusion of those negotiations will, we are quite sure, make it possible to restore peace and equilibrium in the region and, consequently, to consolidate the legacy of friendship and respect which France enjoys on the African continent.

33. Basing itself on the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations, particularly the inalienable right of States to national unity and territorial integrity, Morocco supports the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros in its just claim over a part of its national territory. At the same time, my country, which has always had relations of friendship, understanding and co-operation with France, feels sure that it will make every effort to respond to the legitimate aspirations of the Comorian people and the wishes of the international community.

34. Mr. RUPIA (United Republic of Tanzania): Once again the General Assembly is considering the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte. If this question remains unresolved, it is because that island is still under foreign occupation in violation of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of the Organization of African Unity. Lack of a positive response by France to the numerous appeals and demands of the General Assembly has indeed complicated further what would have otherwise been a straightforward problem. The issue now amounts to a deliberate and systematic denial of the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Comorian people to safeguard their sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity.

35. The position of my country, whose people are linked with the people of the Comoros through fraternal bonds of brotherhood, solidarity and kinship, has time and again been voiced in the General Assembly. We shall continue to work within the context of the OAU and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in espousing and defending the legitimate rights of the Comorian people in their struggle to recover part of their territory, thus restoring their territorial integrity and unity. In this regard, we call on France to co-operate with the OAU's *Ad Hoc* Committee, which has been mandated to facilitate the drawing up of practical modalities for the return of the Comorian island of Mayotte to the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros.

36. Tanzania also joins all those who have once again appealed to the Government of the French Republic to reconsider its position and enter immediately into direct bilateral negotiations with the Government of the Comoros in order to find a peaceful and lasting solution to this problem. Therefore, we cannot but share the deep disappointment of the Comoros that, despite its readiness to enter into serious negotiations with France in order successfully to resolve this problem, those initiatives have not been reciprocated as adequately as one would have expected by the authorities concerned. On the contrary, the international community has witnessed the entrenchment of the illegal occupation there. We therefore take this opportunity to express our solidarity with the Government and the people of the Comoros in their just demand to restore their sovereignty over the island of Mayotte. Equally, we fully support the positions taken on the question by the OAU and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

37. It may be pertinent to reinforce Tanzania's position by quoting from the Final Communiqué issued by the Meeting of Ministers and Heads of State of Non-Aligned Countries to the Thirty-eighth Session of the General Assembly, held in New York from 4 to 7 October of this year:

“With regard to the Comorian island of Mayotte, which is still under French occupation, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed that it is an integral part of the sovereign territory of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. They also expressed their active solidarity with the people of the Comoros in their legitimate efforts to recover that island and preserve the independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros. They reaffirmed their support for the overall results of the referendum carried out on 22 December 1974 in the entire territory of the Comoros and rejected all proposals for a new referendum in Mayotte.” [A/38/495, annex, para. 41.]

This continues to be the position of the United Republic of Tanzania.

38. Finally, we believe that the United Nations and the international community in general continue to have the primary responsibility to redress the situation in the area. Effective and appropriate measures should be taken to support in concrete terms the Government and the people of the Comoros in order for them to realize their legitimate aspirations for the liberation of the island of Mayotte and the preservation of the unity and territorial integrity of their nation.

39. It is in that spirit that Tanzania fully supports draft resolution A/38/L.19. It is our sincere hope that the Assembly will give an overwhelming endorsement to that draft resolution, thus paving the way for a just and lasting solution to the problem.

40. Mr. de La BARRE de NANTEUIL (France) (*interpretation from French*): Again this year, the island of Mayotte is the subject of an item on the agenda of the General Assembly. My delegation regrets this, because it believes that consideration of this question in the United Nations undermines the Charter, in particular Article 2, paragraph 7. The wording of paragraph 1 of draft resolution A/38/L.19, indeed, is inaccurate in law. Hence, my country is unfortunately obliged to oppose the draft resolution.

