

United Nations  
**GENERAL  
 ASSEMBLY**  
**TENTH SESSION**  
**Official Records**



**560th**  
**PLENARY MEETING**  
**(CLOSING MEETING)**

**Tuesday, 20 December 1955,**  
**at 10.30 a.m.**  
**New York**

**CONTENTS**

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 14:	
Election of three non-permanent members of the Security Council ( <i>concluded</i> ).....	501
Completion of the work of the tenth session.....	501
Agenda item 2:	
Minute of silent prayer or meditation.....	511
Closing of the session.....	511

**President: Mr. José MAZA (Chile).**

**AGENDA ITEM 14**

**Election of three non-permanent members of the Security Council (*concluded*)**

1. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): The first vote we are going to take today will be the second in a new series of unrestricted ballots.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Barrington (Burma) and Mr. Grekov (Byelorussian SSR) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

*Number of ballot papers:* 70

*Invalid ballots:* 1

*Number of valid ballots:* 69

*Abstentions:* 13

*Number of members voting:* 56

*Required majority:* 38

*Number of votes obtained:*

Yugoslavia ..... 43

Philippines ..... 11

Finland ..... 1

Sweden ..... 1

*Yugoslavia, having obtained the required two-thirds majority, was elected a non-permanent member of the Security Council.*

**Completion of the work of the tenth session**

2. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): Before calling on the representatives who have asked for the floor, I should like, on behalf of the General Assembly, to thank the representatives of Burma and the Byelorussian SSR for their hard work as tellers.

3. Mr. TRUJILLO (Ecuador) (*translated from Spanish*): On behalf of the twenty States in the Latin American group, I should like to express to you, Mr. President, our warmest congratulations on the intelligence, wisdom, energy and impartiality with which you have guided the debates of the United Nations General Assembly at its tenth session and so contributed decisively to the maintenance of that atmosphere of tolerance in which the solution of difficult problems was made possible.

4. In the high and delicate office which you have occupied by the unanimous will of the United Nations,

you have been a paragon of those virtues which should distinguish the modern statesman, particularly in the United Nations. For in this Organization what is needed is a new, broader and more flexible approach, a new technique through which unwavering sentiments of love, devotion and loyalty to country can be reconciled with that craving for universality which fills modern man, who knows full well that life, society and culture can flourish only in a world in which peoples understand one another, practise tolerance, and can enjoy life.

5. You have been called upon to preside over an historic session of the General Assembly, one in which our doors were opened to sixteen new Member States. Our membership has thus been swelled and the United Nations is slowly but surely achieving universality. Future generations will know that, at this historic session of the General Assembly which ushers in the second decade of the life of the United Nations, ours was the spirit in which the Charter was born, frail in the early days but growing slowly in strength notwithstanding the appalling difficulties which confront it at the moment.

6. As the Ecuadorian delegation did not congratulate the sixteen new Member States at the time they were admitted, it wishes to take this opportunity to extend to them a warm and respectful welcome, and to express the sincere hope that they will co-operate with us, giving us the benefit of their wisdom, their ability and their goodwill, and enable us to solve the problems which confront us.

7. Mr. KIDRON (Israel): It is my pleasant duty to associate the delegation of Israel with the tributes which have just been so warmly paid to you, Mr. President, by the representative of Ecuador, on the completion of your term of office as President of the tenth session of the General Assembly.

8. This has not been an easy session. Owing to circumstances beyond the control of the United Nations, the high hopes which were entertained when we began our deliberations in September have not been altogether realized. At times, the Assembly has got into difficulties from which only a skilled pilot could have extricated it. We have had an example of this in the item with which we have just dealt this morning.

9. In spite of these alarms, these seemingly unbreakable dead-locks and the gloomy forebodings which accompanied them, the tenth session of the General Assembly has come to a triumphant ending, infinitely stronger than when it started, infused with fresh blood from the new Members which have joined our ranks in the last few days.

10. In this happy circumstance, your own role, Mr. President, was noteworthy, and it has made your presidency historic. The delegation of Israel wishes to express its appreciation of the tact and understanding with which you have conducted these proceedings.

11. Our appreciation is also due to the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary-General and all the visible and invisible members of the Secretariat who have done everything in their power to make our lives here during these past three months both pleasant and productive.

12. Mr. ALPHAND (France) (*translated from French*): Before you close this tenth session, Mr. President, the French delegation wishes publicly to express its admiration and affection for you. I do not intend to catalogue all your qualities and talents; to do so I am afraid I should have to remain on this rostrum too long. I wish only to emphasize the outstanding part you have played in the last three months.

13. You have had to preside over a difficult session, perhaps the most difficult in the history of the United Nations; and if we are meeting in this hall today, united again in the effort to reach jointly agreed solutions, we owe it first and foremost to you, to your fine political sense, to your talent as a mediator and to your statesmanship. The French delegation knows this, and will not forget it.

14. At the end of this Assembly, your labours have been magnificently rewarded. Under your guidance, we have succeeded in extricating ourselves from a dead-lock in which we had been held fast for nine years. Under your guidance and thanks to your prompting, sixteen new Members have been admitted. I know how much of this achievement is due to you personally. You will always remain for us the President who has led us towards universality. May this outstanding success usher in a new era for the United Nations.

15. I said a moment ago that this had been a difficult session. So difficult has it been that without you and some other friends, perhaps, it might have seen the shipwreck of our Organization. I am a newcomer in these walls, and for reasons which we all know I have taken part in only a few of the Assembly's debates. But for that very reason, because I have the advantage of a fresh and unbiased mind, I may perhaps be in a position to submit certain ideas to the Assembly; and I do so in all humility.

16. If we consider the results achieved at this tenth session — apart, of course, from the admission of sixteen countries — we shall be bound to recognize that the Assembly has solved very few of the problems that had been brought before it. A great deal of energy, on the other hand, has been wasted in discussions which could not possibly have produced positive results, and which have not been of a character likely to improve relations between peoples — the duty the Charter lays on us. By trying to do too much, this Assembly has perhaps missed the opportunity to concentrate on certain other problems which it might have solved, or whose solution it might at least have effectively advanced.

