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**President: Mr. Rüdiger von WECHMAR**  
(Federal Republic of Germany).

## AGENDA ITEM 8

**Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**  
(*continued*):\*

**(b) Report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Subsidiary Organs**

1. The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 13 of its report [A/35/47] the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Subsidiary Organs recommends a draft resolution, to which a revised amendment, distributed as document A/35/L.6/Rev.1, has been submitted by Nigeria, Romania and Venezuela. I now call on the representative of Nigeria to introduce the revised amendment.

2. Mr. CLARK (Nigeria): I should like first of all, on behalf of my delegation, to thank the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Subsidiary Organs for its report.

3. While we support in principle the need for rationalization of the existing procedures and organization of work of the General Assembly, we believe that greater emphasis ought to be placed on the first part of the recommendation—that the General Assembly should, beginning at its thirty-fourth session, review the usefulness of those subsidiary organs which have been unable to submit concrete recommendations.

4. The report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee that we are considering appears to be silent on this issue, albeit it requested and obtained a document containing a list of all the subsidiary organs established by the General Assembly which had held meetings from 1977 to date.<sup>1</sup> It would have been possible for the *Ad Hoc* Committee to examine the mandate of those subsidiary organs and to determine what concrete recommendations each had made before the Committee's establishment. I realize that it is a difficult political

\* Resumed from the 36th meeting.

<sup>1</sup> Document A/AC.202/1.

decision to make, but so also is the issue of recommending at this moment a moratorium on the establishment of new subsidiary organs.

5. My delegation can go along generally with the report of the Committee, subject to the amendment which I now have the honour to introduce on behalf of my friends and colleagues from Romania and Venezuela and which has been distributed in document A/35/L.6/Rev.1. The purpose of our amendment is to ensure that the General Assembly is seen to be responsive to urgent international problems. The international situation is such that the General Assembly cannot afford such a moratorium at this moment, for it would mean that, in the event of a subsidiary organ being needed urgently to cope with a situation, the Assembly's hands would be tied.

6. Besides, the recommendation of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Subsidiary Organs, if accepted without this amendment, would seem not to have taken care of previous recommendations and resolutions which envisaged the preparation of instruments such as, for instance, an international convention against activities of mercenaries.

7. In the relevant resolution 34/140 the General Assembly, in paragraph 2,

“*Urges* all States to consider effective measures to prohibit the recruitment, training, assembly... and use of mercenaries...”

From the views and comments of Member States communicated to the Secretary-General, it is evident that such a convention would require urgent consideration by the international community. At the present session, therefore, the Sixth Committee is considering how best to deal with the matter and will in the course of the session submit a draft resolution calling for the establishment of an appropriate subsidiary organ.

8. In another resolution, resolution 33/71 H, in section III, the General Assembly decided

“to set up, at its thirty-fifth session, a preparatory committee for the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament”.

The effect of the recommendation of the *Ad Hoc* Committee is that that can no longer be implemented.

9. Similarly, in another resolution, resolution 34/151, the General Assembly decided to set up another subsidiary organ.

10. I am sure that there will be other pertinent resolutions of the present session of the General Assembly that will also call for the setting up of subsidiary organs to deal with various burning issues of our time. We therefore cannot afford at this moment to tie the hands of this body, which was created to deal specifically with today's challenges.

11. In that sense, the purpose of the amendment is clearly spelt out in subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) of operative paragraph 1. I do not intend to elaborate on them further, as members are too familiar with the issue involved. I hope, therefore, that the amendment will be adopted without a vote; in my view, it does not affect the intention of the recommendation of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Subsidiary Organs.

12. Mr. PETREE (United States of America): In addressing this subject the United States delegation would like first to pay a tribute to the distinguished work of Ambassador Salim, for it is largely owing to the interest and energy he invested in this effort as President of the General Assembly that we have been able to take substantial, if introductory, steps to reform the Assembly's work.

13. The aim we all share is to make the General Assembly a more useful forum, place of work and meeting house for the Members of the United Nations. Each of us recognizes that reforming and simplifying the work of the General Assembly is a long-term process. We appraise positively the important series of reform measures that the General Assembly undertook at its thirty-fourth session last year.

