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NOTE

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THIRTEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOURTH MEETING

Held in New York on Tuesday, 12 December 1967, at 3 p.m.

President: Chief S. O. ADEBO (Nigeria).

Present: The representatives of the following States: Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, India, Japan, Mali, Nigeria, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Provisional agenda (S/Agenda/1384)

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Admission of new Members:

Telegram dated 30 November 1967 from the President of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen addressed to the Secretary-General (S/8284).

Expression of thanks to the retiring President

1. The PRESIDENT: In the name of all the Security Council members, I wish to express to our colleague, the Permanent Representative of Mali, Ambassador Kante, our thanks for the magnificent manner in which he presided over our proceedings during the month of November 1967. It was not an easy month and it was a very active one as we had more than one delicate question to tackle. The fact that we were able to make some headway and do something positive and useful in regard to those items was, in great measure, due to the Chairmanship of Ambassador Kante. It is with great pleasure that, as President for this month, I pay this tribute on behalf of myself and my colleagues to his wise statemanship throughout all our deliberations during that month.

2. Mr. KANTE (Mali) (*translated from French*): Mr. President, permit me to thank you for the highly complimentary words you have just addressed to me.

3. You referred to my success as President of the Security Council. That success was, unquestionably, made possible by all of you, the distinguished members of the Security Council, through the perseverance, spirit of co-operation, objectivity and understanding you have shown throughout our work. If there is any credit to be earned, I share it fully with you and with all those who, near or far, have helped to solve the grave problems which have confronted the Security Council during November.

4. In this connexion, we cannot ignore the effective role played by that other anonymous force, world public opinion, which has been constantly concerned with these crises.

5. I believe that with a minimum of goodwill and of intellectual and moral integrity we can weather all the crises which sorely try international peace and security.

6. We cannot, however, derive any satisfaction from our achievements so long as the resolutions we have worked out in order to solve those crises remain unimplemented. We therefore take this opportunity to appeal to the parties to persevere in the spirit of understanding, moderation and co-operation which they have shown during our debates and which all of us have highly appreciated. I am certain that they recognize the great responsibilities they have today for safeguarding and maintaining international peace and security, and I therefore know we can count on them.

7. I cannot conclude without thanking the members of the United Nations Secretariat, in whom I found a devotion, a loyalty, an enthusiasm and an impartiality commensurate with the heavy responsibilities that were mine. I count myself fortunate indeed at having enjoyed the benefit of their official co-operation.

8. As for yourself, Mr. President, your great competence, your vast experience, your talents as a veteran diplomat, your spirit of endeavour and your human qualities allow us to predict that the presidency will be ably filled in December. We are fortunate in your readiness to assume these heavy and delicate responsibilities, well prepared for them as you are. We know that you will be able to discharge them in the sole interest of international peace and security.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Admission of new Members

Telegram dated 30 November 1967 from the President of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen addressed to the Secretary-General (S/8284)

9. The PRESIDENT: I should like to draw attention to the draft resolution contained in document S/8292, which is co-sponsored by Ethiopia, India, Japan, Mali, Nigeria and the United Kingdom.

10. Mr. PARTHASARATHI (India): My delegation is happy to associate itself with the well-deserved tribute that you paid to the representative of Mali for the admirable leadership that he provided as President of the Council in the month of November. His tenure of office, as President,

was a memorable one in which the Council took major decisions and to which he made a significant contribution.

11. May I also take this opportunity to congratulate you, Sir, on your assumption of office as President. With your vast experience of the United Nations and the great respect in which you are held by all of us, we feel assured that you will give us the lead in dealing with the many pressing and important problems that face the Council this month. We wish you every success in your task.

12. It is always a matter for rejoicing when a people under colonial rule succeed in breaking the chains of bondage and achieve the supreme status of a free and sovereign nation, on a footing of equality with the former colonial Power, as well as with all other nations. It is more so particularly in the United Nations, when the territory concerned is one for whose independence the world Organization has devoted considerable time and effort.

13. The question of Aden was first raised in the United Nations in 1963. Since that date the General Assembly, the Committee of Twenty-Four,¹ a sub-committee of the Committee of Twenty-Four and, last but not least, the United Nations Special Mission on Aden spared no effort to defend and further the rights and interests of the people of South Arabia. South Arabia today is a sovereign nation under the name of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, thanks to the heroic struggle waged by its people who did not consider any sacrifice too great for regaining their human dignity. My delegation congratulates the leaders and the people of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen and pays them a warm tribute on their success.

