



# General Assembly

Seventieth session

**37**<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting  
Wednesday, 21 October 2015, 10 a.m.  
New York

Official Records

*President:* Mr. Lykketoft . . . . . (Denmark)

*The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.*

## Agenda item 112 (continued)

### Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs

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

**The President:** The General Assembly will now proceed to the election of 18 members of the Economic and Social Council to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 2015.

The 18 outgoing members are: Albania, Australia, Benin, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Colombia, Croatia, Haiti, Italy, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritius, Nepal, San Marino, South Africa, the Sudan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan and the United States of America. Pursuant to rule 146 of the rules of procedure, these countries are eligible for immediate re-election.

As of 1 January 2016, the following States will be represented on the Economic and Social Council: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mauritania, Pakistan, Panama, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zimbabwe. The names of these 36 States should therefore not appear on the ballots.

In accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 2847 (XXVI), of 20 December 1971, and taking into account the number of States that will remain members of the Council after 1 January 2016, the 18 members should be elected as follows: five from African States, four from Asia-Pacific States, two from Eastern European States, three from Latin American and Caribbean States and four from Western European and other States. The ballot papers reflect that pattern.

I should like to inform the Assembly that those candidates — their number not exceeding the number of seats to be filled — that receive a two-thirds majority and the greatest number of votes by members present and voting, will be declared elected. Consistent with past practice, in the case of a tie vote making it necessary to determine the candidate to be elected or that will proceed to the next round of restricted balloting, there will be a special restricted ballot limited to those candidates that have obtained an equal number of votes.

May I take it that the General Assembly agrees to these procedures?

*It was so decided.*

**The President:** In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election shall be held by secret ballot, and there shall be no nominations.

Regarding candidatures of the respective regional Groups, the Secretariat has been informed that for the five vacant seats from among the African States, the Group has endorsed five candidates: Algeria, Nigeria, Rwanda, Somalia and South Africa. For the four vacant

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seats from among the Asia-Pacific States, the Group has endorsed four candidates: Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon and Viet Nam. For the two vacant seats from among the Eastern European States, the Group has endorsed two candidates: the Czech Republic and the Republic of Moldova. For the three vacant seats from among the Latin American and Caribbean States, the Group has endorsed three candidates: Chile, Guyana and Peru. For the four vacant seats from among the Western European and other States, the Group has endorsed four candidates: Australia, Belgium, Italy and the United States of America.

In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, we shall now proceed to the election by secret ballot.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting. In addition, ballot papers will be given only to the representative seated directly behind the country's name plate.

I should like to seek the usual cooperation of representatives during the time of the conduct of the election. Please be reminded that during the voting process, all campaigning should cease in the General Assembly Hall. This means in particular that once the meeting has begun, no more campaign material can be distributed inside the Hall. All delegations are also requested to remain at their seats so that the voting process can proceed in an orderly manner. I thank the delegations for their cooperation.

We shall now begin the voting process. Ballot papers marked "A", "B", "C", "D" and "E" will now be distributed. I request representatives to use only those ballot papers and to write on them the names of the States for which they wish to vote. A ballot will be declared invalid if it contains more names of Member States from the relevant region than the number of seats assigned to it. A ballot will also be declared invalid if none of the names of the Member States on that ballot belongs to the relevant region. If a ballot paper of a region contains both the names of Member States that belong to and that are outside that region, the ballot remains valid but only the names of the Member States that belong to the relevant region will be counted. The names of Member States that do not belong to that region will not be counted.

*At the invitation of the President, Mrs. Vassil (El Salvador), Ms. Jeske (Germany), Mrs. Bowoleksono (Indonesia), Mr. Miró Weeden (Panama), Ms. Magnon (Togo) and Mr. Varganov (Russian Federation) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

*The meeting was suspended at 10.25 a.m. and resumed at 11.40 a.m.*

**The President:** The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Group A — African States</i>	
Number of ballot papers:	188
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	188
Abstentions:	0
Number of members present and voting:	188
Required two-thirds majority:	126
Number of votes obtained:	
Algeria	185
Nigeria	184
Somalia	183
Rwanda	181
South Africa	180
Burundi	1
Côte d'Ivoire	1
Ethiopia	1

<i>Group B — Asia-Pacific States</i>	
Number of ballot papers:	188
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	188
Abstentions:	1
Number of members present and voting:	187
Required two-thirds majority:	125
Number of votes obtained:	
Lebanon	182
Viet Nam	182
Afghanistan	179
Iraq	179
Mongolia	1
Philippines	1
Saudi Arabia	1
United Arab Emirates	1

<i>Group C — Eastern European States</i>	
Number of ballot papers:	188
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	188
Abstentions:	4

Number of members present and voting:	184
Required two-thirds majority:	123
Number of votes obtained:	
Czech Republic	179
Republic of Moldova	179
Slovenia	1
<i>Group D — Latin American and Caribbean States</i>	
Number of ballot papers:	188
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	188
Abstentions:	2
Number of members present and voting:	186
Required two-thirds majority:	124
Number of votes obtained:	
Guyana	182
Chile	180
Peru	180
Bahamas	1
Ecuador	1
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	1

*Group E — Western European and other States*

Number of ballot papers:	188
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	188
Abstentions:	6

Number of members present and voting:	182
Required two-thirds majority:	122
Number of votes obtained:	
Italy	178
Australia	172
Belgium	170
United States	169
Ireland	1
San Marino	1

*Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Afghanistan, Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Chile, the Czech Republic, Guyana, Iraq, Italy, Lebanon, Nigeria, Peru, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Somalia, South Africa, the United States of America and Viet Nam were elected members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.*

**The President:** I congratulate the States that have been elected members of the Economic and Social Council, and I thank the tellers for their assistance in this election.

This concludes this stage of our consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 112.

*The meeting rose at 11.50 a.m.*