

UNITED NATIONS



SECURITY COUNCIL OFFICIAL RECORDS

THIRTY-SEVENTH YEAR

2410th MEETING: 21 DECEMBER 1982

NEW YORK

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Provisional agenda (S/Agenda/2410)	1
Adoption of the agenda	1
Inclusion of Arabic among the official and working languages of the Security Council:	
(a) Note by the Secretary-General (S/14372);	
(b) Letter dated 17 December 1982 from the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/15532)	1

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

Documents of the Security Council (symbol S/. . .) are normally published in quarterly *Supplements* of the *Official Records of the Security Council*. The date of the document indicates the supplement in which it appears or in which information about it is given.

The resolutions of the Security Council, numbered in accordance with a system adopted in 1964, are published in yearly volumes of *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council*. The new system, which has been applied retroactively to resolutions adopted before 1 January 1965, became fully operative on that date.

2410th MEETING

Held in New York on Tuesday, 21 December 1982, at 12 noon.

President: Mr. Włodzimierz NATORF (Poland).

Present: The representatives of the following States: China, France, Guyana, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, Panama, Poland, Spain, Togo, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zaire.

Provisional agenda (S/Agenda/2410)

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Inclusion of Arabic among the official and working languages of the Security Council:
 - (a) Note by the Secretary-General (S/14372);
 - (b) Letter dated 17 December 1982 from the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/15532)

The meeting was called to order at 12.25 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Inclusion of Arabic among the official and working languages of the Security Council:

- (a) Note by the Secretary-General (S/14372);
- (b) Letter dated 17 December 1982 from the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/15532)

1. The PRESIDENT: The Council is meeting today in response to the request made by the representative of Jordan in his letter of 17 December [S/15532]. The Council also has before it a note by the Secretary-General [S/14372] in which attention is drawn to General Assembly resolution 35/219 of 17 December 1980, in which the Council was requested to include Arabic among its official and working languages. I should like also to draw attention to document S/15531, which contains the text of a draft resolution sponsored by Jordan.

2. In the light of consultations which have taken place with regard to this draft resolution, it is my understanding that the Council is ready to adopt the draft resolution without a vote and that I may declare the draft resolution contained in document S/15531

adopted by consensus. If I hear no objection, I shall proceed accordingly.

3. I declare the draft resolution adopted by consensus as resolution 528 (1982).

4. Mr. NUSEIBEH (Jordan): The Council's consensus decision to include Arabic among the official and working languages of the Security Council is a milestone in the evolution of the principle of cultural universality, unity and diversity which is one of the United Nations' most cherished goals in its efforts to bring about greater integration, friendship and amity among all nations and distinct areas of civilization.

5. The decision of the Council and the evidence of the friendly spirit in which it was arrived at unanimously will be received with profound appreciation throughout the Arab world and far beyond. On behalf of Jordan and all the Arab countries which have striven so diligently over the past decades to achieve this cherished objective, I should like to express deepest appreciation, for its fulfilment, thanks to the favourable and friendly response of the Council and its members. The President of the Council, Mr. Natorf of friendly Poland, deserves particular commendation for the expeditious manner in which he has handled the subject, as does the Secretary-General, who directed the various executive organs of the United Nations some time ago to prepare the functional aspects of the implementation of this decision in anticipation of its being adopted, which happily has been the case.

6. As the representative of Jordan and of the Group of Arab States in the Security Council, I personally feel privileged to have been associated with the consummation of this historic process and to be present on this occasion.

7. The PRESIDENT: I take it that the Council has now concluded its consideration of the item on its agenda.

8. Mr. de PINIÉS (Spain) (*interpretation from Spanish*): I simply wish to express the hope that the peace of the world will not be disturbed, especially in the coming days of holiday.

9. On the assumption that the Council will not meet again this year, my delegation wishes to thank all those

that have been with us in the past two years—including the representatives of the five countries that left us at the beginning of the year—and to state before the Council that Spain believes that through its conduct here it has fulfilled the responsibilities assigned to it by the General Assembly when it was elected to this important post.

10. The Security Council, the principal organ of the United Nations, is a unique body. In my view, it is quite distinct from the General Assembly or any of the other main bodies. This is the second time my country has been a member of this Council. It is true that its actions have often been frustrated, as the Secretary-General has pointed out in his report.¹ Perhaps greater use of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations could allow it to operate more effectively. We continue to believe that the Council is an organ in which disputes should be discussed and settled and that perhaps greater use of preventive rather than curative action might make it more effective.

11. In any event, I wish to express to all members the gratitude of my delegation, my country and my Government for the trust placed in us. I wish all mem-

bers every success in discharging the serious responsibilities they bear. I would also add congratulations to those that have been elected by the General Assembly this year to replace those of us whose mandates are ending. I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

12. The PRESIDENT: I am in a slightly difficult situation because, as President of the Council, I cannot be as optimistic as the representative of Spain and assume that we shall have no more meetings before the end of this month and this year. I shall take the opportunity today to bid farewell unofficially to those that are leaving the Council, and if we have occasion to meet again I shall repeat it officially.

The meeting rose at 12.35 p.m.

NOTE

¹ Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Special Supplement No. 1*), document A/37/1.