14. It is a great honour and privilege for my delegation to introduce on behalf of the delegations of Ethiopia, Japan, Mali, Nigeria, the United Kingdom and my own, the draft resolution contained in document S/8292, by which the Security Council would recommend to the General Assembly that the newly independent People's Republic of Southern Yemen be admitted to the membership of the United Nations. Ever since the question of Aden was first raised in the United Nations, my delegation supported and co-sponsored all the draft resolutions which recognized the inalienable right of the people of South Arabia to freedom and independence and outlined various measures to be taken to enable the people to exercise that right. Today's occasion, therefore, is very special.

15. The people of South Arabia, by their indomitable will and incessant struggle, have succeeded in establishing their own sovereignty in their homeland. They are now seeking membership to the world Organization, thus indicating their desire to contribute to the other struggle which all of us are waging here for the establishment and maintenance of peace and security in the world. My delegation considers itself highly honoured by the privilege it has been accorded to be the first to present the new Republic's candidature.

¹ Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

16. The independence of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen is a matter of particular satisfaction to my delegation and to my country because of the very close links that have bound our two peoples from time immemorial. In this connexion, I would like to read the statement which my Prime Minister made in the Indian Parliament on 30 November 1967 announcing the recognition of the new Republic. The statement reads as follows:

"After more than one century and a quarter of colonial domination, South Arabia today emerges as a free and independent nation, the People's Republic of Southern Yemen. On this auspicious occasion we extend our greetings and offer our good wishes to the government and people of the new state. We also pay our tribute to the valiant freedom fighters who have laid down their lives during the struggle for their independence. We wish the new state a happy and bright future.

"There have been close and intimate relations for centuries between India and South Arabia. It shall be the earnest endeavour of the Government of India to further strengthen our relations with the independent state and also to extend such economic and technical assistance as we can and which they may need."

The Prime Minister added:

"As the House is aware, India has consistently supported the right to independence and sovereignty for the people of South Arabia and for many years now we have made earnest efforts for the achievement of this aim through the United Nations and otherwise. Therefore, it is a matter of great satisfaction and pleasure to us that South Arabia is now an independent nation.

"Independence of South Arabia is yet another step towards decolonisation in the world. We earnestly hope that the day is not far off when the remaining colonised peoples and countries will also become independent.... I am sure that all members of this House, as also the people of India, join me in extending a warm welcome to the new state of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen in the comity of nations and wishing it a bright future."

17. We, the co-sponsors of the draft resolution, feel fully assured that the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, as a Member of the United Nations, will play an active and constructive role in the achievement of the noble objectives which we have all set for ourselves. We commend the draft resolution to the Council and urge its unanimous adoption.

18. Mr. MAKONNEN (Ethiopia): Mr. President, allow me first of all to join my colleague, the representative of India, in presenting to you the sincere congratulations of my delegation, coupled with my personal felicitations and best wishes on the occasion of your assumption of the high office of President of the Security Council.

19. For the last year and a half it has been my privilege and pleasure to be closely associated with you in the work of the United Nations Organization in general and of our African group in particular, and I must say that I have

found in you a good colleague, an understanding friend, and an ever-dedicated initiator of understanding, of fair play and of peaceful settlement in all of our councils and consultations.

20. You have represented Nigeria at the United Nations with dignity, responsibility and honour, and your recent appointment to a high position in the Organization's Secretariat is but a clear recognition of the great qualities you possess for service in the international field. While we regret the fact that your appointment is going to take you out of our immediate official circle, we derive much comfort and pleasure from the knowledge that your valuable contribution to the United Nations effort will in fact continue and that you will still remain in this great world family. I join all your colleagues and friends in wishing you the very best for the future.

21. My delegation wishes also to fully associate itself with the high tributes paid to our colleague, the representative of Mali, for the manner in which he has conducted our affairs during the month of November.

22. On 30 November 1967, only some hours after the proclamation of independence of the new Republic of Southern Yemen, the Ethiopian Government accorded recognition to the new independent State and issued an official communiqué giving expression to the spirit in which the Ethiopian nation has welcomed the emergence of this independent State in our part of the world. That communiqué read in part:

"It is gratifying that the hard and arduous struggle waged by the gallant people of Southern Yemen has been so successfully rewarded. Ethiopia welcomes the People's Republic of Southern Yemen into the family of independent States and looks forward to closer and harmonious co-operation, confident that the existing friendly relations between the two neighbouring States will be further enhanced in the years to come."

23. The above lines express the sincere sentiments of good will which come from many centuries of close and neighbourly association with all the peoples of the Arabian Peninsula, including the people of Yemen. Having thus maintained in the past relations based on mutual respect and on good neighbourliness, the two countries have a unique and challenging opportunity to contribute in the future, through understanding and beneficial co-operation, to the tranquillity, stability and progress of this region of which they both form such a vital part.

24. In addition to belonging to the same region—a region which provides a vital link between continents and serves as the principal crossroad for international trade—the two States enjoy a common membership of the Afro-Asian community, while sharing with all of the world's developing States mutual aspirations for world peace and progress.

