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PLENARY MEETING**

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**President: Mr. Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA
(Algeria).**

Organization of work

1. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The first and third items on our agenda for this meeting relate to the election of members of subsidiary organs of the General Assembly. The counting of the ballots will take some time. I therefore suggest that, in order to save time, the General Assembly should proceed with the consideration of other items on its agenda while the ballots are being counted. The results will be announced as they become available. If I hear no objection, we shall proceed accordingly.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 18

Election of fifteen members of the Industrial Development Board

2. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The Assembly will now proceed to the election of 15 members of the Industrial Development Board to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1974. The 15 outgoing members are: Brazil, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, India, Japan, Kuwait, the Libyan Arab Republic, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Peru, Thailand, the United States of America and the Upper Volta. Those members are eligible for immediate re-election.
3. I should like to read out a letter, dated 11 December 1974, addressed to the President of the General Assembly by the Permanent Representative of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations:

"On behalf of the States listed in part D of the annex to General Assembly resolution 2152 (XXI) and with reference to the election to the Industrial Development Board at the current session of the General Assembly, I have the honour to request that Cuba be included on this particular occasion and in this particular case among the States listed in part D of the annex to the said resolution."

This matter is before the Assembly. In the absence of any objection, may I take it that the Assembly approves this request?

It was so decided.

4. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The list of States in part D of the annex, which will be distributed for this election, will reflect the decision just taken by the General Assembly.

5. I should like to remind Members that after 1 January 1975 the following States will still be members: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, China, Finland, Gabon, Germany (Federal Republic of), Greece, Iran, Italy, Jamaica, Liberia, Madagascar, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tunisia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zambia. Therefore those names should not appear on the ballot papers.

6. In accordance with established practice, the required number of candidates in each list that receives the largest number of votes and not less than the majority required will be declared elected. In case of a tied vote for the last place, there will be a restricted ballot limited to those candidates which have obtained an equal number of votes.

7. May I take it that the General Assembly agrees to that procedure?

It was so decided.

8. Mr. ROSSIDES (Cyprus): As Chairman of the group of Asian States, I have the honour to inform the General Assembly that the candidates from that group for its four seats on the Industrial Development Board are India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kuwait and Malaysia. Unfortunately, we have not been able to arrive at an agreed slate. Originally eight candidates were proposed. We have been able to reduce the number to five but not to four in order to present an agreed slate.

9. In the circumstances, there will have to be an election with respect to the candidates of the group of Asian States.

10. I should like to take this opportunity to inform the Assembly that, with regard to the election of members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, there are five candidates from the group of Asian States for the four seats—namely, India, Iran, Japan, Kuwait and Malaysia. Again, we have been able to reduce the original number, but not to four. So in this case also there will have to be an election with respect to the candidates of that group.

11. Mr. PAUL (Haiti) (*interpretation from French*): My delegation, in its capacity as Chairman of the group of Latin American States would like to inform the General Assembly that the candidates for the Industrial Development Board endorsed by the group are Peru and Brazil.

12. Mr. DIETZE (German Democratic Republic): On behalf of the socialist States of Eastern Europe, I should like to inform the Assembly that our candidates for election to the Industrial Development Board are Cuba and Czechoslovakia.

13. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election shall be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations.

14. Ballot papers will now be distributed. May I request members of the Assembly to use only those ballot papers and to place a cross opposite the names of the countries for which they wish to vote? Each ballot paper indicates the number of members to be elected from each list, as follows: six from list A, five from list B, two from list C and two from list D. Ballot papers containing more than that number will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, the following representatives acted as tellers: List A, Mr. Krüger (German Democratic Republic); List B, Mr. Kacimaiwai (Fiji); List C, Mr. O'Riordan (Ireland); List D, Mr. Chabala (Zambia).

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

15. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): In accordance with the decision taken by the Assembly [para. 1 above], we shall proceed with the consideration of the next items on today's programme of work while the ballots are being counted.

AGENDA ITEM 46

United Nations Environment Programme:

- (a) Report of the Governing Council;
- (b) United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements: report of the Secretary-General;
- (c) Criteria governing multilateral financing of housing and human settlements: report of the Secretary-General

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE (A/9961)

16. Mr. LASCARRO (Colombia), Rapporteur of the Second Committee (*interpretation from Spanish*): I have the honour to present to the General Assembly the report of the Second Committee on agenda item 46 concerning the United Nations Environment Programme [A/9961].

17. In paragraph 14 of its report, the Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of three draft resolutions. Draft resolution I, entitled "Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements", was adopted in the Second Committee without a vote. Draft resolution II, entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme", was adopted by 111 votes to 1, with 1 abstention. Draft resolution III, entitled "Establishment of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation" was adopted by 85 votes to none, with 11 abstentions.

Pursuant to rule 66 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the report of the Second Committee.

18. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I shall now call on representatives who wish to speak in explanation of vote before the vote on any or all of the draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee.

19. Mr. FERGUSON (United States of America): When draft resolution III in the report before us now was considered by the Second Committee, my delegation voted "Yes". My delegation in this plenary meeting will vote "No" on that draft resolution. I should like to explain why my delegation has changed its position.

20. The United States "Yes" vote in the Second Committee was made on the assumption that agreement would be reached in the resumed session of the Economic and Social Council for a satisfactory rationalization of the functions of the international habitat and human settlements foundation and the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat.