17. In point of fact, the Assembly — and therefore the United Nations as a whole — appears today to be faced with a fateful choice. Either it will continue in its present ways, taking up problems which it has neither the right nor the power to solve — in which case it will present a picture of disorder and impotence, and, far from serving the cause of peace, will merely increase world tension and destroy the authority of the United Nations; or it will confine itself of its own accord to what is just and feasible, avoid demagoguery and facile illusion and follow the road which reason suggests and the Charter enjoins. Thus, and thus only, can our

Organization grow every day in usefulness and effectiveness.

18. I hope that in the interval between this tenth session and the regular session of 1956 every one of us will ponder this great problem. I would also ask our Secretary-General, who has always rendered such valuable service to the United Nations, to consider for himself during this interval, in conjunction with the permanent delegations, what means might be employed — taking into account the admission of new States — to improve our methods of work, the organization of our debates and our procedure; to explore, in fact, any methods which might help to put the Assembly on the right road, that for which it was created.

19. I am among those who want to believe in the future of our Organization. I shall spare no effort to work with those who wish to preserve it.

20. Sir Pierson DIXON (United Kingdom): I think that everyone will agree that, in certain respects, this tenth session of the General Assembly has not been an easy one. There have been developments in the course of it that might have had the most serious implications for the future of the Organization itself, but those difficulties have been surmounted and the dangers have, on the whole, been averted. This must be attributed to a heartening spirit of compromise, co-operation and responsibility on the part of delegations, and this augurs well for the second decade of our Organization which lies ahead of us.

21. Your leadership, Sir, has encouraged us when the path was smooth and fortified us when the road was rough. Your term as President has an assured place in history, for it was under your presidency, Sir, that we reached a solution of the intractable problem of the membership of the United Nations. Though saddened by the exclusion of Japan, an omission that cannot long remain unremedied, yet we are heartened by the sight of so many new and friendly faces and rejoice to see here, as full Members, the representatives of so many States with which we are in close and friendly relations.

22. Mr. President, through seas calm and stormy, with determination and courage, you have steered the barque of the United Nations. May I express to you, Sir, on behalf of the United Kingdom delegation, our profound sense of gratitude and admiration.

23. Sir Leslie MUNRO (New Zealand): In the remarks which I am about to make I have the honour to speak on behalf of Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Canada, as well as, of course, New Zealand.

24. This has been a long and eventful session. In some respects, it has been an historic occasion. Our most dramatic achievement has been to break the impasse on the admission of new Members. No small measure of credit is due to you, Mr. President, for the happy result of our intensive negotiations, both public and private, on this occasion. The tact, the wisdom, the imperturbable patience which you brought to our discussions on the admission of new Members were in evidence during all our plenary debates. You have guided us with dignity and efficiency, unshaken either by contention or by dead-lock. Some of the problems facing us seemed, and almost were, insoluble. We would salute the sincerity and high purpose with which you have sought and achieved agreement upon them.

25. I, as the Chairman of one of the Committees, have been in a particular position to see you, especially on

the occasion of the luncheons over which you presided every week, and I can pay a tribute not only to the qualities which I have already mentioned, but to your wit and to your kindness, as a result of which you have become to us a figure of affection.

26. It is fitting also that we should pay a tribute to the Secretary-General, to his Executive Assistant, Mr. Cordier, that benign and ever-present guide above us, and to their able staff. As an officer of this session, I have reason to know well their resourcefulness and tireless devotion to duty.

27. I should like, on behalf of all the delegations which have been good enough to ask me to speak now, and on behalf of my own delegation, to say Godspeed to you, Mr. President, and may the New Year bring to all lands which are represented here prosperity and peace.

28. Mr. GUNewardene (Ceylon): It is very appropriate that my first appearance on this rostrum should be to associate myself with the tributes that have already been paid to you, Sir, for the very able way in which you have guided the discussions of this session of the Assembly. Your unseen hand has been a powerful guide in the successful conclusion of all the negotiations that have been conducted during the session. As a newcomer, having had the opportunity of seeing you at work, I can only express the profoundest admiration. You have conducted the work of the Assembly with decorum and dignity, and also with friendliness, creating hope and faith in every one of us, whether a new Member, an old Member, an observer or, perhaps, a member of the gallery. You have brought great distinction to the United Nations, and it is fitting that a man of your broad sympathies and wide vision should have been called upon to usher in this new era of the United Nations.

29. Undoubtedly, today we begin a new chapter in the history of the United Nations. With the infusion of new blood, we have more proper representation of the world, such as it is. I see before me the dawn of a great age, the dawn of peace, and you will go down in history as perhaps the greatest President of the General Assembly, as the forerunner of an era of peace and prosperity in this world.

30. As the representative of a new Member of this Organization, I come to it with hope and confidence in the future, quite certain that a path of peace and prosperity is not far off. This session has seen cordial relations being strengthened between nations which, in bygone days, had not even the opportunity of social contact. One sees at every turn the friendliness, the brotherliness, the cordiality with which all representatives meet here, inside and outside. That is the augury of many great things to come.

31. I hope that I shall be pardoned for taking the liberty, on this occasion, although it may be a digression, of giving to the Assembly my Prime Minister's message, which I have long wished to deliver on behalf of my country:

"This is a memorable occasion in the history of my country. A representative of Ceylon is to be seen for the first time in this distinguished Assembly, which now comprises seventy-six nations. It is also, if I may say so, memorable in the history of the United Nations, in that a problem that had defied settlement for some eight years has at last been approached in a spirit of understanding and compromise.

"I do not wish to recount the events of past years; I wish only to say how glad we are to be able to take our place here and to have the opportunity of working with you all in our efforts to preserve world peace and dignity and the worth of mankind.

"Ceylon is a small country, but I think we have demonstrated to the world our ability to fulfil our international responsibilities and our determination to work for the promotion of world understanding. We desire to be friends with all nations alike, though they may differ from us or disagree with us. We have quite definite views on ultimate values and basic human conditions and we are quite clear on how we wish to direct our own lives. We believe, however, that every nation is similarly entitled to have its own views on these matters. We therefore see no cause for conflict between nations as long as there is mutual respect for one another's views and a recognition that every nation has a right to do things in its own way without interference from outside.

