United Nations GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION

Official Records



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President: Mr. Adam MALIK (Indonesia).

AGENDA ITEM 16

Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council

1. The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The first item on the agenda for this morning is the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council to replace the five non-permanent members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1971. The five outgoing members are: Burundi, Nicaragua, Poland, Sierra Leone and the Syrian Arab Republic. Those five countries cannot be re-elected and their names must not appear on the ballot papers.

2. Apart from the five permanent members, the Security Council in 1972 will include Argentina, Belgium, Italy, Japan and Somalia. Therefore, the names of those States also should not appear on the ballot papers.

3. Of the five non-permanent members which will remain in office in 1972, two are from Africa and Asia, one from Latin America and two from Western Europe and other States. Therefore, in accordance with paragraph 3 of resolution 1991 A (XVIII) of 17 December 1963, the non-permanent members to be elected should be made up as follows: three from Africa and Asia, one from Eastern Europe and one from Latin America. The ballot papers must take that pattern into account. They will now be distributed.

4. 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 Assembly to use only the ballot papers which have now been distributed and to write on them the names of the five Member States for which they wish to vote. As I have indicated, the ballot papers should not include the names of the five permanent members, the five outgoing non-permanent members or the five countries that are already non-permanent members for 1972. Any ballot papers containing more than five names will be considered invalid.

At the request of the President, Mr. Adala (Kenya) and Mr. Small (New Zealand) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

5. The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): If there is no objection, I propose to suspend the meeting for 20 minutes while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 11.05 a.m. and resumed at 11.25 a.m.

6. The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	116
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	116
Abstentions:	0
Number of Members voting:	116
Required majority:	78

Number of votes obtained:

Yugoslavia
Sudan
Guinea
Panama
India
Peru 2
Chile 1
Ethiopia 1
Fiji 1
Israel
Pakistan
Tunisia

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Guinea, India, Panama, Sudan and Yugoslavia were elected non-permanent members of the Security Council for a two-year period from 1 January 1972.

AGENDA ITEM 17

Election of nine members of the Economic and Social Council

7. The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The General Assembly will now proceed to elect nine members of the Economic and Social Council to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1971 The nine outgoing members are Indonesia, Jamaica,

Norway, Pakistan, Sudan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Yugoslavia. These nine countries are eligible for immediate re-election.

8. I should like to remind members of the Assembly that after 1 January 1972 the following States will still be members of the Economic and Social Council: Brazil, Ceylon, France, Ghana, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, New Zealand, Niger, Peru, Tunisia, the United States of America and Zaire. Therefore, the names of those 18 States should not appear on the ballot papers.

9. Ballot papers reflecting the pattern set out in paragraph 3 of resolution 1991 B (XVIII) of 17 December 1963 will now be distributed. In accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure the election shall be held by secret ballot.

10. I request members of the Assembly to use only the ballot papers that are now being distributed and to write on them the names of the nine Member States for which they wish to vote. Ballot papers containing more than nine names will be declared invalid.

11. I call on the representative of Thailand, who wishes to speak on a point of order.

12. Mr. PANYARACHUN (Thailand): My delegation has raised a point of order to make an announcement which relates directly to the item at present before the General Assembly, namely, the election of nine members of the Economic and Social Council.

13. As is known to the General Assembly, last April the Thai delegation put forward the candidature of Thailand for election to one of the two Asian seats falling vacant this year. In its appeal for the support of member Governments the Thai delegation specifically mentioned the fact that since the time of its admission, in 1946, Thailand had never once been a member of either of the two main organs of the United Nations, namely, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council. We also expressed our belief that as a developing country with a population of some 36 million, and in view of our experience in economic and social planning, the delegation of Thailand could make some contribution to the deliberations and work of the Economic and Social Council.

14. At that time, as now, in addition to Thailand two other Asian Memoers, Japan and Nepal, were also contending candidates. However, last Friday evening we learned that the People's Republic of China had indicated its interest in election to membership of the Economic and Social Council. Considering China's position in world affairs and its permanent membership of the Security Council, the Thai delegation believes not only that China's interest in membership in the Economic and Social Council is legitimate but also that China is entitled to election to one of the two Asian seats at present available.

15. On that basis a new situation arose over the weekend and, assuming the People's Republic of China is assured of one Asian seat, my delegation has reviewed the whole matter; while a strong case can be made for the candidature of Thailand and while support for its candidature has been generously given by many Governments from all geographical areas, for which we are grateful, the Thai delegation is averse to open competition with Japan and Nepal, with which Thailand maintains close and cordial relations.

16. Therefore, in a spirit of solidarity and co-operation with all members of the Asian Group the Thai delegation has decided, with great reluctance, to withdraw Thailand's candidature for election to the Economic and Social Council. In so doing, I would express my delegation's ardent hope and confidence that the withdrawal of Thailand's candidature this year, despite its never having been a member of that august body, will be taken into account when Thailand decides to present its candidature in future elections to the Economic and Social Council or to any other major economic and social body of the United Nations system. We hope that the Asian Group in particular will find it possible to give priority consideration and endorsement to our future candidature.

At the request of the President, Mr. Lacko (Czechoslovakia) and Mrs. Auguste (Trinidad and Tobago) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

17. The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): If there is no objection, I suggest that we now suspend the meeting for half an hour so that the ballots may be counted.

The meeting was suspended at 11.45 a.m. and resumed at 12.25 p.m.

18. The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	128
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	128
Abstentions:	0
Number of Members voting:	128
Required majority:	86

Number of votes obtained:

Chile
Poland
Burundi
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Finland
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern
Ireland
Bolivia
China
Japan
Nepal
Thailand
Costa Rica
Yugoslavia
Algeria
Trinidad and Tobago

Argentina																										
Austria				•	•						•	٠	•				•	•						•		1
Cuba																										1
Egypt		•								•	•				•	•	•						•	•		1
Guyana .	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		•	•	•		•		•					•	•	•	•		1
Malta	•	•									ı.			•									•			1
Norway .					•																					1
Pakistan .			•		•					•	•										•					1
Spain	•					•	•	•			•				÷			•						•	,	1
Sudan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	1

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Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Bolivia, Burundi, Chile, China, Finland, Japan, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were elected members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year period from 1 January 1972.

The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.

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