21. When the draft resolution which would establish the human settlements foundation was considered by the Second Committee the Economic and Social Council had not yet concluded its own deliberations. These deliberations, however, have now been concluded and the results, so far as my delegation is concerned, are wholly unsatisfactory. The reason for my delegation's change of position lies not merely in the fundamental change in our thinking regarding the establishment of an international habitat and human settlements foundation *per se*, but rather, in the un-

satisfactory conclusion reached by the Economic and Social Council regarding the rationalization of the activities of the foundation and the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning.

22. It is the view of my delegation that the international habitat and human settlements foundation cannot conceivably carry out the responsibilities assigned to it without, at a minimum, having a technical assistance arm. Beyond the need for a technical assistance arm, it is also improbable, in the view of my delegation, that the foundation can carry out its responsibilities without a research staff of some sort which would undertake studies in the field of housing and human settlement. The draft resolution contained in UNEP decision 16 A (II) [see A/9961, para. 14, *draft resolution III, annex*], which recommended the establishment of the foundation, later endorsed by the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-seventh session in its resolution 1882 (LVII) and before us now, makes no provision for meeting these essential requirements. Instead, the means by which these requirements were to be met were to be determined by the Council in its deliberations on rationalization.

23. The Economic and Social Council could have provided the foundation with a technical assistance arm and the necessary research facilities by proposing a merger of the appropriate parts of the existing Centre for Housing, Building and Planning with the foundation. Such a merger would have been a sensible way to solve the problem for several reasons. In the first place, the Centre already has a technical assistance branch and a research branch in being, devoted to tasks that are essentially the same as those it is envisaged the new foundation will undertake. Secondly, a merger of the Centre with the foundation would preclude any chance of duplication between the two separate organs of the United Nations. Thirdly, a merger of this type would ensure that the foundation—which, at its inception was envisaged as part of a bold initiative for coming to grips in an imaginative and innovative way with one of the most serious problems of our time—would have got off to a good start. Finally, such a merger would, for all practical purposes, obviate the need to call upon member Governments to provide additional funds beyond the voluntary contributions which are to provide the seed capital for the human settlements project, since the relevant parts of the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning simply would move from one location in the United Nations to another. This approach was the one favoured by my delegation for the reasons I have just enumerated.

24. The decision of the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1914 (LVII) was, however, quite different. While subject to interpretation, that Council decision essentially keeps the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning intact, on the grounds that the essential technical assistance and research needs of the foundation can be met by the foundation's contracting with the Centre for these services. This solution to the problem has the advantage of avoiding duplication of activities between two separate organs of the United Nations. Beyond that, however, my delegation views this solution as impractical and unwise. It is not practical because the foundation has no regular source of funds to pay for any such contractual services to

be performed by the Centre. The foundation, in short, as a consequence of this solution has become—and I use the words advisedly—a paper tiger. More importantly, at best the foundation will falter in coming to grips with the desperate needs of housing on our globe and probably will not realize that objective at all, since the foundation cannot expect to receive the voluntary contributions it seeks for seed capital without also having access to technical assistance and research expertise.

25. The Economic and Social Council solution, in my judgement and in the judgement of my delegation, is unwise, because once the foundation realizes the predicament it is in we can expect it in desperation to seek regular sources of funds in order to have access to technical assistance and the research expertise so required. While my delegation cannot predict the result with any certainty, it does not seem unreasonable that the foundation will seek to obtain financing from the Fund of UNEP. Should this happen a conflict will arise between the foundation and other claimants for the limited resources of that Fund. More expressiy, the result will be a conflict between those of us who favour using the Fund to cope with global environmental problems of desertification, pollutants and the like, and those of us who favour using the Fund for operational activities.

26. Since those who favour the one and the other of these alternatives generally correspond to the customary definition of developed and developing countries, it is not altogether unreasonable that the ensuing debate will be elevated to a political level—one that has plagued us all too frequently in our discussions of operational matters in the past. Let us hope that this is not the case, but let us also recognize that this is a real possibility.

27. It is the view of my delegation that, if the Economic and Social Council had shown the proper courage, the possibility of this kind of conflict could have been averted and the important objectives of the foundation would have had a reasonable chance of successful realization. The Council, however, saw fit to do otherwise, for reasons that, in our view, were short-sighted and not in the best interests of the United Nations as an organization or in the best interests of the homeless peoples of the world. The United States support for the new foundation was contingent on the Economic and Social Council's facing up to the issue and presenting solutions in both the long-term interests of both the United Nations and those deprived peoples of the world. It has not done so, and therefore my delegation must withdraw its support of the draft resolution before it and the foundation which it seeks to create. We shall consequently vote "No" on draft resolution III.

28. Mr. FRAZÃO (Brazil): The Brazilian delegation, in supporting draft resolution II on the report of the Governing Council of UNEP contained in the report of the Second Committee [A/9961], could not fail to express its special satisfaction at the manner in which a matter of such significance, particularly for the developing countries, has been approached.

29. In effect, the document we are commenting upon places the question of the human environment in the sole context that appears to us acceptable, I mean in the general framework of the recognition of the

sovereign right of States to the free utilization and exploitation of natural resources within their territories.

30. Such a concept, endorsed in the preamble and emphatically reaffirmed in the pertinent provisions of the operative part of the draft resolution, thus constitutes the proper background for the understanding and interpretation of all other provisions of the text under consideration.

31. It is well known that the position of the Brazilian Government on this matter derives precisely from the premise that this is one of the rights inherent in the sovereignty of States, a right which cannot, therefore, be limited by restrictions other than those emanating from the general principle of law that forbids causing significant damage to third parties and imposes the responsibility for any damage whenever it occurs.