"There are many issues still before the United Nations which are vital for the future progress of mankind. We have studied the debates on these issues from the outside, and we have been disturbed by the complexities and the doubt and misunderstanding that appear to exist between the greater nations assembled here. I am not without hope, however, that these issues will soon be settled in a spirit of compromise and goodwill; for I am a firm believer in the intrinsic good sense of the human race and, after all, our strongest instinct is that of self-preservation and progress."

I hope that my Prime Minister's hopes will be fully justified before long.

32. I thank you, Mr. President, for the opportunity given to me of speaking here this morning.

33. Mr. LODGE (United States of America): We have dealt with many very important questions at this session of the General Assembly, too many to enumerate here today. In the past week we have seen particularly noteworthy accomplishments. The entrance of many States is one of them — States that will add greatly to the usefulness and influence of the United Nations. I say this with deep regret that Japan was not admitted, but with equally deep conviction that it will be in the near future. We have seen the taking of a bold step to protect the world from aggression, a step which is also towards peace and disarmament. Here today we have seen the working out of a compromise on the filling of the vacant seat in the Security Council, and it is a compromise which is a magnificent example of the spirit of give-and-take which we must also have here if the United Nations is to succeed.

34. All these and many more tasks have imposed great burdens on the Organization, on the Secretary-General and his devoted staff of experts and interpreters and clerks and others who have had to do precise and responsible work under conditions of great pressure and who have, I think, performed in a superhuman manner.

35. The achievement of these tasks has also required energy, tact and resourcefulness from you, Mr. President. You have shown unfailing courtesy, in spite of what I would regard as frequent provocation to exasperation, to which you have never yielded. You have demonstrated unflagging and tenacious determination. You have impressed us all with your knowledge and experience.

36. As your colleagues in the Organization of American States and in the United Nations, we of the United States are happy and proud to salute you as a statesman and to wish you health and happiness.

37. Mr. LOUTFI (Egypt) (*translated from French*): It is with a deep feeling of satisfaction that I join, on behalf of the Arab delegations and the delegation of Greece, in all the tributes you have received, Mr. President, on the manner in which you have carried out the important and delicate duties of your office. The complete command you have shown of the rules of procedure has been marked by great courtesy and absolute impartiality, which have given our discussions an atmosphere of calm and a tone of moderation in keeping with the prestige of our Organization. Thanks to your efforts, the General Assembly under your guidance has succeeded in finding a satisfactory solution to the delicate problem of the admission of new Members, which had for so long been on our agenda. It is, we believe, one of the most important decisions — if not the most important — ever taken by the United Nations.

38. On behalf of the delegations of the Arab countries and the delegation of Greece, I ask you to accept our most sincere thanks, to which I add our warmest wishes for your personal happiness.

39. I should also like to join, on behalf of the Arab delegations and the delegation of Greece, in the tributes paid to the Secretary-General, his assistants and all the members of the Secretariat who, by their zeal and devotion, have helped to facilitate our work.

40. Mr. KUZNETSOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*translated from Russian*): The General Assembly is today concluding the work of its tenth session. The special feature of this session has been the fact that it has met in an atmosphere of diminishing international tension. In this connexion, as indeed has been recognized by most speakers at this session, a particularly important part has been played by the Geneva meeting of the Heads of Government of the four Powers, as also by the Bandung Conference of Asian and African countries and by various measures taken in recent months, including a number initiated by the Soviet Union, with a view to the reduction of international tension and the further strengthening of peace.

41. In summing up the achievements of this tenth session, let me draw attention to the very important decision taken by the General Assembly [555th meeting] to admit sixteen new Members to the United Nations. There can be no doubt that the solution of this question has been an important contribution to the development of international co-operation and to the strengthening of the United Nations and the raising of its authority. We regret that the list of new Members does not include the Mongolian People's Republic, but we hope that the time is not far hence when that country too will be admitted to the United Nations family.

42. The solution of the question of the admission of sixteen new Members to the United Nations demonstrates anew that, given an effort at co-operation and mutual understanding on the part of the countries concerned, a satisfactory solution can be found for even the most difficult international problems.

43. I should like to take this opportunity to welcome the new Members, and to express the hope that they will make a valuable contribution to our common

struggle to strengthen peace and to develop international co-operation.

44. However, it cannot be said that at its tenth session the General Assembly has done everything it could have done to promote the further development of international co-operation and the reduction of international tension. In saying this, I have in mind first and foremost the fact that the General Assembly has not only failed to make any further progress towards a solution of the question of the reduction of armaments and the prohibition of atomic weapons, but has adopted a resolution [559th meeting] which in fact passes over that question in favour of another, that of the establishment of controls without the implementation of any measures of disarmament.

45. It is perfectly obvious that, in order to remove the threat of a devastating world war, the armaments race must be brought to an end. And that, in fact, is the goal towards which the peoples of the whole world are striving.

46. It is the sacred duty of the United Nations and of all States to do everything necessary to remove the threat of a new war, to ensure security and to create the conditions necessary to enable the peoples to live in peace and tranquillity.

47. The Soviet Union will continue to strive consistently for the achievement of these lofty aims.

48. I feel compelled to draw attention once again to a vital question which has remained unsolved for a number of years. The indisputable rights of the People's Republic of China still remain to be restored in the United Nations. This illegal situation undermines the authority of our Organization, and can no longer be tolerated. The lawful representatives of the great Chinese people must take the seats which are their rightful due in the General Assembly, the Security Council and the other principal organs of the United Nations.

49. Our Organization has entered on the second decade of its existence. Today, more than ever, our primary task is to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. We are convinced that the United Nations can and must play an important part in this regard.

50. In conclusion, may I, on behalf of the Soviet Union delegation, thank Mr. Maza, President of this tenth session of the General Assembly, for his able conduct of our proceedings and for the contribution he has made as President to the successful solution of a number of important questions at this session.

51. I should also like to express gratitude to the members of the United Nations Secretariat, and especially to the Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarskjöld.

52. Mr. BELAUNDE (Peru) (*translated from Spanish*): The sentiments of the Peruvian delegation have been most eloquently expressed by Mr. Trujillo, the head of the Latin American group at this session of the General Assembly. Consequently, I would have nothing to add to his remarks, were it not that circumstances had placed me in a special position as witness.