25. The prospects for greater co-operation and for beneficial relations are therefore immense, and I am confident that the Governments of the two independent States will use those opportunities for the mutual benefit of their peoples.

26. It is in this spirit that my delegation has co-sponsored the resolution now before the Council, and I wish to reiterate once again my Government's congratulations and best wishes to the new Republic and to its gallant people.

27. Mr. TSURUOKA (Japan): Before commenting on today's agenda item, I should like to express my delegation's warm congratulations to you on your assumption of the Presidency. We also express our full confidence in your wisdom and leadership as you guide the Council's work this month. I should also like to offer our warm and respectful thanks to your predecessor in the Presidency, our colleague Ambassador Kante, the representative of Mali, who presided so effectively over the Council's deliberations and consultations during the month of November.

28. The Japanese delegation is very glad to note that one of the early steps taken by the Government of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen following independence was to apply for membership in the United Nations. The achievement of independence by a people is always a source of gratification to all those who cherish freedom, and it is also very gratifying that the Government of a new country declares its acceptance of the solemn obligations contained in the United Nations Charter, and undertakes to fulfil them. My delegation is glad, therefore, to join the delegations of Ethiopia, India, Mali, Nigeria and the United Kingdom in co-sponsoring the draft resolution [S/8292].

29. It is a great pleasure for me to inform the Council that, as of today's date, 12 December 1967, the Government of Japan has recognized the Government of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen. We warmly congratulate the people and Government of Southern Yemen on the achievement of independence and we look forward to welcoming the representatives of that country to the United Nations.

30. They will find here challenging opportunities to participate constructively in the efforts of the international community through the United Nations to further the great cause of freedom and human rights for individuals and nations, the economic and social advances of peoples and, above all, the maintenance of international peace and security. The purposes and principles of the United Nations are noble in character and the responsibilities and obligations of the membership are correspondingly great. We are confident that Southern Yemen, inspired by the nobility of the purposes and principles that must guide us all, will know how to fulfil its responsibilities and obligations as a Member of the United Nations and, desirous of making its maximum contribution to our co-operative efforts, will successfully strive to serve the great objectives of our Organization.

31. Anticipating that Southern Yemen will soon be admitted to membership in the United Nations, I should like to offer to the people and Government of that country our best wishes for their future peace and prosperity and to pledge our harmonious co-operation with their representatives.

32. Mr. KANTE (Mali) (*translated from French*): Mr. President, permit me, on behalf of the delegation of

Mali, to perform a pleasant duty, one of the most satisfying, that can fall to any man to recommend to the Security Council, in my turn, the admission of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen to the United Nations; a recommendation contained in the draft resolution of 11 December 1967 [S/8292], sponsored by Ethiopia, India, Japan, Nigeria, the United Kingdom and my own country.

33. On this occasion, we must recall that under the terms of the consensus adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 30 November 1967,² the People's Republic of Southern Yemen includes all the Territory of the former British colony of Aden, including the islands of Kuria Muria.

34. Mr. President, you will understand how deeply moved I am on this happy occasion. You will understand, because, like me, you come from a country which has known colonial bondage.

35. This duty which destiny has given us to perform today is a great honour, both for my country and for myself. The delegation of Mali is justly proud to submit this draft resolution to the Security Council. We are certain that the members of the Council will support it. Our brothers of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen cherish peace and freedom, and have given ample proof of their devotion to the ideals of the United Nations Charter, ideals for which many of that country's sons have made the supreme sacrifice in unequal combat on the battlefield.

36. We need not review here the background of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, for it is widely known and admired. We would merely recall that its independence was won through its peoples' arduous struggle. Brothers of Yemen, your generation has earned its place in the history of your dear land, which owes its freedom to your heroic struggle against colonialism. You have proved once again that no power in the world can withstand a people's legitimate resistance. Fate has smiled upon you today. Your victory is also the victory of all people who fight, just as you fought, against imperialism and colonialism. On that common front of struggle, it is but one victory in the giant battle against the forces of domination and their henchmen.

37. We are certain that, side by side with your brothers, you have made an active contribution to that common struggle and that they will reap priceless benefit from your rich experience. Our common fight will end only when the last bastions of imperialist and colonialist resistance have been destroyed. For you, independence is not an end in itself, but rather a means and there can be no doubt that your faith in your nation will enable you to transcend the internal dissensions which the prophets of doom are banking on and to achieve that national unity which is indispensable if you are to win the battle for the development of your country.

38. In conclusion, the delegation of Mali congratulates the heroic people of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen and its Government and wishes them good fortune.