32. On this occasion it must be reiterated that, in the case of resources which are not static but flow through the territory of more than one country, that right remains unchanged, the exceptions being only those I previously referred to.

33. For these reasons, the Minister for Foreign Relations of Brazil, Mr. Azeredo Da Silveira, in his statement delivered on 23 September 1974 at the opening of the general debate, thought it his obligation to bring to the attention of Governments, in this context, the implications of certain principles of consultation that may infringe the sovereign right of States to utilize their natural resources—principles that may appear constructive but can disturb an international order that Governments aim to preserve, while impeding the economic progress to which all of us aspire. On that occasion the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Relations stated:

"We should all be aware that natural resources, the use of which it is intended to regulate in opposition to the sovereign decisions of territorial Governments, do not flow over ground only. There are those that flow beneath the ground, as there are those that flow in the territorial sea. The characteristics of certain resources must be the motive for responsible behaviour on the part of those who use them, rather than for hindering their use and thus benefiting no party at all." [2238th meeting, para. 36.]

34. By stressing, on the other hand, in its preambular part, the need for and urgency of attaining "rational and optimal exploitation and consumption of natural resources", the draft resolution introduces, together with the concept of optimization and with indisputable hierarchical pre-eminence, the concept of rationality, which presupposes the concept of economic profitability. These are ideas which, in my opinion, open up new horizons for the study and understanding of the subject, and immediately demonstrate that the criteria of optimization—which cannot be imposed on national sovereignty—cannot be construed in an absolute manner, in a purely quantitative sense, but must take into account other factors, including those of a political nature.

35. Finally, by replacing, with realism and objectivity, the idea of prior consultation by an exchange of information expressly subordinated to the "permanent sovereignty of States over their natural re-

sources", the document comes very close to the system of "adequate divulgence of data" which is in force in the River Plate Basin and has worked to the satisfaction of the interested parties.

36. The Brazilian delegation hopes, therefore, that the Governing Council of UNEP, when considering at its next session the Global Environmental Monitoring System [GEMS] and the International Referral System [IRS], will bear in mind the views now advanced, views inspired by the interest with which the Brazilian Government follows the questions relating to the human environment and by my Government's wish to collaborate so as to ensure that the measures suggested for environmental protection are really effective, the Charter of the United Nations and the inalienable sovereignty of Member States being always and absolutely respected.

37. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now take a decision on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 14 of its report [A/996/1].

38. Draft resolution I is entitled "Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements". The Second Committee adopted that draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 3325 (XXIX)).

39. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now vote on draft resolution II, entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme".

Draft resolution II was adopted by 133 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (resolution 3326 (XXIX)).

40. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now put to the vote draft resolution III, entitled "Establishment of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation". A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great

Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Bahamas, Barbados, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 122 votes to 1, with 11 abstentions (resolution 3327 (XXIX)).

41. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I shall now call on those representatives who wish to speak in explanation of vote after the vote.

42. Mr. BERLIS (Canada): The Canadian delegation supported draft resolution II in document A/9961. Nevertheless, I should like to remind the Assembly that the interpretations and reservations that my delegation registered in the Second Committee remain valid. I should like to draw the attention of the Assembly particularly to my delegation's comments with regard to the sixth preambular paragraph, which deals with the rational use of natural resources.

43. Mr. FERNÁNDEZ ESCALANTE (Argentina) (*interpretation from Spanish*): We have just approved, by a large majority, draft resolution II in document A/9961 on the future activities of UNEP—a draft resolution which we, together with various other delegations, sponsored in the Second Committee.

44. Argentina's interest in this subject is well known. My country has been involved in studies of this kind from the outset, giving its most resolute support to the work of UNEP. As our Minister for External Relations, Mr. Alberto Vignes, said during the general debate in the General Assembly:

"...the Republic of Argentina is keenly interested, in accordance with its governmental and political philosophy, in everything relating to the quality of life, because that is tied to the very future of mankind. We therefore pay particular attention to problems relating to natural resources and the environment, and we consider it timely for the United Nations to continue to deal with those far-reaching items with special emphasis.

"In particular, my country is interested in those and other aspects which deserve further study and solution in this General Assembly. I am referring to "collective ecological security", that is to say the co-operation which must exist between States in order to maintain an equitable balance in regard to certain elements which cover or involve more than one country and action in solidarity when the acts of one Government might run counter to that concept...." [2240th meeting, paras. 102-103].

45. The overwhelming vote on this draft resolution is an indication to UNEP to direct its activities accordingly. A resolution such as this is far from exhaustive and, without doubt, much more will be achieved in the future, but its purpose is to guide and strengthen the activities of UNEP so that it might play its true role as an effective tool to help foster the development of the less developed countries and

to increase international co-operation for the benefit of the third world.

46. The central idea concerns the right of States to protect their resources, preventing degradation and waste, if not depletion of these resources, and to exercise fully their responsibilities to their own nationals and to the international community, both for the present generation and generations to come.

47. We firmly believe that the priorities and objectives of the developing countries on the global level are substantially different from those of the highly industrialized nations. It is accordingly necessary for the responses to the general action of UNEP to take fully into account the decisions of the sixth special session of the General Assembly.

48. At the Intergovernmental Meeting on Monitoring, held at Nairobi from 11 to 20 February 1974, a group of delegations, headed by Iran and including Argentina, asked for the inclusion in the agenda of a study of environmental parameters different from pollutants, which is a matter of priority concern to developed countries, for the action of UNEP must continue on a world scale to avoid the danger of distorting the priorities and objectives of thousands of millions of human beings in the third world striving to attain an integrated and humane order.