53. An outstanding part was played by the President in dealing with the important problem which the General Assembly has settled this year. It is a great virtue to conduct debates with wisdom, impartiality, tact and understanding; but it is an even greater virtue to devote all one's time to difficult negotiations in order



that success may attend the decisive voting in the Assembly. I know, Mr. President, how hard you worked and that you placed all your intelligence, strength and enthusiasm at the service of this common cause which today is the glory of the United Nations.

54. I also wish to pay another tribute where it is due. In the last two years, during which efforts to secure the admission of new Members were intensified, the Committee of Good Offices had the benefit of the Secretary-General's intelligent and effective assistance. His knowledge, intelligence and counsel were at our disposal at every point of our activities. I wish to take this opportunity to praise him not only for what he did in this field, but also for the manner in which he has discharged the other extremely difficult tasks which have been entrusted to him by the United Nations; and I also wish to congratulate and thank all the members of the Secretariat, all those nameless staff members who work unseen in their offices and perform miracles with their splendid translations.

55. Before leaving this rostrum, I wish to extend a heartfelt welcome to the sixteen Members who have just been admitted to the United Nations and who bring with them the glories of their peoples, their enthusiasm for peace and their concern that a reign of justice be established. I address to them, from the bottom of my heart, a message of friendship and brotherly love, and I hope that the countries which are not yet among us will soon become Members of the United Nations.

56. Mr. MATES (Yugoslavia): I wish at the end of this important session of the General Assembly to thank you, Mr. President, in the name of my delegation, for your efforts, and to assure you of our understanding of the difficulties which you have encountered in the discharge of your high office.

57. We note with great satisfaction the positive results of this session of the General Assembly in many fields, and particularly the addition of sixteen new Members to the United Nations. This undoubtedly is the greatest single achievement of the session, and we hope that it will be completed in the near future. The over-all results of this session, with all its shortcomings, can — and we hope will — be a good start for the second decade of the United Nations.

58. I also wish to assure you, Mr. President, that we have in particular followed with great respect your efforts to find a solution to the dead-lock in the election to the Security Council.

59. It has always been, and it remains, the strong belief of my Government that elections should be carried out in the normal way and on the basis of an equitable geographic distribution, and it was in that spirit that Yugoslavia agreed earlier in this session to become a candidate. I now wish to thank all those who voted for us, but we cannot ignore the fact that this prolonged balloting ended in circumstances which are normally not appropriate or acceptable. All my delegation did in this connexion was in response to all those many friendly delegations which saw in it the best possible solution.

60. I wish you, Mr. President, a happy New Year and the greatest success in the future. I also wish to thank the Secretary-General, all his assistants and the staff of the Secretariat for their untiring co-operation. I wish them all happiness in the new year.

61. Mr. SAPER (Turkey): I consider it a pleasant duty and a privilege to associate the Turkish delegation

with others which have paid a tribute to you, Mr. President. Elected unanimously to this high office, you have been confronted with some of the most difficult and important problems ever dealt with by any General Assembly. You have met these problems with energy, goodwill and efficiency. This tenth session owes much of its success to you, as the patience, skill and understanding with which you have conducted our meetings have directly contributed to the positive results which have been achieved at this session. Please accept, Mr. President, the tribute of the Turkish delegation.

62. I also pay a tribute on behalf of my delegation to our distinguished Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarskjöld, to his able assistant, Mr. Cordier, as well as to their efficient staff.

63. Mr. HALOV (Bulgaria): I also express to you, Mr. President, the gratitude of my delegation for your wisdom and your guidance of the Assembly.

64. On behalf of the Bulgarian Government, I declare that the People's Republic of Bulgaria, striving to strengthen peace and international co-operation among all nations, applied for admission to membership in the United Nations. In accordance with the pertinent, positive recommendation of the Security Council, the General Assembly decided on 14 December 1955 [555th meeting] to admit the People's Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations. Upon setting to work as a new Member of the United Nations, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, inspired by the desire to promote the cause of peace and international co-operation, accepts and will fulfil the obligations set forth in the United Nations Charter.

65. The activities of the Bulgarian Government testify to its full support of the principles laid down as the foundation of the United Nations Charter. Before its admission to the United Nations, Bulgaria participated actively in the work of United Nations regional organs and specialized agencies. Bulgarian representatives recently took an active part in the work of a number of committees and sub-committees of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. As a member of some United Nations specialized agencies, Bulgaria also participated actively in the work of the International Labour Organisation, the Universal Postal Union, the International Telecommunication Union, the World Meteorological Organization and others.

66. By its decision of 14 December to admit sixteen countries with different political and social systems to membership in the United Nations, the General Assembly reaffirmed the principles of justice and the possibility of putting into practice the principle of peaceful co-existence through peaceful economic and cultural co-operation among all nations, regardless of the nature of their social and political systems. It should be noted that the participation of the sixteen countries which are new Members of the United Nations in the activities of the Organization will facilitate not only the strengthening of business-like co-operation and the expansion of trade relations among all countries, but also will enhance the authority of the United Nations.

67. In conclusion, I should like to express my gratitude to all the members of the Security Council and the General Assembly who supported and voted for the admission of Bulgaria to membership of the United Nations.

68. Mr. TSIANG (China): I ought to make a very long speech. I would not be afraid that the President

would rule me out of order because I feel sure that what I would have to say would be both true and relevant. Only a long speech could do justice to the courtesy, friendliness, skill and resourcefulness with which you, Mr. President, have presided over the tenth session of the General Assembly; only a long speech could do justice to the many quiet but very important services which the Secretary-General and his colleagues of the Secretariat have rendered to us all; and, likewise, only a long speech could do justice to my reflections on the work of the tenth session. However, I suspect that you, Mr. President, would be grateful to me if I did not proceed to make that long speech. I will therefore only say that the delegation of China thanks you, Mr. President, and you, Mr. Secretary-General, and wishes you and your co-workers happiness in the new year.