39. Lord CARADON (United Kingdom): In following the distinguished representative of Mali, I should like very respectfully to congratulate him on his term as President of the Council. He led our deliberations in a critical month, with patience, good humour and skill; and the month of his presidency was distinguished by the fact that, during that month, on two matters of the greatest importance and difficulty, the Council reached unanimity. We shall remember the part he played, and he will no doubt continue to be proud of the contribution which he made to that result.

40. It is a good augury for the future. The Presidency of this Council is an onerous and hazardous task—I need not remind you, Sir—and the President is not to be envied. But his character and his leadership are of the greatest importance to our deliberations and we know that we are most fortunate to face another difficult month with you, Sir, as our chief, in what promises to be a month of important decisions, and we extend to you our sincere congratulations and our assurance of every possible support.

41. I had the opportunity a few days ago in the General Assembly to welcome the birth of a new nation and to express the hope shared, I am sure, by all of us that independence will bring peace, happiness and progress to all who live in the People's Republic of Southern Yemen. The new State has not emerged in peaceful and orderly transition; it has been born after a long and painful travail. It consequently faces formidable difficulties and dangers. The leaders of the new State will be called upon to show outstanding qualities of wisdom and courage. A million and a quarter Arab people now embark on a brave enterprise which will challenge them to show tolerance, patience and perseverance of the highest degree. In that great endeavour, we wholeheartedly wish them well. My country will give what help we can. Others, and especially Arab States, will I am sure wish to give support and succour to the new nation, and here in the United Nations we shall all, I am confident, welcome the application so promptly made to achieve membership of our Organization and applaud, at the same time, the pledge of the new State to honour its international obligations.

42. For our part, we have already invited the General Assembly to make the necessary provision in its agenda for this session to deal with the application which we now confidently join in submitting for the recommendation of this Council.

43. I have already said that the time has come to heal the wounds of the past; the time has come to replace dispute and disruption and violence by conciliation, co-operation and constructive effort. We rejoice that we can now look forward to progress in friendship. It is in that spirit that we recommend the application to the favourable consideration of this Council.

44. Mr. MOROZOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*translated from Russian*): Mr. President, first of all, I should like to express our deep satisfaction at the able and responsible way in which the distinguished and important task of President of the Security Council was carried out during the month of November, under difficult and strained

circumstances, by our friend and colleague Ambassador Kante, from the African country of Mali, with which the Soviet Union maintains the most friendly relations and whose progress in building their new life the peoples of the Soviet Union are following with great admiration. We were happy to co-operate with Ambassador Kante and pleased to be able to work together with a distinguished leader of the new Africa who has made a great contribution to the common cause of all peoples in their fight for peace and international security against the intrigues of aggressors and colonialists.

45. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that we see you today and welcome you as President of the Council, a representative of another friendly African country and a colleague whose experience and wisdom will, we feel sure, help us to settle important problems confronting the Security Council.

46. The Security Council is considering the application of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen for the admission of this new independent Arab State to membership in the United Nations. The telegram of President Al-Shaabi also contains a declaration of the Government of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen to the effect that it accepts the obligations contained in the United Nations Charter and undertakes to fulfil them.

47. The Soviet delegation wishes, first of all, to note with gratification that the long and stubborn struggle of the Arab people of Aden and Southern Arabia for their freedom has been successfully concluded. On 30 November 1967 the people of Aden and Southern Arabia won their independence in battle and put an end to more than a century of colonial rule in that part of the Arab East. The Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, N. Podgorny, expressed the feelings and thoughts of the Soviet people on this occasion in the following telegram which he addressed to the Head of the State of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen on 1 December 1967:

"On the occasion of the proclamation of the independence of the Arab State of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, please accept our sincere congratulations and best wishes for the well-being and progress of the people of your country.

"The Soviet Union, true to its policy of developing ties of friendship and co-operation with all peoples, hereby recognizes the People's Republic of Southern Yemen as an independent and sovereign State and declares its willingness to establish diplomatic relations with it."

48. The course followed by the people of Southern Yemen in attaining their freedom and independence was not an easy one. The colonialist authorities tried by cruel repressions, persecutions and the use of armed force, to suppress the national liberation movement in that territory. But the struggling people did not lay down their arms and their strength increased daily. Today, we have every justification for saying that the sacrifices made by the peoples of Aden and Southern Arabia were not in vain.

49. The Soviet Union, faithful to its basic policy of assisting, by all possible means, the peoples fighting for

their freedom and independence, has always strongly supported the right of the people of Aden and of all the Southern Arabian peninsula to self-determination and independence. The Soviet Union has fully and unconditionally supported the decisions of the United Nations calling for the speediest possible implementation of that right. We have always favoured guaranteeing the territorial integrity of the country in accordance with the demands of its people, the withdrawal of the British colonialist forces from the country, and the dismantling of the foreign bases there, including the base at Aden.