49. Argentina voted for the draft resolution we have just adopted and sponsored it because we believe that, in this way, the valuable activities of UNEP can be more effective in solving the environmental problems that affect the international community, which, as we know consists of both developed and developing countries. We should thus have a better understanding of the diverse interests and objectives of Member States and pave the way for action by UNEP on global, regional and other levels, taking into consideration, as appropriate, the various concerns of the different nations.

50. The resolutions we have just adopted contains various measures for giving effect to these ideas; among them, that equal priority should be given to environmental parameters different from pollutants. As the Executive Director of UNEP said, it is essential that the developing countries should be consulted in order to prepare training and assistance programmes tailored to their needs. Operative paragraph 4 (f) requests the Executive Director of UNEP to submit a report to the Governing Council on the legal aspects under study in the various organizations of the United Nations. This document, to which we attach particular importance, will make it possible to bring together, as comprehensively as possible, such information. Added to that already received from other sources, governmental and non-governmental, it will contribute effectively to the priority task of identifying and formulating international environmental law, with particular emphasis on preventive aspects, with a view to the continuing incorporation of these principles in legal rules and regulations, which constitute the formal proof of international co-operation.

51. We should also like to refer to draft resolutions I and III, which the Assembly has just adopted. The Argentine Government attaches the greatest importance to whatever can contribute to the successful preparation of Habitat: United Nations Conference

on Human Settlements. For the first time, equal attention, both national and international, will be given to the problems that concern the natural environment, stressing those created by man. Thus full value will be given to the preambular paragraph of the Stockholm Declaration,² which states that the two aspects of the human environment, natural and artificial, are essential to the well-being of man.

52. To sum up, it is one thing to watch powerlessly as events develop and quite another to direct them with intelligence. That is the task of human beings.

53. We believe also that we should not pursue only our own selfish interests, looking at the world through a keyhole, seeking to benefit our small community; we should see that our community is the entire planet, and that it is essential to take into account the interests of all peoples, since they are our peoples too. Or are we to believe that the interests of 4 or 6 billion people will be sacrificed to serve the present interests of 300 million or 400 million? This is not to say that the 4 billion wish to hinder the progress of countries with smaller populations and a greater degree of development. On the contrary, the common desire is to achieve well-balanced, high-level progress. And that can only be done by respecting what has been already accomplished in this matter. But it is important to understand that all of us, and particularly those who are the most wealthy, have to give up something for the benefit of the less developed. If we do not yield intelligently, the tidal wave of economic and social justice will engulf us and harm everyone; the repercussions will lower that level of progress which we want to preserve for mankind. And this is one of the great historical responsibilities of the United Nations.

54. That is why the sponsors of draft resolution II, which we have just adopted, negotiated for such a long time to obtain the widest possible support, and we succeeded in that. Hence, this resolution cannot be one of those which are partially implemented and just contribute to swelling the files of the Organization.

55. If there is anything important for mankind at this time, it is the activities of UNEP and the way they are directed to produce practical and beneficial results for all peoples.

56. We know—and this is the basis of economic science—that wealth is scarce and that choices have to be made among various alternatives. The problem lies in the choosing. The same applies to the natural resources of our small and only planet, Earth.

57. The peoples demand intelligence in their leaders, in particular in the United Nations, so that they can appreciate what shortly lies ahead of us and understand that the narrow interests of individual nations—so feasible, so important, so exclusive in the diplomacy of the Congress of Vienna—have to be integrated with the interests of all peoples today, with, of course, full respect for national sovereignty, unless we wish to risk a collective disaster of incalculable proportions.

58. Natural resources and the human environment and the way they are handled are today the key to the collective ecological security of mankind.

AGENDA ITEM 19

Election of nineteen members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

59. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The General Assembly will now proceed to the election of 19 members of the Governing Council of UNEP to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1974. The 19 outgoing members are: Austria, Brazil, Germany (Federal Republic of), Iceland, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Malawi, Peru, Romania, Somalia, Tunisia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Republic of Cameroon, the United States of America and Venezuela. Those members are eligible for immediate re-election.

60. I should like to remind members that after 1 January 1975 the following States will still be members of the Governing Council: Argentina, Australia, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Czechoslovakia, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iraq, the Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania and Yugoslavia. Therefore, the names of those 39 States should not appear on the ballot papers.

61. In accordance with existing practice, the required number of candidates in each group that receives the largest number of votes and not less than the majority required will be declared elected. In case of a tied vote for the last place, there will be a restricted ballot limited to those candidates which have obtained an equal number of votes.

62. May I take it that the General Assembly agrees to that procedure?

It was so decided.

63. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election shall be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations.

64. Ballot papers reflecting the pattern set out in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 are now being distributed. I request representatives to use only the ballot papers that are being distributed and to write the names of the countries for which they wish to vote in each group. Ballot papers containing more names than assigned to that group will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, the following representatives acted as tellers: Group A, Mr. Granqvist (Sweden); Group B, Mr. Cato (Ghana); Group C, Mr. Rodas-Martinez (Guatemala); Group D, Mr. Bauulin (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic); Group E, Mr. Koh (Singapore).

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

65. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): In accordance with the decision taken by the Assembly [para. 1 above], we shall proceed with the

consideration of the other items on today's programme of work while the ballots are being counted.

AGENDA ITEM 18

Election of fifteen members of the Industrial Development Board (*concluded*)

66. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I shall now inform the General Assembly of the results of the election of 15 members of the Industrial Development Board.