69. Mr. SZARKA (Hungary): As the representative of the Hungarian People's Republic, a country newly admitted to the United Nations, and as the former observer of my country to the General Assembly at its present session, I should like to pay tribute to you, Mr. President, for the outstanding work you have performed during the present session, especially with a view to bringing the problem of the admission of new Members to a successful conclusion.

70. Allow me on this occasion, when the delegation of the Hungarian People's Republic is for the first time taking part in a meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, to express the sincere thanks of the Hungarian people and the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic to the delegations of all those countries which, recognizing the necessity of universality in this world Organization and the justification of our country's application for admission, supported the admission of Hungary to the United Nations. I want to express my special thanks to those countries which already had in past years consistently supported our application.

71. The Hungarian people and its Government welcomed with great joy and satisfaction the decision of the General Assembly by which Hungary became a Member of the United Nations. With this decision, the General Assembly has fulfilled our people's long-standing aspirations and justified desire.

72. It was eight years ago that Hungary first applied for membership of the United Nations. On a number of occasions since, the Hungarian Government has made it clear that it is willing to comply with the obligations incumbent on a Member of the United Nations. We have solemnly pledged ourselves to contribute with all our strength to the maintenance of international peace and security, to the promotion of social progress and the greater well-being of all peoples.

73. The Hungarian delegation expresses its sincere satisfaction that, in the course of this highly important session, the General Assembly has admitted sixteen countries, including the Hungarian People's Republic, to the United Nations. This is a great step towards making the world Organization a universal body, which the Hungarian delegation, like the great majority of other Member States, regards as highly desirable. This will undoubtedly increase the importance and the role of the United Nations.

74. There are wide possibilities within the framework of this world Organization for fostering friendship

among peoples, and greater *rapprochement* and co-operation among countries.

75. Although it was not at the time a Member of the United Nations, the Hungarian People's Republic during the past years was intensely active in various international organizations, among them the agencies of the United Nations.

76. Now that the Hungarian People's Republic has become a Member of the United Nations, I can assure you in the name of my Government that the Hungarian delegation to the United Nations will enlist all its energies in the interest of maintaining universal peace and security, of observing the principle of the right of peoples to equality and self-determination and of realizing the peaceful coexistence of countries belonging to different social systems. We shall support all proposals and efforts to promote human progress, to protect human rights more effectively, to settle controversial issues between States peacefully, to reduce armaments, to ban weapons of mass destruction and to relieve mankind from the scourge of war.

77. As a European country, the Hungarian People's Republic attaches particular importance to the peaceful solution of still outstanding European issues on a basis of mutual respect for the interests of the parties concerned and the reconciliation of viewpoints. The Hungarian people and Government are firmly convinced that the peaceful coexistence of States is possible, and that there are no disputed questions that cannot be solved by peaceful means through the sincere exchange of opinions of the interested countries.

78. The Hungarian People's Republic is of the opinion that it is the duty of every country, great or small, to take the initiative and be active in its own sphere to break down the barriers in the way of friendship and co-operation between the peoples.

79. The delegation of the Hungarian People's Republic assures you, Mr. President, the delegations of all the countries attending the tenth session of the General Assembly and the United Nations as a whole, that for its part it will do everything to respect the high principles and achieve the aims laid down in the Charter. Within the limits of its strength, the Hungarian People's Republic wishes to make its contribution so that the United Nations may unfailingly fulfil its noble mission and realize the hopes the peoples of the world attach to it.

80. Mr. DOLEZAL (Romania): As the first representative of the Romanian People's Republic to the United Nations, it is a great pleasure for me today to speak on behalf of the Government and the people of Romania.

81. The election whereby Romania was admitted to the Organization was an historic day for which the Romanian people had waited for eight years. I wish to express the satisfaction of my Government at the decision of the Security Council and the General Assembly to admit the Romanian People's Republic to membership of the United Nations. Our admission was part of an important action which marked a major step towards the achievement of universality in this Organization.

82. On behalf of my Government, I wish to thank not only those delegations which voted for the admission of the Romanian People's Republic, but also those delegations and the leaders of the organs of the United Nations, and especially you, Mr. President, who made

it possible by their support for the Romanian People's Republic to occupy its proper place in this Organization.

83. The great majority of delegations, acting on behalf of their Governments, which voted in the Assembly for the admission of the sixteen countries proposed in the draft resolution introduced by the Soviet Union in the Security Council [S/3509], reaffirmed by their action their belief in the basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

84. Among the sixteen new Members of the United Nations — as among the sixty old Members — there are States of diverse economic, social and political systems. The vote of the General Assembly on the admission of new Members constitutes a reaffirmation of a basic principle of the United Nations, which has, since its formation, welded together nations of different structures into one Organization. It symbolizes also the extent to which the policies of peaceful coexistence and collaboration to safeguard peace are considered today as not only possible but essential for the health of this Organization. It is for this reason that the United Nations was founded. The Charter is a symbol of the need for coexistence and collaboration of all States, irrespective of their structures.

85. The Romanian People's Republic has consistently followed a policy in harmony with the Charter of the United Nations, dedicated to the preservation of peace, the extension and strengthening of relations with other States, and the promotion of economic ties and cultural and scientific exchanges.

86. As my Government assumes its place in the United Nations, it pledges its firm adherence to the principles of the Charter and its support of all proposals which will make possible the achievement of the Charter's lofty objectives. The Government of Romania will contribute actively to fulfilling the supreme objectives of the United Nations; it will work for the strengthening of a stable peace and for the attainment of security by all the peoples of the world.

87. Mr. ERICE (Spain) (*translated from Spanish*): It is with deep emotion that I come to this rostrum today, an emotion which is all the greater in that this opportunity was unexpected. I did not think that I should receive the high honour of appearing before you on behalf of my country in the concluding hours of this session. That is why I have prepared no speech, no authoritative statement on Spain's future policy and direction; such a statement will be made before the Assembly, officially and at the right time, in the name of Spain.

88. In appearing before you, I bring only my feelings, as a Spaniard, deep and sincere feelings, with all the defects and some of the virtues of my country. I wish to thank all of you for your support of Spain's admission to the United Nations, and for the friendship and affection which you have shown to me. Since all the new Members have been coming to this rostrum, I also presume to appear before you and to say, as the representative of a country related by ties of brotherhood to the countries of America, how gratified and proud I have been to see the efficiency, the zeal and the intelligence with which the President of this Assembly has discharged his duties.