50. In accordance with this position, the Soviet delegation strongly supported the decision taken by the General Assembly at its current session on 30 November 1967, welcoming the attainment of independence by the people of South Arabia and again reaffirming the unity and territorial integrity of that country in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2183 (XXI). By the unanimous adoption of this decision a few days ago, the General Assembly has expressed its support for a young sovereign State and has issued a grave warning to the colonialists, who are continuing to hatch plans for the dismemberment of its territory.

51. The Soviet Union hails the success of the struggle for freedom waged for so many years by the peoples of Southern Yemen. With the help of all progressive and peace-loving peoples, this struggle has led to the downfall of yet another outpost of colonialism and represents a further step towards the demise of the shameful colonialist system.

52. In conclusion, we should like to warmly congratulate the people of Southern Yemen on the victory they have won in their long and stubborn struggle for independence and to wish them every success in building their new life. The Soviet Union supports the application of the Government of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen for admission to membership in the United Nations and will vote in favour of a decision by the Security Council in that sense as proposed in the draft resolution [S/8292] now before the Council.

53. Mr. BORCH (Denmark): I wish to associate myself fully with the highly deserved words of appreciation that have been expressed in regard to the representative of Mali and with the warm words of welcome to you, Mr. President, on your assuming the Presidency of this Council. We have the deepest trust and confidence in your leadership.

54. The Danish Government welcomes whole-heartedly the attainment of independence by the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, and my delegation supports the draft resolution [S/8292] recommending the admission of Southern Yemen to membership in the United Nations which was co-sponsored by Ethiopia, India, Japan, Mali and Nigeria, as well as by the former Administering Power, the United Kingdom.

55. Over the years, Denmark has held that the United Nations could play an important role in the process leading towards the independence of Southern Yemen. We did so because we saw therein one way in which to help promote

the completion of this process in accordance with the wishes of that people. The United Nations did play a role. We may have encountered setbacks along the road, but there can be no doubt that this Organization has contributed to the independence of Southern Yemen now attained through an agreement freely negotiated and concluded.

56. In accepting the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations, the People's Republic of Southern Yemen has made a solemn pledge that will serve as a basis for their participation in the international co-operation of this Organization. We wish them well in their endeavours to participate actively and constructively in that co-operation, which is aimed at promoting peace among nations, international understanding and material progress for the whole of humanity.

57. May I congratulate and welcome the representatives of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen. We are certainly pleased to see them here today. We wish them, and through them the Government and people of Southern Yemen, all the best in their efforts to build up a new State. Obviously, the prime goal of any new State is political stability and economic progress. It is our wish that the People's Republic of Southern Yemen achieve both. We wish it for its own sake and also because that new country, in accomplishing these goals, will truly be able to play an important role in co-operation among the nations of their region and, indeed, of this Organization.

58. Mr. DE CARVALHO SILOS (Brazil): Mr. President, I should like first of all to express the gratification of my delegation at seeing you preside over this Council during the current month of December. The role that you have played in this Chamber in the last two years as representative of Nigeria has fully confirmed the esteem and high regard in which you are held in the Organization at large. It is also a pleasure to express to Mr. Kante, the representative of Mali, the admiration of my delegation for the statesmanlike manner in which he began his duties as President of the Council for the month of November during the crucial negotiations on the Middle Eastern question and, later, on the crisis in Cyprus.

59. Allow me now to say a few words on the draft resolution before us on the admission of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen to membership in the United Nations *[S/8292]*. My delegation will vote in favour of the draft resolution, and I wish to take this opportunity to welcome the new nation into this Organization. The admission of a new Member means a new hope and a new voice. I am sure that this new voice will be a voice for peace, for security, and for economic progress in Asia and throughout the world, and that all of us here in the Organization will profit from the contribution that the People's Republic of Southern Yemen will make to the cause of international co-operation.

60. Mr. IGNATIEFF (Canada): Mr. President, I should first of all, like my colleagues, associate myself with the well-deserved tributes that have been paid to our colleague Ambassador Kante of Mali, who carried out the duties of his high office in the month of November in such a fair and

statesmanlike manner. Mr. Kante had the distinction of presiding over the Council during the final formulation and adoption of a resolution which, in its potential for good in the Middle East situation indeed represented an historic decision by this Council, of which he should be justly proud.

61. The Security Council is now under the guidance of an esteemed friend and colleague from Nigeria, for whom the Canadian delegation has particular feelings of friendship and respect, a representative whose conciliatory spirit, broad experience and sure grasp of problems fills us with confidence, and for whose country Canada has special ties of brotherhood.

62. Today, the Council has met to consider the application of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen for admission to the United Nations. This application, following on the entry of so many new States during the past decade, is another sign of the importance which the United Nations has assumed in the community of nations. It is also another step towards making this Organization as universal and as comprehensive in its membership as possible.