List A

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Number of ballot papers:</i> | 134 |
| <i>Invalid ballots:</i> | 1 |
| <i>Number of valid ballots:</i> | 133 |
| <i>Abstentions:</i> | 1 |
| <i>Number of members voting:</i> | 132 |
| <i>Required majority:</i> | 67 |
| <i>Number of votes obtained:</i> | |
| Algeria | 112 |
| Ivory Coast | 111 |
| Indonesia | 100 |
| India | 97 |
| Kuwait | 94 |
| Malaysia | 89 |
| Iraq | 73 |
| Pakistan | 7 |
| Egypt | 4 |
| Zaire | 4 |
| Kenya | 3 |
| Guinea | 2 |
| Mauritania | 2 |
| Thailand | 2 |
| Upper Volta | 2 |
| Afghanistan | 1 |
| Bahrain | 1 |
| Burundi | 1 |
| Central African Republic | 1 |
| Congo | 1 |
| Ghana | 1 |
| Guinea-Bissau | 1 |
| Israel | 1 |
| Lesotho | 1 |
| Libyan Arab Republic | 1 |
| Maldives | 1 |
| Mali | 1 |
| Qatar | 1 |
| Viet Nam | 1 |
| Somalia | 1 |
| Sudan | 1 |
| United Arab Emirates | 1 |
| Yemen | 1 |
| Yugoslavia | 1 |

List B

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Number of ballot papers:</i> | 134 |
| <i>Invalid ballots:</i> | 0 |
| <i>Number of valid ballots:</i> | 134 |
| <i>Abstentions:</i> | 5 |
| <i>Number of members voting:</i> | 129 |
| <i>Required majority:</i> | 65 |

Number of votes obtained:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Sweden | 125 |
| France | 121 |
| United States of America | 119 |
| Netherlands | 117 |
| Japan | 116 |
| Australia | 3 |
| Cyprus | 2 |
| Iceland | 2 |
| San Marino | 2 |
| Canada | 1 |
| Denmark | 1 |
| Holy See | 1 |
| Luxembourg | 1 |
| Portugal | 1 |

List C

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Number of ballot papers:</i> | 134 |
| <i>Invalid ballots:</i> | 2 |
| <i>Number of valid ballots:</i> | 132 |
| <i>Abstentions:</i> | 5 |
| <i>Number of members voting:</i> | 127 |
| <i>Required majority:</i> | 64 |
| <i>Number of votes obtained:</i> | |
| Peru | 124 |
| Brazil | 120 |
| Chile | 2 |
| Colombia | 1 |
| Ecuador | 1 |
| Grenada | 1 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 1 |

List D

| | |
|--|-----|
| <i>Number of ballot papers:</i> | 134 |
| <i>Invalid ballots:</i> | 1 |
| <i>Number of valid ballots:</i> | 133 |
| <i>Abstentions:</i> | 3 |
| <i>Number of members voting:</i> | 130 |
| <i>Required majority:</i> | 66 |
| <i>Number of votes obtained:</i> | |
| Cuba | 119 |
| Czechoslovakia | 118 |
| Albania | 5 |
| Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic .. | 3 |
| German Democratic Republic | 2 |
| Hungary | 1 |

Having obtained the required majority, Algeria, Brazil, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Indonesia, the Ivory Coast, Japan, Kuwait, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Peru, Sweden and the United States of America were elected members of the Industrial Development Board for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1975.

67. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I wish to congratulate the countries which have been elected members of the Industrial Development Board and to thank the tellers for their assistance in this election.

AGENDA ITEM 23

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (continued)*

68. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now resume our consideration of agenda item 23, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. Two draft resolutions, A/L.754 and Add.1-3 and A/L.755 and Add.1-3 are before the Assembly in this connexion. The report of the Fifth Committee on the administrative and financial implications of these draft resolutions is contained in document A/9955. I should like to inform the Assembly that Uganda has become a sponsor of the two draft resolutions.

69. I shall now call on delegations that wish to speak in explanation of vote before the vote on one or both of the draft resolutions.

70. Mr. ELLIOTT (Canada): I should like to explain the vote of the Canadian delegation on draft resolution A/L.754 and Add.1-3.

71. The Canadian delegation will vote in favour of this draft resolution on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples just as we voted for a similar draft resolution at the twenty-eighth session. We shall vote in favour of this draft resolution in order to express Canada's broad general support for the principles which the United Nations has established with regard to decolonization. Our affirmative vote does not imply, however, acceptance by Canada of certain parts of the text upon which the Canadian delegation specifically expressed reservations last year and during this session in explanations of votes on various resolutions adopted earlier on questions which come under the umbrella of item 23. These reservations relate to the draft resolution's implication of support for the use of force, to the suggestion that all foreign investment in colonial countries is necessarily detrimental to the interests of the people of the Territories concerned, and to the continued reference to self-determination and independence without acknowledgement that self-determination may lead to solutions other than a fully independent status.

72. The Canadian delegation has reservations also about suggestions in this text that the United Nations or the specialized agencies should discriminate against a particular Member State, and we consider that some of the requests made to Member States are of an impractical nature.

73. This draft resolution contains language which has appeared in several previous resolutions and which clearly is in need of being brought more closely into line with current realities. Therefore, while the Canadian delegation will vote in favour of this text, we would urge that at future sessions a serious attempt be made to formulate a more widely acceptable draft resolution on this item.