41. None the less, my delegation listened very attentively to the speakers who have preceded me, in particular Mr. Said Kafe Madi Soilihi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Co-operation and Foreign Trade of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros.

42. I believe that everyone in this Hall hopes that a just and lasting solution can be found as quickly as possible. That is the position of France as well. The President of the Republic himself stressed this when he said that: “France has undertaken actively to seek a solution to the problem of Mayotte, in keeping with its national law and with international law”.

43. The status of Mayotte is provisional. The law adopted by the French Parliament on 24 December 1976 gave the island a special status which does not close the door on any development. That status was renewed by the law of 22 December 1979.

44. Accordingly, France, mindful of its responsibilities, has engaged in constructive dialogue with the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. It intends today, in keeping with its Constitution and with the wishes of the populations concerned, to work out specific proposals likely to promote a satisfactory solution to this question. In this respect, the bonds of friendship and co-operation which unite our two countries cannot fail to promote dialogue. Contacts between Moroni and Paris have never been more intensive, including contacts at the highest State level. Thus, Presidents Mitterrand and Abdallah met in October during the Tenth Conference of Heads of State of France and Africa, which was held at Vittel.

45. Accordingly, France will continue to spare no effort so that a lasting solution to this question can finally be found.

46. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The Assembly will now proceed to the vote on draft resolution A/38/L.19. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: France.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan¹, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zaire.¹

The draft resolution was adopted by 115 votes to 1, with 24 abstentions (resolution 38/13).¹

AGENDA ITEM 15

Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs (*continued*):*

(b) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council

47. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): As representatives will recall, at its 40th meeting the Assembly elected 16 members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1984.

48. As the result of the third unrestricted ballot taken at the 41st meeting was inconclusive, we must, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, proceed to a series of restricted ballots. This will be the eighth ballot and the first restricted ballot.

49. There remain two seats to be filled. In accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure, we shall proceed to a second series of restricted ballots limited to the four States which obtained the largest number of votes in the last ballot, namely, Costa Rica, Cuba, Haiti and Nicaragua.

50. Ballot papers will now be distributed. I would request members to write the names of only two States. Ballot papers bearing more than two names will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mrs. Ashton (Bolivia), U Ko (Burma), Mr. Földeák (Hungary), Mr. Fernández Torrejón (Spain) and Mr. Kitikiti (Zimbabwe) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

51. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The meeting will now be suspended while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 4.20 p.m. and resumed at 4.40 p.m.

52. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	151
<i>Number of invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	151
<i>Abstentions:</i>	4
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	147
<i>Required majority:</i>	98
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Costa Rica	91
Nicaragua	85
Haiti	62
Cuba	18

53. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): As none of the candidates obtained the required two-thirds majority, the Assembly will now proceed to a second restricted ballot. As in the case of the first restricted ballot, only Costa Rica, Cuba, Haiti and Nicaragua are eligible. Any ballot papers containing more than two names will be declared invalid.

54. I call on the representative of Cuba on a point of order.

55. Mr. LÓPEZ DEL AMO (*interpretation from Spanish*): I wish to remind representatives that Cuba is not, and does not intend to be, a candidate in this election.

At the invitation of the President, Mrs. Pinto de Casap (Bolivia), U Ko (Burma), Mr. Földeák (Hungary), Mr. Fernández Torrejón (Spain) and Mr. Kitikiti (Zimbabwe) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

56. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are counted.

The meeting was suspended at 4.50 p.m. and resumed at 5.10 p.m.

57. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	148
<i>Number of invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	148
<i>Abstentions:</i>	4
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	144
<i>Required majority:</i>	96
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Costa Rica	93
Nicaragua	83
Haiti	57
Cuba	6

58. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): As none of the States has obtained the required two-thirds majority, the Assembly will now proceed to a third restricted ballot. As in the last ballot, the only States whose names may be included in the ballot papers are Costa Rica, Cuba, Haiti and Nicaragua. I wish to remind members that the representative of Cuba has indicated that his country does not wish to be considered a candidate for election to the Economic and Social Council. Any ballot papers containing the names of other States than those I have mentioned will be declared invalid. Ballot papers will now be distributed. I request members to write on their ballot papers the names of two States only. Ballot papers containing more than two names will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mrs. Pinto de Casap (Bolivia), U Ko (Burma), Mr. Földeák (Hungary), Mr. Fernández Torrejón (Spain) and Mr. Kitikiti (Zimbabwe) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

59. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I shall now suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 5.15 p.m. and resumed at 5.35 p.m.

60. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	149
<i>Number of invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	149
<i>Abstentions:</i>	4
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	145
<i>Required majority:</i>	97
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Costa Rica	95
Nicaragua	88
Haiti	57
Cuba	7

61. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): As the result of the third restricted ballot has also been inconclusive, we must, in accordance with the rules of procedure, proceed to an unrestricted ballot.

62. May I remind the Assembly that members have the right to vote for any State from the Latin American Group of States except, of course, those which are already members of the Economic and Social Council. To make this clear, I shall read out the names of those States which cannot be voted for in the present balloting: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Saint Lucia, Suriname and Venezuela.

*Resumed from the 41st meeting.

63. Ballot papers will now be distributed. I would request members to write the names of only two States. Ballot papers bearing more than two names will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mrs. Pinto de Casap (Bolivia), U Ko (Burma), Mr. Földeák (Hungary), Mr. Fernández Torrejón (Spain) and Mr. Kitikiti (Zimbabwe) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

64. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I propose to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 5.45 p.m. and resumed at 6.05 p.m.

65. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	152
<i>Number of invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	152
<i>Abstentions:</i>	4
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	148
<i>Required majority:</i>	99
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Costa Rica	98
Nicaragua	86
Haiti	54
Cuba	11
Barbados	1
Bolivia	1
Saint Christopher and Nevis	1

66. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): As none of the candidates has obtained the required two-thirds majority, the Assembly will now proceed to a second unrestricted ballot.

67. I remind representatives that they may vote for any State from the Latin American Group of States except those that are already members of the Economic and Social Council. Ballot papers will now be distributed. I request members to write on them the names of two States only. Any ballot papers containing more than two names will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mrs. Pinto de Casap (Bolivia), U Ko (Burma), Mr. Földeák (Hungary), Mr. Fernández Torrejón (Spain) and Mr. Kitikiti (Zimbabwe) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

68. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are counted.

The meeting was suspended at 6.15 p.m. and resumed at 6.45 p.m.

69. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	153
<i>Number of invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	153
<i>Abstentions:</i>	3
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	150

Required majority: 100

Number of votes obtained:

Costa Rica	103
Nicaragua	82
Haiti	57
Cuba	14
Bahamas	1
Barbados	1
Bolivia	1

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Costa Rica was elected a member of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1984 (see decision 38/307).

70. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): Since one seat remains to be filled from the Group of Latin American States, we shall now proceed, in accordance with rule 94 of the General Assembly's rules of procedure, to a third unrestricted ballot.

71. Ballot papers will now be distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mrs. Pinto de Casap (Bolivia), U Ko (Burma), Mr. Földeák (Hungary), Mr. Fernández Torrejón (Spain) and Mr. Kitikiti (Zimbabwe) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

72. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 7.00 p.m. and resumed at 7.15 p.m.

73. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	153
<i>Number of invalid ballots:</i>	2
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	151
<i>Abstentions:</i>	6
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	145
<i>Required majority:</i>	97
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Nicaragua	82
Haiti	61
Bolivia	2

74. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): As the result of the voting has been inconclusive, one post remains to be filled from the Group of Latin American States. However, given the lateness of the hour, I suggest that we postpone the voting to a future meeting which will be announced in due course.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 7.20 p.m.

NOTE

¹The delegations of Guyana, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Panama, Sudan and Zaire subsequently informed the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.