63. An application for membership in the United Nations by a newly independent State is always an exciting event, both for the new State itself and for the Organization. The process of decolonization, to which Canada itself has made a significant contribution, has been fostered by this Organization as country after country has made the necessary and desirable transition from dependence to independence. This process, as we know, has created difficulties and problems for both the emergent peoples of the world and for those former colonial Powers who have by stages promoted and encouraged it.

64. In this context, we welcome the achievement of both the people of Southern Yemen and their representatives and the United Kingdom and its representatives in making possible the arrangements which led to the attainment of this independence. Accordingly, Canada welcomes the application for membership in the United Nations by the People's Republic of Southern Yemen and will be happy to vote in favour of the draft resolution now before the Council *[S/8292]*. We look forward to working in friendly co-operation with representatives of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen as they take their place in this Organization.

65. Mr. BERARD (France) *(translated from French)*: Mr. President, I should like to associate myself with you and those colleagues who have already so rightly congratulated the representative of Mali on the outstanding manner in which he presided over the meetings of the Security Council last month. Our colleague, Ambassador Kante, had only just arrived at the United Nations and he had a particularly difficult task before him. To paraphrase a line we both learned in school, I would say that he wanted his first attempt to be a master stroke. And so it was. As several of our colleagues have pointed out, Ambassador Kante's term of office as President was distinguished by two memorable events: the unanimous adoption of resolutions on the difficult questions of the Middle East and of Cyprus. We wish to thank Ambassador Kante for his successful guidance in these two matters.

66. Mr. President, it is not yet four months since I returned to the United Nations and yet I feel as if I have known you for years. Your outstanding graciousness, charm and intelligence make one feel that you are an old friend, even though one has known you for only a short time. I need hardly say that my delegation is delighted at your presiding over the Security Council this month.

67. The delegation of France today wishes to welcome the accession of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen to independence; the French Government has very recently recognized that country and hopes to maintain fruitful and friendly relations with it. My delegation will gladly vote in favour of its admission to the United Nations, as proposed by the delegations of Ethiopia, India, Japan, Mali, Nigeria and also the United Kingdom, which successfully guided Southern Yemen to national sovereignty, despite serious difficulties of which all of us are aware.

68. Aden and the surrounding region are well known in world history. Since ancient times the south of the Arabian peninsula, situated on the route to the Indies, has been an important relay post in trade between east and west. Guillaume Sanson wrote admiringly in 1683: "Aden is the most beautiful and pleasant town in all Araby. It is enclosed by walls on the seaward side and by mountains on its landward side. On top of the mountains are several magnificent castles. The country has a good 6,000 houses. It lies beyond the Red Sea and at the entry to the Great Sea." The discovery of the Cape route diverted a good deal of traffic from Arabia, but the country came into its own again with the digging of the Suez Canal, an enterprise in which my country had the honour of playing an important part. Guardian of one of the gates to the Red Sea and a port of call for ships crossing that Sea, Aden remains a busy crossroads on one of the great sea routes of our time. As long ago as 1663, if I may quote another 17th-century author, the Frenchman Claude Morisot called Aden "*emporium, vetussum oppidum*,—market and now ancient refuge".

69. We are fully confident that the new Republic, born in difficult circumstances at a troubled moment in the history of that part of the world, will be able to strengthen its unity and affirm its existence. Considering its size, its population and its resources, it should be able to play an effective part in the work of the United Nations. We know what burdens and responsibilities that participation entails; but newly independent States do not always at first appreciate the full magnitude of those responsibilities.

70. The delegation of France is glad to welcome the People's Republic of Southern Yemen to the United Nations and extends its sincerest wishes for happiness and prosperity to that country's leaders and people.

71. Mr. GOLDBERG (United States of America): I should like to join my colleagues in the very deserved tributes that they have paid to the Council's out-going and in-coming Presidents, Ambassador Kante, of Mali and Mr. Adebo, representative of Nigeria. My pleasure in doing so, however, is diminished by the knowledge that their Governments' term on the Security Council will expire at the end of this month and that, therefore, we will be losing them as colleagues on the Council.

72. The role of a Council President is sometimes misunderstood by the public, because a Council President must be the servant of the Council and he must also represent his own country. Mr. Kante, in acting as a servant of the Council, was able with great objectivity to make clear the important distinction between these two roles. He presided over the Council with very great impartiality and won the friendship and great respect of us all in so doing. As for Mr. Adebo, many of us call him "Mr. United Nations". He is an old and valued colleague and we will depend upon his patience, resolve, determination and eternal optimism in carrying out his most difficult duties.