74. Mr. MORETON (United Kingdom): I wish to explain why my delegation will abstain in the vote on draft resolution A/L.754 and Add.1-3.

75. My delegation would have voted against this draft resolution except that it did not wish its general position of support for constructive measures of decolonization to be open to question. We have serious objections to many parts of the draft resolution, and I will mention some of them.

76. Although it does welcome, somewhat grudgingly, certain recent developments, much of its language strikes us as more that of confrontation than that of co-operation. It calls on administering Powers to do a number of things without delay with scant regard to the realities on the ground, for the record of countries such as my own in decolonization or, much the most important of all, for the wishes and interests of the people concerned. It talks about the legitimacy of struggle by all necessary means, which not only is contrary to the Charter but has no relation to the tranquil situation in most dependent Territories.

77. Operative paragraph 11 of the draft resolution seems to regard independence as the only form self-determination can take, but that is in conflict with a number of resolutions that this Assembly has adopted over the years, and indeed during the present session.

78. I must therefore put on record, with real regret, in view of the distinguished list of sponsors, that we regard much of this draft resolution as outmoded and at variance with the positive and constructive co-operation that has been established between the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and a number of administering Powers, including my country.

79. My Government believes that the way forward lies in such co-operation, in full exchanges of views with United Nations bodies on what would best serve the peoples of the remaining dependent Territories. It is their future we are talking about and, in the view of my delegation, neither the administering Power nor the United Nations should attempt to dictate what that future should be.

80. The three visiting missions that have taken place this year, including one to a British-administered Territory, have all been most valuable in ascertaining at first hand what the people concerned wanted.

81. Despite what I have said about this draft resolution, I affirm that my delegation will continue to play a full part in all discussions of the problems of Non-Self-Governing Territories under our administration, both in the Special Committee and in other United Nations bodies. We hope and believe that such discussions can offer a real prospect of constructive progress in the task of bringing the peoples of these Territories to the point where they can freely decide their own future in the light of their own best interests.

82. Mr. GLEISSNER (Austria): The Austrian delegation will vote in favour of draft resolutions A/L.754 and Add.1-3 and A/L.755 and Add.1-3. Austria has never failed to express its full support of the right of the peoples in colonial countries to self-determination and independence. The year 1974 marks a major step forward on this road.

* Resumed from the 2319th meeting.

83. As a result of a new and enlightened policy of the Government of Portugal, the armed struggle of the liberation movements in the Territories under its domination could be replaced by the peaceful method of negotiation regarding the exercise of the right of self-determination and independence.

84. We are looking forward to 1975 with the hope that the obvious positive results of this basic change of attitude on the part of a colonial Power will be visible to those who still adhere to outmoded concepts. We are entitled to a spirit of optimism in this regard, not based on vague and illusionary hopes but on the determined will of the peoples still living in Territories to which the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applies to march the road of freedom and decolonization to its end, and the equal determination of the international community to be with them in this respect.

85. Much has been achieved in this field since the United Nations was created with the clear mandate to transform the international community into a world of equal partners. What has still to be done will be done, and the United Nations will shoulder its share of the burden and help to accomplish this task.

86. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now proceed to vote on the two draft resolutions before the General Assembly. In accordance with rule 91 of the rules of the procedure, I shall put to the vote the proposals in the order in which they were submitted. First of all, I shall put to the vote draft resolution A/L.754 and Add.1-3. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, 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 Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Belgium, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Israel, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

The draft resolution was adopted by 118 votes to none, with 10 abstentions (resolution 3328 (XXIX)).

87. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now vote on draft resolution A/L.755 and Add.1-3. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, 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 Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

The draft resolution was adopted by 129 votes to none (resolution 3329 (XXIX)).

88. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I shall now call on those representatives who wish to speak in explanation of vote after the vote.

89. Mr. GROOT (Denmark): I am speaking on behalf of the delegations of Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden and that of my own country, Denmark. The Nordic countries attach great importance to the role of the United Nations in the decolonization process. It is, therefore, in our view, essential that resolutions in such matters of serious concern to all of us should be drafted in a way which would ensure the broadest possible support from Member States in order that they may be really effective. The Nordic countries have voted for draft resolution A/L.754 and Add.1-3, as its main principles and concerns accord with the aims of Nordic policy in questions of decolonization, which is that the peoples in colonial Territories should be given the opportunity to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination. We are convinced that the work of the United Nations has greatly contributed to the positive developments which the last few months have brought to southern Africa.

90. The most dramatic changes have occurred in the Portuguese Territories, which are now at last rapidly approaching their freedom. Although the immediate prospects in others parts of the region may not be equally bright, there still are hopeful signs of change. In this connexion, the Nordic countries welcome the recent reports of progress in the search for a negotiated settlement in Southern Rhodesia. This is the road we have long been advocating. We should like to express the hope that these developments signify the beginning of real over-all progress, which will enable the peoples of southern Africa to shape their own future and live together in peace and harmony, regardless of race, creed or colour.

91. The positive vote of the Nordic countries does not mean that our delegations accept all the provisions of the resolution. We have reservations on some paragraphs which are not compatible with principles we have constantly upheld or which raise constitutional difficulties. We have spelled them out on many occasions in the past and do not intend to go into any details now.

92. We should like, however, to record our view that the third preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 5 contain elements which do not accord with the policy of peaceful solutions that the Nordic countries have always followed. As regards the request in operative paragraph 8, it is our understanding that this does not entail a breach of the principle of universality or a call for sanctions.

93. We should, finally, like to reiterate our hope that the ultimate goal of self-determination and independence will be achieved through co-operation and peaceful negotiations.