89. In paying this tribute to the President, I pay a tribute to all our brothers on this great and dynamic continent. On joining the United Nations, since this is, as it were, our first official appearance before you,

I wish to pay a tribute to the Organization as a whole, which is doing so much for peace, and, in the person of the Secretary-General, to the Secretariat, for their efforts in pursuance of that noble aim.

90. It is our determination to contribute to the work of the United Nations in all its aspects; that determination reflects my country's desire for the universality of the Organization. May God protect all the countries represented here and all the representatives, brothers and friends, who have supported the cause of my country, Spain.

91. Mr. NONG KIMNY (Cambodia) (*translated from French*): I ask your indulgence if I prolong the present session of the Assembly by a few minutes. I feel bound to express my Government's gratitude to the delegations of all the countries which have worked indefatigably for the admission of my country to the United Nations, and to you in particular, Mr. President, for the wisdom and foresight with which you have directed the work of this Assembly towards the difficult problem of the admission of sixteen new Members.

92. When Cambodia's application was rejected six days ago by the Security Council [704th meeting], together with the applications of seventeen other countries, the news was received with deep regret by the whole Cambodian people. A feeling of disappointment swept through the country, for Cambodia knew that it fulfilled all the conditions laid down in the Charter for admission to the United Nations. Hence it was with great relief that my country welcomed the fortunate change which occurred and which finally made possible our admission to the United Nations.

93. In the name of the Royal Cambodian Government and the whole Cambodian people, I have the pleasant duty of expressing our gratitude to all the representatives of friendly countries which have staunchly supported Cambodia's application. I particularly thank the representative of Canada, who originated the proposal which has now been crowned with success and the moral effect of which will be felt throughout the world.

94. It will thus have taken five years to solve a problem which appeared from the outset to be beset by insuperable difficulties. By their patience and faith, the representatives of the Members of the United Nations have overcome a problem which at times, and even six days ago, appeared insoluble. We express our gratitude to those who accomplished this task and we draw the important lesson that patience, faith and unremitting toil can always overcome even the most formidable difficulties.

95. In this spirit, the great Organization to which we now have the honour to belong will attain the noble objects set by its founders ten years ago. Now that universality has almost been achieved, the United Nations is entering the second decade of its existence better equipped than before, we hope, to work for the well-being of humanity.

96. Cambodia will endeavour to make its modest contribution to this great undertaking, with the profound conviction that it is co-operating in maintaining the peace and freedom to which the whole world aspires.

97. Mr. CASARDI (Italy): It is with no small emotion that I speak for the first time in this Assembly in the capacity of a representative of a Member State, and I wish at the outset to address a grateful word of acknowledgement to all those countries, and they are



many — a large majority of the countries represented here — which, in the course of many years, have never failed to proclaim and support Italy's right to enter the family of the United Nations. During those years, friendly voices have repeatedly been raised in favour of our cause, both in the Assembly and in the Security Council, and many resolutions, unanimously voted, have comforted Italy's patient expectation with the strength of their political and moral significance.

98. My thoughts go particularly not only to our Western allies, but to all the countries of Latin America. By their efforts and their unfailing support, they have proved in a manner that we will never forget the strength of the ties that unite us and that are rooted in a common race, civilization and religion. It is no casual circumstance that the dead-lock on the admission of new Members should have been broken under the presidency of a distinguished representative of Chile.

99. Italy today takes its seat in this Assembly. The Constitution that the Italian people have adopted endorses all the fundamental principles upon which this Organization rests. By adhering to the Charter of the United Nations, Italy in fact confirms the principles of the policies that regulate its life as a free and democratic nation. Italy furthermore confirms its deep aspiration for international peace and justice. Peaceful coexistence among the peoples of the world, based upon respect for liberty and democratic institutions and maintained in a spirit of constructive international collaboration, is the highest ideal of the Italian people.

100. These are the goals and the objectives that have guided my country's foreign policy during the recent years of its exclusion from the United Nations, and it is with the sincere hope of being able to contribute ever more effectively to the attainment of these ideals that Italy has joined the United Nations.

101. Fully conscious that it is the heir to an ancient civilization, Italy realizes the importance of tradition and history in the life of nations, and its sympathy goes out to the young States of Asia and Africa — a sympathy which has already been happily translated in many cases into ties of close collaboration. I use the expression "young States" although, like my own country, they are representatives of ancient civilizations and have contributed enormously to the history of humanity.

102. One of the fundamental functions of this Organization is undoubtedly that of harmonizing within itself the aspirations and the ideals of different peoples and different civilizations. In a world that is in continuous evolution, new relations must be found between old and new political and human realities. The United Nations is the natural centre of this process, and it is its natural object to fulfil this historically important task in the interests of all the peoples of the world. Italy intends to bring to this task a spirit of moderation and of wisdom. As the heir to an ancient civilization, my country knows and appreciates the value of equally great civilizations, be they ancient or recent ones.

103. I wish to close these remarks by expressing the conviction that the United Nations, through the constructive and inspired contributions of all its Members, will attain the goals which are set forth in the Charter and towards which the entire human race looks in expectation.

104. Allow me, finally, to join in the tributes which have been paid to the President and to avail myself of this opportunity to express the sincere appreciation of

the Italian delegation and my personal appreciation to the members of the Secretariat and, in the first place, to the Secretary-General, for their constant courtesy and co-operation in the past.

105. Mr. BIRECKI (Poland) (*translated from French*): The Polish delegation would like to associate itself with the tributes paid from this rostrum by a number of representatives of both old and new Members of the United Nations to you, Mr. President, for your objectivity and your courtesy, and for the indefatigable efforts you have made to find a solution to the various questions on the agenda of this session of the General Assembly. We should also like to thank both you and the Secretary-General for having allowed us to celebrate here, in this General Assembly building, the centenary of the death of Adam Mickiewicz, our national poet.