73. In turning to the item on the agenda, my Government cordially welcomes the application of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen for membership in the United Nations. We are particularly pleased that the distinguished Foreign Minister of Southern Yemen is with us in this Council chamber as we perform our very important duty of passing to the Assembly the credentials of a new nation.

74. I have had the pleasure of meeting and talking with the distinguished Foreign Minister and should like to say to him here in the Council what I have said to him privately. In our capacity as host Government to the United Nations, we extend to you, Mr. Foreign Minister, the hand of friendship; and we of the United States are anxious to do everything in our power to make your sojourn in New York and that of your countrymen as comfortable and enjoyable as possible.

75. In its application, the Government of South Yemen has declared its intent to accept the obligations of membership contained in the United Nations Charter. My Government, believing that South Yemen is both willing and able to carry out these obligations, will be happy to vote in favour of the draft resolution [S/8292] which has been tabled.

76. Like so many of the present Members of the United Nations—now probably a majority—South Yemen has achieved independence in the course of the world-wide independence movement, which is one of the great and hopeful political phenomena of our age. The birth of this new nation—like the birth of all nations—has not been easy. The fact that it has now been fully accomplished is a credit to all concerned: to the people and leaders of the new State who have shown their courage and their determination to be free; to the United Nations, which has concerned itself with the problems of this new State, and also to the United Kingdom whose statesmanship has contributed much to this historic development.

77. Like every independent State, South Yemen will face many problems in the years ahead, but it has a most substantial asset, among others which it brings, and will bring, to the solution of these problems; and that most substantial asset is the people of the country. No asset can be greater than this. Its people, because of their location, at historic crossroads of international commerce and trade, have long been a part of the wide community of nations, in touch with the cultures and civilizations of Asia, Africa and Europe. They include able and experienced people in the civil service, in the educational system, in the military and

police services, in the labour unions, and in the business community. This is a very substantial asset indeed for any new country—or old country. These people have already made clear their commitment to popular self-government as indicated in the stated intention of the new Government of South Yemen to draw up a constitution based on this great principle.

78. The United States has long-standing ties with the people of South Yemen, having had official representation in this area for over eighty years. My Government now looks forward to developing friendly and mutually beneficial relations with the People's Republic of Southern Yemen and we wish its people and its Government Godspeed in their new independence.

79. Mr. RUDA (Argentina) (*translated from Spanish*): Before I turn to the item on our agenda for today, my delegation would like to add its congratulations to Mr. Kante of Mali on his work as President of the Security Council at a very trying time during the month of November.

80. I should also like to express my delegation's satisfaction at seeing Mr. Adebo presiding over the Council. His ability, tact and culture give positive assurance that our efforts will be successful.

81. My delegation supports the application of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen for admission to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General by the President of that country on 30 November.

82. The recent accession of Southern Yemen to independence is another step in the great decolonization process on which the United Nations has embarked. In this particular instance, where the road to independence was long, arduous and difficult, my Government sincerely hopes that this new country will enjoy political harmony and national and territorial unity so that it can find the right road to economic and social development.

83. The situation in this new nation seemed critical and explosive, to use the words of resolution 2183 (XXI) of the General Assembly, even more so in March 1967, when the United Nations Special Mission on Aden undertook the responsibilities assigned to it under that resolution. Disturbances and incidents had been continuous since December 1963. Today, a few months later, the Territory is independent and we are privileged to be considering the admission of this new State to the United Nations. My delegation feels that this is due largely to the efforts of the mission led by Mr. Manuel Pérez Guerrero, the representative of Venezuela, here present, with the assistance of the representatives of Afghanistan and Mali. We believe that the skill with which the mission was conducted accelerated the decolonization process in that region.

84. My delegation would also like to congratulate the United Kingdom on their contribution towards the realization of the General Assembly's historic resolution 1514 (XV). We hope that the recommendation which is now before us /S/8292/ will be approved by the Council and then unanimously adopted by the General Assembly,

so that the People's Republic of Southern Yemen can join in our work before the end of the current General Assembly session. Its participation will, no doubt, bring a further contribution to our efforts to maintain international peace and security.

85. Mr. LIU (China): Mr. President, I wish first of all to add my tribute to you, Sir, not only as President, but as an educated member of the Council who has made notable contributions to our common effort and has always placed the interest of the United Nations above all considerations. I am sure, Sir, you will be greatly missed after this month in our future deliberations.

86. In line with the policy laid down some decades ago by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, founder of the Republic of China, my Government has consistently upheld the right of colonial peoples to political independence and freedom. It is in this light that my delegation welcomes the emergence of Southern Yemen as an independent nation.