94. Ms. WHITE (United States of America): The United States delegation abstained on draft resolution A/L.754 and Add.1-3, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. My delegation considers self-determination to be the fundamental principle that must guide the resolution of questions of dependent Territories. Self-determination includes several possible options, among which one is independence.

95. We have seen during the past year, for example, that the people of Papua New Guinea and the people of Niue each chose their own destiny while both exercised their right to self-determination. In the case of Papua New Guinea, the people chose full independence; in the case of Niue, a free association with New Zealand. The two solutions were different. What they had in common was that each was chosen freely by the people of the Territory.

96. Further, we believe that the specialized agencies of the United Nations should not involve themselves in contentious political matters which can only detract from their legitimate work. Accordingly, we find objection to the measures described in operative paragraphs 7, 8 and 10. Nor do we approve of the call in operative paragraph 7 for the specialized agencies to provide aid to liberation movements. Such aid, in our view, constitutes interference in internal affairs, which the United Nations should avoid. We believe that assistance to liberation movements in Africa could set a precedent for similar aid to insurgents in other

parts of the world, with consequences that many in this Assembly might not care to see.

97. We oppose also the request made in operative paragraph 8 for States and specialized agencies to withhold assistance from South Africa. Such actions are not likely to cause South Africa to change its policies but they do harm the important work of these agencies by politicizing what should be technical, non-political activities.

98. The United States delegation was pleased to vote "Yes" on draft resolution A/L.755 and Add.1-3, concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization.

99. Mr. VON UTHMANN (Federal Republic of Germany): It may be that my delegation did not follow the debate on item 23 attentively enough, but we had the impression that nothing substantially new was said this year. Also, draft resolution A/L.754 and Add.1-3, on which we just voted, differs from last year's resolution only in minor points, if we leave aside the changed position of Portugal. It is therefore no wonder that my Government's doubts regarding the draft resolution remained the same, and that, as it did last year, it had to abstain in the vote.

100. Whilst agreeing with the general purpose of the draft resolution—that is, the speedy decolonization of all dependent Territories—we have serious doubts concerning the unqualified approval of the report of the Special Committee on decolonization in operative paragraph 2, the misleading reference to foreign economic interests in operative paragraphs 4 and 6, and the recognition of the legitimacy of the armed liberation struggle in operative paragraph 5.

101. Since my delegation has already expressed its opinion on these matters several times in the Fourth Committee, I will spare myself and the Assembly a repetition of our arguments.

102. Mr. WALTER (New Zealand): Although New Zealand voted in favour of this year's general resolution on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, we are not able to give the text our unqualified support. As many speakers have remarked in the course of the debate on this item, 1974 has been a memorable year not only for the long-awaited decolonization of the Territories under Portugal's administration but also for the headway made by the Special Committee on decolonization in its consideration of the smaller Non-Self-Governing Territories. It seems to my delegation that the draft resolution that has just been adopted is incomplete in that it takes insufficient account of the progress made this year in Territories outside southern Africa and of the very considerable achievements of the Special Committee in its work relating to those Territories.

103. It is perhaps understandable that the draft resolution should again this year focus on the situation in and the problems of southern Africa, where the United Nations concerns is still to gain acceptance of some of the most basic principles of decolonization. But in my delegation's view the draft resolution should also acknowledge rather more fully in the operative section that the process of decolonization is already under way, and in some cases well under way, in

many of the small Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned.

104. Our other main reservation concerns the rather extreme and sweeping language used in operative paragraphs 4 and 11. The latter in particular seems to my delegation to be at variance both with the Special Committee's mandate and with what we regard as the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to decide for themselves not only the course but also the pace of their constitutional development.

105. Although my delegation does have these reservations, we are pleased to have been able to cast an affirmative vote both as an expression of our support for the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and as a tribute to the work done by the Special Committee this year. We look forward to working closely with the Committee again in 1975, and again we pledge to it our full co-operation.

106. Finally, I should like to take this opportunity to express my delegation's appreciation to the many speakers who have referred in this debate to Niue's attainment of full self-government, and to assure them that their messages of congratulation will be conveyed to the Government and people of Niue.

107. Mr. NAGAI (Japan): The Japanese delegation voted in favour of draft resolution A/L.754 and Add.1-3. This affirmative vote, however, should not be construed as my delegation's approval of all the provisions of that draft resolution. We welcome the fact that some provisions are an improvement over those of the resolution adopted last year, but we still have difficulty in supporting some of the provisions, for the same reasons that we gave in the Fourth Committee. While we support the basic objective of the resolution, namely, to reaffirm the inalienable right of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination and independence, my delegation wishes to express its reservations regarding, in particular, the fourth preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 4, 6, 9 and 12.

108. We wish also to place on record that our affirmative vote does not alter our consistent understanding of the meaning of certain wording contained in operative paragraphs 1, 5, 7 and 8.

109. Mr. GARRIGUE-GUYONNAUD (France) (*interpretation from French*): The French delegation, while understanding fully the concerns of the African sponsors of draft resolution A/L.754 and Add.1-3, felt obliged to abstain on the text under consideration. Without doubt, certain preambular paragraphs do indeed reveal a greater desire to take into account present facts and developments currently taking place. Thus, my delegation notes with satisfaction the changes that have taken place in the colonial policy of Portugal and the positive development towards self-determination and independence in the case of certain Territories, including the Comoro Archipelago. But the introduction of new paragraphs does not suffice to change the general tenor of a text inspired by a philosophy that is difficult for us to accept.