106. We all know, Mr. President, how much the solution of the problem of the admission of new Members, a problem which has been on the agenda of the General Assembly for many years, owes to your personal efforts. That question has now been settled, in the sense that we can hail the admission of sixteen new Members to the United Nations. The great majority in the General Assembly would have liked the question to be settled by the admission of eighteen new Members. As you are aware, the Mongolian People's Republic and Japan are still absent from our midst. The Polish delegation hopes that a means will be found to admit those two countries in the future.

107. The Polish delegation would have been glad if the General Assembly had been able to settle at its tenth session a question which is very important for the United Nations if the Organization is to play its full role in international life. We should have liked the General Assembly to settle once and for all the question of the representation of China. Unfortunately that has not yet been done.

108. Furthermore Poland, as a country which has known the utmost horrors of war, would have welcomed some progress at this session on the vital question of disarmament, which has been on our agenda for ten years. In this respect we have gone backwards rather than forwards.

109. Nevertheless, we consider that this tenth session of the General Assembly has made an important contribution to peace, above all by admitting sixteen new Members to the United Nations.

110. The Polish delegation also thanks the Secretary-General and all his fellow-workers who have served us with so much ability and devotion during the tenth session.

111. Mr. SOUVANNAVONG (Laos) (*translated from French*): Yesterday, as an observer on the other side of the partition, I followed with immense admiration your untiring efforts, Mr. President, to find a solution for the difficult problem of the admission of new Members. I am therefore all the happier today to be able, as the representative of a Member State, to associate the delegation of Laos with the tributes unanimously paid to your merits as a politician and a diplomatist.

112. The Royal Government of Laos would have liked to send one of its members to take formal cognizance of the unanimous vote by which, on 14 December [555th meeting], the General Assembly admitted the Kingdom of Laos to the United Nations. Unfortunately, time was very short, and Laos is far away. However,



I am instructed to tender to you my Government's cordial greetings and heartfelt thanks.

113. I regret that, on this inspiring and solemn occasion, this historic day, I cannot use my native tongue to express my feelings in the face of this great event, for this polyglot Organization does not count among its many assets an interpreter from Laos. I therefore venture to speak in French, an acquired language, and shall ask for your indulgence.

114. The feelings to which I have referred are of various kinds. Today I shall mention only gratitude, not only because it is the noblest of them all but also because it fills the hearts of all my compatriots. We thank you all for having admitted us by your unanimous vote to sit henceforth among you in this great edifice.

115. I am happy to pay a public tribute to France, which proposed and has supported our candidature, which has kept the promise it made us and has carried out the undertakings contracted in the treaties which unite our two countries.

116. We offer our deep gratitude to the United Kingdom and the United States of America, which not only championed our independence but have been and still are determined to help us defend it, to Canada, to which we owe so much, to all of you who have been good enough to recognize the political and legal existence of the Kingdom of Laos. We thank you sincerely for smoothing the way which has brought us into the United Nations, there to introduce ourselves personally to the other nations which have not yet had time to come to know us and to offer them the fraternal greeting and the thanks of the people of Laos.

117. In conclusion, allow me, in this Christmas season and on the threshold of the New Year, to tender to all of you, and to your families and the countries you hold dear, our warmest wishes for happiness and peace.

118. Mr. PETRZELKA (Czechoslovakia) (*translated from French*): Mr. President, allow me, at this moment when our work is almost done, to say a few words to express our sincere gratitude and respect for the admirable and outstanding manner in which you have guided our proceedings. Your impartiality, your wisdom, your courtesy and your experience and resourcefulness have been of the greatest help to us. It is only proper that we should regard you as one of the artisans of the supreme achievement of this session: the solution of the long-standing problem of the admission of new Members.

119. We welcome the sixteen Members admitted during this session, and hope that it will soon be possible to admit also the Mongolian People's Republic and Japan.

120. I endorse what has been said by the representatives of the Soviet Union and Poland with regard to the representation of the People's Republic of China.

121. May I also take this opportunity to express our very sincere gratitude to the eminent persons who have assisted you in carrying out your heavy and responsible tasks. To begin with, we thank our distinguished Secretary-General. We thank too the members of the Secretariat, we thank our brilliant interpreters; in short, all those who by their untiring endeavours have helped us in our work.

122. Once again, Mr. President, I pay a sincere tribute to your abilities and your merits and offer you all our gratitude.

123. Mr. MENON (India): Three months ago today, the Assembly paid you, Mr. President, an honour unique in the history of the United Nations by unanimously

electing you to the high office which you have occupied throughout this session. On that day, we laid on your shoulders the heavy responsibility of presiding over this gathering in the first year of the second decade of the existence of the United Nations. We expressed our confidence in you on the occasion of your election, and today we come to this rostrum to pay a tribute to you and to congratulate you — and, if I may say so, to congratulate ourselves as well, on the wisdom of our happy choice.

124. In paying this tribute to you, Mr. President, I am privileged to speak on behalf of my colleagues from Afghanistan, Burma, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Liberia, the Philippines and Thailand. They join with me in whatever I may say by way of tribute to you and others who have assisted you during this Assembly. If, in the course of these observations, I should say something that has any other significance, that may be taken as pertaining to my delegation alone.

125. We are now, as I have said, in the first year of our second decade. You, Mr. President, have presided over an Assembly characterized by many new circumstances of hope as well as of concern. We have come here this year and have participated, in a new atmosphere of consultation and cordiality, in an Assembly which has seen a great deal of contact among what are called the smaller nations, and between the smaller nations and the greater Powers. We have also seen an Assembly of freer discussion, where the impact of debate has achieved some results with regard to the decisions reached. This has been more particularly so in regard to some of the issues about which previous representatives on this rostrum have spoken this morning.

126. I would be failing in my duty, both on my own behalf and on that of my colleagues, if I did not mention the pleasure of us all in having with us sixteen new Members in the General Assembly. We have sixteen new Member States to share with us our responsibilities, to bring to this world Organization their wisdom, the impact of their heritages and their own experiences. My delegation regrets the absence of two Asian countries, for reasons which are not the fault of the General Assembly. The Assembly's decision was that they should all be here, a decision which again proclaims to the world the usefulness, the impact and the ultimate effectiveness of world public opinion.

