

**United Nations
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

Official Records



**1709th
PLENARY MEETING**

*Friday, 1 November 1968
at 3 p.m.*

NEW YORK

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Statement by the Secretary-General	1
Agenda item 16: Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council	1
Agenda item 72: Financial reports and accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 1967 and reports of the Board of Auditors: (a) United Nations (b) United Nations Development Programme (c) United Nations Children's Fund (d) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East; (e) United Nations Institute for Training and Research (f) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Report of the Fifth Committee	} 2
Agenda item 76: Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly: (b) Committee on Contributions Report of the Fifth Committee	} 2
Agenda item 30: Effects of atomic radiation: report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation Report of the Special Political Committee	3
Agenda item 8: Adoption of the agenda (<i>continued</i>) Third report of the General Committee	3
Message to the President of the General Assembly	3

President: Mr. Emilio ARENALES (Guatemala).

Statement by the Secretary-General

1. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): I now call on the Secretary-General, who wishes to make a statement.
2. The SECRETARY-GENERAL: This morning I made the following statement before the General Committee in regard to the health of the President of the General Assembly, Mr. Emilio Arenales:

"I have been following the progress of the President of the General Assembly, His Excellency Mr. Emilio Arenales, after the surgery that he underwent on Tuesday, 22 October. I have been encouraged by the reports of the progress made by President Arenales.

"On 30 October 1968 I called on him at the hospital for the first time after his recent surgery. He was in

excellent spirits and we exchanged views about the work of the Assembly in the course of the meeting. Subsequently I met with the panel of doctors who have been taking care of President Arenales. They told me that he had made a speedy recovery from surgery and they saw no reason why he should not return to his responsibilities in the very near future. Indeed, they thought that he would be able to attend and preside over a meeting of the General Assembly even as early as some time next week. They said that both his mental and his physical faculties appear unimpaired at this time.

"President Arenales told me he would be able to preside over any plenary meeting of the General Assembly which may be held in the course of next week or thereafter."¹

3. In the circumstances I believe the Assembly would wish to carry on with its work, in the expectation that the President of the Assembly will shortly be back to conduct its meetings, with the co-operation of Vice-Presidents whenever necessary, as provided for in rule 32 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.
4. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): I am sure that all of you shared my feeling of relief on hearing the Secretary-General inform us that the President of the General Assembly is making a speedy recovery. I believe that you would wish me, on behalf of the General Assembly, to convey to His Excellency Mr. Emilio Arenales our renewed best wishes for his further satisfactory recovery. The Secretary-General will no doubt also tell the President how glad we shall be to have him back with us.
5. The General Assembly is ready, I think, to proceed with its work on the lines suggested by the Secretary-General. If there is no objection, I shall take it that the Assembly accepts this suggestion.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 16

Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council

6. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): The second item on our agenda is the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council to replace the five non-permanent members whose terms of office expire on 31 December 1968. The five outgoing members are: Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Ethiopia and India. Those five countries cannot be re-elected.

¹ This statement was made at the 176th meeting of the General Committee, the official records of which are published in summary form.

7. In 1969, apart from the five permanent members, the Security Council will comprise Algeria, Hungary, Pakistan, Paraguay and Senegal, which were elected at the twenty-second session for a two-year period. Therefore, the names of those five States should not appear on the ballot papers.

8. Of the five non-permanent members which will remain in office in 1969, three are from Africa and Asia, one from Eastern Europe and one from Latin America.

9. In accordance with paragraph 3 of resolution 1991 A (XVIII) of 17 December 1963, the non-permanent members to be elected should include two African and Asian States, one Latin American State and two States chosen from among the States of Western Europe and other States. The ballot papers take this distribution into account. It is my understanding that of the two seats to which African and Asian States are to be elected, one should be filled by an African State and the other by an Asian State. In accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure, the election shall be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations. I request members of the General Assembly to use only the ballot papers which are now being distributed and to write on them the names of the five Member States for which they wish to vote.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Atkins (New Zealand) and Mr. Polyanchko (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

10. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): I propose that the meeting should be suspended for twenty-five minutes to enable the tellers to count the ballots.

The meeting was suspended at 3.45 p.m. and resumed at 4.10 p.m.

11. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): The result of the vote is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	123
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	123
<i>Abstentions:</i>	0
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	123
<i>Required majority:</i>	82
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Nepal	120
Finland	119
Columbia	118
Zambia	115
Spain	110
Italy	5
Cuba	1
Guinea	1
Haiti	1
Ireland	1

Having obtained the required majority, Colombia, Finland, Nepal, Spain and Zambia were elected non-permanent members of the Security Council.

12. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): Colombia, Finland, Nepal, Spain and Zambia have been elected

non-permanent members of the Security Council for a period of two years commencing on 1 January 1968. I congratulate the members of the Security Council who have just been elected. I should like to thank the tellers for their assistance.

AGENDA ITEM 72

Financial reports and accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 1967 and reports of the Board of Auditors:

- (a) United Nations;
- (b) United Nations Development Programme;
- (c) United Nations Children's Fund;
- (d) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;
- (e) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;
- (f) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/7302)

AGENDA ITEM 76

Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly:

- (b) Committee on Contributions

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/7312)

13. Mr. MEYER PICON (Mexico), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee (*translated from Spanish*): I have the honour to submit two reports of the Fifth Committee for the approval of the General Assembly. The first [A/7302] relates to item 72 of the agenda. The Fifth Committee has recommended that the General Assembly approve the draft resolutions which appear in its report [*ibid.*, para. 16].

14. The second report which I have the honour to submit to the Assembly [A/7312] relates to agenda item 76 (b).

15. The Fifth Committee recommends that Mr. Zakharov be appointed to replace Mr. Makeev, who has submitted his resignation with effect from 7 October 1968. The appointment will be effective from the date on which this resolution is adopted until the expiration of Mr. Makeev's term of office. The draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee is to be found in its report [*ibid.*, para. 5].

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee.

16. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): The Assembly will first examine the report of the Fifth Committee relating to agenda item 72 [A/7302]. The recommendations of the Fifth Committee are contained in paragraph 16 of this report.

17. Since no member wishes to speak in explanation of vote, the Assembly will now take a decision on the six draft resolutions dealing with this matter which have been recommended by the Fifth Committee. May I take it that

the General Assembly adopts draft resolutions A, B, C, D, E and F?

Draft resolutions A, B, C, D, E and F were adopted [resolution 2380 (XXIII)].

18. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): I now invite the Assembly to consider the report of the Fifth Committee concerning the appointment to fill a vacancy in the Committee on Contributions, following the resignation of Mr. Evgeny Makeev [A/7312]. The draft resolution recommended for adoption by the Fifth Committee is contained in paragraph 5 of this report. Since no member wishes to speak in explanation of vote, may I take it that the Assembly adopts this decision?

The draft resolution was adopted [resolution 2381 (XXIII)].

AGENDA ITEM 30

Effects of Atomic Radiation: Report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/7296)

Mr. Lannung (Denmark), Rapporteur of the Special Political Committee, presented the report of that Committee (A/7296) and then spoke as follows:

19. Mr. LANNUNG (Denmark), Rapporteur of the Special Political Committee: As Rapporteur of the Special Political Committee, it is my privilege to present the Committee's report (A/7296) on its consideration of agenda item 30.

20. At the Committee's one meeting on this item twenty representatives took part in the discussion. There was an exceptional consensus on the importance for all humanity attached to this question and on the need to continue the valuable work of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation.

21. I have the pleasure to recommend, on behalf of the Special Political Committee, that the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, which was adopted unanimously by the Committee [*ibid.*, para. 5].

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure it was decided not to discuss the report of the Special Political Committee.

22. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): Since the draft resolution of the Special Political Committee which appears in paragraph 5 of that Committee's report [A/7296] was adopted by the Committee unanimously, may I take it that the General Assembly also wishes to adopt it unanimously?

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously [resolution 2382 (XXIII)].

AGENDA ITEM 8

Adoption of the agenda (*continued*)*

THIRD REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE (A/7250/Add.2)

23. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): The General Committee recommends that a new item entitled "Celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations" be included in the agenda of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly. It also recommends that this item should be considered directly in plenary. Do any members of the Assembly wish to speak?

24. The General Assembly has to take a decision on the recommendation made by the General Committee in paragraph 1 of its report. If I hear no objections, may I take it that the General Assembly adopts the recommendation of the General Committee that the item entitled "Celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations" should be included in the agenda of the General Assembly and considered in plenary?

It was so decided.

Message to the President of the General Assembly

25. The PRESIDENT (*translated from French*): In paragraph 2 of its report [A/7250/Add.2], the General Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should convey to the President its best wishes for his speedy recovery. I am sure that all members of the Assembly are prepared to adopt this recommendation and to address a message to the President. I therefore propose that the following telegram should be sent to the President of the General Assembly:

"His Excellency Mr. Emilio Arenales
President of the General Assembly

Mr. President,

On the proposal of the General Committee, the General Assembly decided at its plenary meeting this afternoon to send you its renewed best wishes for a speedy recovery. The members of the General Assembly are relieved to hear the reassuring news given them by the Secretary-General regarding your health and are looking forward with pleasure to having you back with us soon."

The meeting rose at 4.25 p.m.

* Resumed from the 1699th meeting.