110. The French delegation cannot agree, in particular, with the wording of operative paragraph 5, which

recognizes the legitimacy of the struggle "by all the necessary means". Neither do we believe that the activities of foreign and other economic interests inevitably hinder the independence and development of the Territories involved.

111. We likewise have reservations concerning operative paragraphs 2, 7, 9, 10 and 15.

112. The French delegation believes in the virtue of dialogue; we believe that peaceful means only are compatible with the aims and objectives of our Organization. We therefore would have every reason to oppose a text that included provisions so manifestly opposed to its principles. If we have not done so, it is because, beyond our differences regarding the means, our only desire is to keep the aims we have in common: the freedom and independence of peoples through recognition of their right to self-determination.

113. Mr. VISCONTI DI MODRONE (Italy): The Italian delegation was happy to vote in favour of draft resolution A/L.754 and Add.1-3, concerning the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. We, in fact, fully share the principles and the spirit of that resolution and we note with satisfaction that the positive developments that took place earlier this year in the process of decolonization are properly recognized in the fifth and sixth preambular paragraphs of the draft resolution. We have to state, however, that our positive vote does not signify endorsement of all the paragraphs contained in the above-mentioned resolution. In particular, the Italian delegation notes that some paragraphs, namely operative paragraphs 4, 5, 6, 9 and 12, do not seem to be consistent with the principles of the United Nations Charter. Moreover, we should have hoped that, in the light of this year's events, the general wording of the resolution would reflect more clearly the spirit of co-operation among all States in the field of decolonization.

114. Mr. COGAN (Ireland): My delegation has voted in favour of draft resolution A/L.754 and Add.1-3, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, in order to express my Government's adherence to the principles of decolonization and self-determination. At the same time, however, it would be incorrect to assume that my delegation's affirmative vote is an indication of unreserved approval for the entire text of the resolution just adopted. In particular, my delegation has reservations concerning the words "by all the necessary means at their disposal", in operative paragraph 5, in relation to the activities of the national liberation movements, as my delegation can approve only those actions which are in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

115. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Before we conclude our consideration of agenda item 23, I should like to refer to document A/9971 concerning Venezuela's decision to withdraw, with effect from 1 January 1975, from the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The President will nominate a new member of the Special Committee at a later meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 19**Election of nineteen members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (concluded)**

116. The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The result of the voting for the election of 19 members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme is as follows:

Group A

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Number of ballot papers:</i> | 135 |
| <i>Invalid ballots:</i> | 0 |
| <i>Number of valid ballots:</i> | 135 |
| <i>Abstentions:</i> | 1 |
| <i>Number of members voting:</i> | 134 |
| <i>Required majority:</i> | 68 |
| <i>Number of votes obtained:</i> | |
| Egypt | 130 |
| Libyan Arab Republic | 129 |
| Kenya | 128 |
| Sudan | 128 |
| Zaire | 127 |
| Algeria | 1 |
| Somalia | 1 |

Group B

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Number of ballot papers:</i> | 135 |
| <i>Invalid ballots:</i> | 0 |
| <i>Number of valid ballots:</i> | 135 |
| <i>Abstentions:</i> | 0 |
| <i>Number of members voting:</i> | 135 |
| <i>Required majority:</i> | 68 |
| <i>Number of votes obtained:</i> | |
| Iran | 106 |
| India | 102 |
| Japan | 102 |
| Malaysia | 94 |
| Kuwait | 84 |
| Thailand | 1 |

Group C

| | |
|---|-----|
| <i>Number of ballot papers:</i> | 135 |
| <i>Invalid ballots:</i> | 1 |
| <i>Number of valid ballots:</i> | 134 |
| <i>Abstentions:</i> | 4 |
| <i>Number of members voting:</i> | 130 |
| <i>Required majority:</i> | 66 |
| <i>Number of votes obtained:</i> | |
| Romania | 128 |
| Union of Soviet Socialist Republics | 123 |
| Albania | 2 |

Group D

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Number of ballot papers:</i> | 135 |
| <i>Invalid ballots:</i> | 0 |
| <i>Number of valid ballots:</i> | 135 |
| <i>Abstentions:</i> | 0 |
| <i>Number of members voting:</i> | 135 |
| <i>Required majority:</i> | 68 |
| <i>Number of votes obtained:</i> | |
| Venezuela | 133 |
| Brazil | 131 |
| Colombia | 124 |
| Peru | 2 |
| Cuba | 1 |

Group E

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Number of ballot papers:</i> | 135 |
| <i>Invalid ballots:</i> | 0 |
| <i>Number of valid ballots:</i> | 135 |
| <i>Abstentions:</i> | 5 |
| <i>Number of members voting:</i> | 130 |
| <i>Required majority:</i> | 66 |
| <i>Number of votes obtained:</i> | |
| Finland | 127 |
| Switzerland | 127 |
| Italy | 124 |
| United States of America | 121 |
| Germany (Federal Republic of) | 120 |
| Austria | 1 |
| Iceland | 1 |

Having obtained the required majority, Brazil, Colombia, Egypt, Finland, Germany (Federal Republic of), India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kenya, the Libyan Arab Republic, Malaysia, Romania, the Sudan, Switzerland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America, Venezuela and Zaire were elected members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1975.

117. The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I wish to congratulate the countries which have been elected members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and to thank the tellers for their assistance in this election.

The meeting rose at 6.20 p.m.

NOTES

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Second Committee, 1651st meeting, paras. 35-37.

² Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (see Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14), chap. I).