127. We are happy to discharge the duty, at the same time, of paying our tribute to the Secretary-General and his colleagues, the high-level officials of this Organization. We also hope that it will not be improper or invidious to mention some in particular, namely, that large body of men and women whom we do not see and whom we do not hear, who enable the work of this Organization to go on. More particularly, we should like to mention, apart from them, the interpreters, the people who make our social life in the lounge comfortable, the members of the catering department, the guards, and everyone else who makes the work of the United Nations proceed, though we do most of the speaking.

128. It has also been a happy occasion in the sense that, only a few days ago, Mr. President, your colleague, the representative of Chile, announced to the General Assembly [559th meeting] that your country was making the gift of a park in your beautiful capital of Santiago, which I had the privilege of visiting last year, for the use of the Economic Commission for Latin America and other United Nations bodies. This again is another proclamation of the generosity of your coun-

try and of its concern in the activities of the United Nations.

129. I think that, even at the last moment of this session, we continue to be a political gathering and, while we congratulate ourselves on the great achievements of this year, such as the admission of new Members, the beginning that has been made in self-government in the Trust Territory of Togoland under British administration, and the developments that have occurred in the field of atomic energy, we would also say that there have been other matters on which progress has yet to be made.

130. Particularly are we concerned that this decade should see the renunciation by mankind of war as an instrument of national policy. In that matter we hope, Sir, that now, when you give up this high office to which you have been called by the representatives of most of the nations of the world, your great ability will be utilized, with the added knowledge and added capacities that have come to you by the richness of the experience of the last few months, in assisting the world on the path not only of disarmament, but of world peace in a real sense.

131. It has been the privilege of my delegation and myself, on account of the circumstances that have obtained here, in the attempt to solve the old problems and the newer difficulties that arose, to come into close personal contact with you, Mr. President, and I would be failing in my duty if I did not pay a tribute to your unfailing courtesy, your patience, your wisdom, your perseverance and, at certain critical moments in some of these issues, your refusal to accept failure and your asking for endeavours to be pursued. These are matters which are not of small moment in the life and history of the United Nations, and in its achievements of the character that we have had at this session and that are its hope.

132. I should also like to take this opportunity of expressing my delegation's appreciation of the service rendered to our purposes, in the sense of informing world public opinion, by the international representatives of the various media of communication and of the foremost Press of the world.

133. We have had a happy and fruitful session and, while every delegation, every member of the Secretariat and various others who are concerned have made their contributions, no single person has made a greater contribution towards its success, towards its dignity and towards the hopes that have been represented in the hearts of many than you, Sir, and we are happy that you are presiding on this occasion when we hope, with added strength, that we shall go towards the fulfilment of our purposes, namely, the establishment of world peace.

134. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): In closing this tenth session, I should like to thank the representatives once again for the honour they did me in electing me unanimously to preside over their meetings. I have tried to live up to that honour and I hope I have not disappointed them.

135. To be President of the United Nations General Assembly is a unique experience, and the least he can do is to tell the world what were the outstanding influences in the performance of his task.

136. I therefore begin my last speech by paying a tribute, and expressing my gratitude for his help, to the Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarskjöld, whose ability, experience and diplomatic skill are decisive factors in the functioning of our Organization.

137. I should also like to thank Mr. Cordier for his unfailing co-operation. As Executive Assistant, he maintains a high level of efficiency throughout the staff that it is only right and proper to acknowledge.

138. I extend my thanks to all the members of the Secretariat. I have a very high opinion of the work of every one of them, and for that reason I am not singling out any one of them for special mention.

139. Most of all, however, I wish to express my gratitude to each and every one of the members of the various delegations, who unfailingly gave me their friendly and effective assistance, and, in particular, to the Chairmen of the seven Main Committees who, at our weekly meetings, patiently and even cheerfully accepted my repeated appeals for greater speed in dealing with the items on the Assembly's heavy agenda.

140. You all know that this has been a dramatic session. First, it marked the end of the first decade of United Nations existence. Secondly, this session opened in a new atmosphere of international goodwill and understanding. It cannot be said that we have attained the ideal in harmonious relations among nations, but it is not over-optimistic to say that there are grounds for great hopes for the future. After long years of constant tension, it would seem that the smallest step forward towards mutual confidence, understanding and peace gladdens the hearts of men.

141. I do not believe it necessary, nor is it my function, to draw up a detailed balance sheet of the achievements of this tenth session. The Press, radio and other media of communication, such as the information services of the United Nations, have kept the public informed, day by day, of our work.

142. I wish, however, to mention three fundamental achievements: the unanimous adoption of certain very important resolutions which relate to political, economic and financial questions and which have echoed through the world, for the peoples want to regain their faith and want our unanimous votes to be translated into unanimous action; the new agreements for scientific collaboration to direct nuclear energy towards peaceful purposes for the common good, so that nations may come to regard the atom as a blessing; and the admission of sixteen States to United Nations membership.

143. At the end of the first decade, world opinion can note that the United Nations is growing stronger and that the constant urging of this moral force is reflected in positive accomplishments, in the admission of more nations to join in our common endeavour. I share your hope that this increase in membership may be reflected in an undeviating respect for the principles of the Charter.

144. Now that I am about to complete my task, my thoughts turn to all the former presidents of the General Assembly who did so much for peace, guided by the United Nations Charter. To every one of them, the tenth session owes a debt of gratitude for their valuable contribution.

145. I relinquish the Chair with enhanced faith in the United Nations. Nothing in international life equals this effort of different civilizations and different peoples to find a common denominator of peaceful coexistence. The United Nations is composed of States, but it also belongs to the peoples. In ten years it has accomplished much, but it will do much more in the years to come.

146. We are working for the future. Let us do our duty with our eyes fixed on the generations to come, the youth and the children, whose birthright it is to face

life without fear. It is the duty of all of us not to frustrate this reawakening of hope.

**AGENDA ITEM 2**

**Minute of silent prayer or meditation**

147. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): I invite representatives to stand and observe a minute of silent prayer or meditation.

*The representatives stood in silence.*

**Closing of the session**

148. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): In closing this session, I wish all the representatives assembled here and all the peoples of the world a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. I declare closed the tenth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

*The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.*