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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-sixth session
Item 15 (c) of the provisional agenda*
ELECTION OF FIVE MEMBERS OF THE
INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-sixth year

Note verbale dated 25 August 1981 from the President
of the Security Council to the Secretary-General

The President of the Security Council presents his compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to inform him as follows.

The Security Council has taken note with deep regret of the death, on 15 August 1981, of the President of the International Court of Justice, Sir Humphrey Waldock.

The Security Council has noted that Sir Humphrey's term of office was to have expired on 5 February 1982 and that his seat is one of the five seats which will be filled for nine-year terms, commencing on 6 February 1982, during the elections to the Court to be held in the Security Council and in the General Assembly in the course of the forthcoming thirty-sixth session of the Assembly.

On the basis of consultations with the members of the Security Council, the President wishes to inform the Secretary-General that the Council considers that, as the vacancy which has arisen in the Court will be filled through the regular election procedure as from 6 February 1982, no purpose would be served by invoking the procedures of the Statute of the Court relating to the filling of a casual vacancy for the remainder of Sir Humphrey's term of office. These procedures are applicable in cases where otherwise a considerable delay would elapse in filling a vacancy. No such delay is involved in this instance, as the seat concerned will be filled as from 6 February 1982.

The Security Council would be grateful if the Secretary-General would bring this communication to the attention of the General Assembly in connexion with item 15 (c) of the provisional agenda.

* A/36/150.