87. As the representative of the United Kingdom has just observed, the new State has not been born without long and painful travail. It is the earnest hope of my delegation that the people of Southern Yemen will now enter a new and constructive phase and press forward with the task of building a stable and progressive nation. On behalf of my Government I fully support the application of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen for membership in the United Nations and shall look forward to fruitful collaboration with its representatives in furthering the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

88. Mr. TARABANOV (Bulgaria) (*translated from French*): I should like to extend to our colleague from Mali the most cordial congratulations of the People's Republic of Bulgaria on his outstanding service as President of the Security Council during a most difficult and trying month. This was certainly a good start for a newcomer to the United Nations.

89. I should like to express my delegation's congratulations to you, Sir, on your accession as President of the Security Council. Your wisdom and intellectual capacities are known to all of us, and with your skill at choosing exactly the right moment to intervene with a request for clarification, will enable you, I know, to successfully discharge the important task facing you this month.

90. The Security Council today has before it the request of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen for admission to the United Nations. The delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria takes great pleasure in welcoming a new State that has thrown off the colonial yoke and the chains of colonialism and in saluting a new people's republic, the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, as it joins the United Nations family.

91. The proclamation of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen marks an important stage in the struggle of that country's people and of Arab peoples in general. The birth of the new republic, the fourteenth independent Arab State, is a significant event closely linked with the

sometimes difficult and dangerous, but irreversible and continuous process of national liberation and the ending of all colonial oppression. The Bulgarian Government's policy on colonial problems is well known; it is one of consistent rejection and condemnation of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations and of unreserved support for peoples still under colonial oppression in their struggle for the right to freedom and independent development. On the basis of this principle my country has always defended, particularly here in the United Nations, the courageous struggle of the people of South Arabia, and especially of Southern Yemen, to free themselves from colonial domination and to win national independence and a better future.

92. This country's accession to independence, after a long and courageous struggle involving enormous sacrifices, is an event of indisputable importance in the life and development of the great and illustrious family of Arab peoples struggling persistently for the liberation of all its members and for respect for its independent sovereign States.

93. The particular circumstances which brought Southern Yemen to independence are so well known that I need not dwell on them at length. We wish only to express the hope that the people of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, with the help of all peace-loving and freedom-loving countries, will be able to overcome all the difficulties in its path to national unity and the unity of all patriotic forces. We wish it continued success. We hope that its people, united and as one, will successfully overcome the heavy consequences of colonial domination, persevering and consolidating the country's national sovereignty, its territorial integrity and its economic and political independence.

94. In this spirit, and with a feeling of satisfaction, the delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria has decided, on the instructions of its government, to support the draft resolution [S/8292] submitted by the delegations of Ethiopia, India, Japan, Mali, Nigeria and the United Kingdom recommending to the General Assembly that the People's Republic of Southern Yemen be admitted to the United Nations. We shall vote in favour of that draft resolution.

95. The PRESIDENT: I should like first to express my personal thanks and the thanks of my country for the generous remarks made about Nigeria and myself in the interventions of my distinguished colleagues this afternoon. I am glad of their confirmation of what I already knew from my previous happy acquaintance with them, namely, that in the discharge of my duties as President they will give me their wholehearted co-operation. As we all know, without such co-operation no man, however able or experienced, can make a success of the Presidency of this Council.

96. Speaking as the representative of NIGERIA, I should like to say that the Nigerian delegation is delighted to associate itself with the expressions of congratulations and good will which have been showered on the Government and people of Southern Yemen on their achievement of independence. As an earnest of our pleasure at that achievement and of our best wishes for the future of Southern Yemen, we have joined in the sponsorship of the draft resolution [S/8292] recommending this new State for membership of our Organization.

97. The road to independence for Southern Yemen was not a very easy one. Indeed it was a rather rugged one, and yet, like the leaders of other countries which have graduated from colonial status to independence in the last decade or two, the leaders of Southern Yemen will quickly discover that the struggle to maintain and make significant their independence will tax their energies to the full. We wish them success in that fresh struggle.

98. From the statements that have been made today by the members of this Council there can be no doubt that, in facing their new responsibilities, both to their own people and to the world community, they can count on the good will, understanding, support and co-operation of fellow Members of the United Nations.

99. Now speaking as the PRESIDENT, I should like to invite your attention again to the draft resolution co-sponsored by Ethiopia, India, Japan, Mali, Nigeria and the United Kingdom [S/8292]. That resolution reads as follows:

"The Security Council,

"Having examined the application of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen for admission to the United Nations [S/8284],

"Recommends to the General Assembly that the People's Republic of Southern Yemen be admitted to membership in the United Nations."

A vote was taken by show of hands.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.³

100. The PRESIDENT: In accordance with rule 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, I shall immediately request the Secretary-General to be good enough to transmit to the General Assembly the text of the resolution just adopted, together with the verbatim record of this meeting.

The meeting rose at 4.50 p.m.

³ See resolution 243 (1967).

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