14. It is in this context that we view the proposal for a one-year moratorium on the establishment of new subsidiary organs by the General Assembly. We warmly support the efforts of Ambassador Salim and the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Subsidiary Organs to promote meaningful and immediate reciprocal self-restraint in the creation of new bodies. There is wide recognition in the General Assembly that over the years we may all have behaved too generously in contributing to the proliferation of subsidiary bodies. We are approaching the point where no delegation can keep up with them or make good use of the potential of existing bodies. This is a problem that has been experienced by many national legislatures as well.

15. The United States therefore supports the one-year moratorium proposal. We welcome the fact that the Assembly has clearly recognized the issue and made a beginning in trying to deal with it. We believe the experience that will be gained during the coming year will convince the entire membership that a moratorium can benefit all members. We are certain that the fact that the existence of the problem has been so clearly recognized will in due course make a contribution to the objective of a more responsive and effective General Assembly.

16. Mr. GUÉNA (France) (*interpretation from French*): Ten years ago, the General Assembly, in resolution 2632 (XXV) of 9 November 1970, established a Special Committee on the Rationalization of the Procedures and Organization of the General Assembly. The conclusions were approved by the General Assembly in resolution 2837 (XXVI) of 17 December 1971. The Assembly then decided that those conclusions would be reproduced as an annex to its rules of procedure. In annex V, chapter IX, paragraph 109 of the rules of procedure, we see that the Special Committee recommended that the General Assembly should review, either periodically or when considering their reports, the usefulness of its various subsidiary organs. Also, in resolution 2837 (XXVI), the Assembly decided to review from time to time the progress

achieved in rationalizing its work and requested the Secretary-General, as appropriate, to report on the extent to which the conclusions of the Special Committee had been reflected in the practice of the General Assembly.

17. In accordance with that decision, the Secretary-General, during the course of the thirty-fourth session, submitted a report.<sup>2</sup> In section VII of that report, he judiciously pointed out that there had been a sharp increase in the number of subsidiary organs of the Assembly, and that that had created many problems, in particular for the Secretariat.

18. The Secretary-General therefore made two recommendations: first, that the General Assembly should review the usefulness of existing subsidiary organs that had been unable to submit specific recommendations; and, secondly, that it should decide not to establish additional subsidiary organs for a period of one year. In view of that report, the Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of section VI of decision 34/401 of 12 December 1979, decided to entrust the review of these questions to an *Ad Hoc* Committee on Subsidiary Organs, while already deciding that it would be appropriate to envisage the possibility, during the thirty-fifth session, of a moratorium for a fixed period on the establishment of additional subsidiary organs.

19. Several precautions were taken in order to give that *Ad Hoc* Committee the greatest possible influence and authority. It was decided, first of all, that it would take decisions by consensus. Secondly, its composition was carefully thought out, its 35 member States including in particular all the Chairmen of the regional groups and all the officers of the General Committee. Thirdly, its chairmanship was entrusted to the President of the General Assembly. It was generally felt that the *Ad Hoc* Committee's recommendations would benefit thereby.

20. The *Ad Hoc* Committee proposed that the Assembly adopt a draft resolution in which it decides on a one-year moratorium on the establishment of new subsidiary organs and a reduction in the duration of the sessions of existing subsidiary organs and requests that such bodies make a greater effort to schedule their meetings on a biennial basis. Unfortunately, it was not possible to decide on the elimination of certain subsidiary organs.

21. If my memory serves me correctly, these recommendations were adopted by consensus by all the members of the *Ad Hoc* Committee. France, which was a member and which approved them, is obviously prepared today to renew that approval without any hesitation. The decisions recommended to us seem very relevant. They are the result of efforts that have been undertaken over a 10-year period. I point out in particular that the recommendation not to create any new subsidiary organs has already been spelled out in resolution 34/401 of 1979, which we also supported. Therefore, this is no more than a confirmation of a wish already expressed last year by all Member States.

22. This year, the circumstances are particularly favourable for demonstrating our resolve to rationalize the work of our Assembly and to improve its working

<sup>2</sup> Document A/34/320.

methods. That is why my delegation was somewhat surprised when it received document A/35/L.6/Rev.1 a few days ago, in which three Member States, Nigeria, Romania and Venezuela, propose an amendment to the draft resolution submitted by the *Ad Hoc* Committee presided over by Mr. Salim A. Salim. It is clear that, by its scope, that amendment would remove all content and meaning from the recommendation of the *Ad Hoc* Committee which the French delegation, among others, supported. It would be better in this case to delete operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution outright. Such a decision would at least have the advantage of being clear but, once again, its timeliness would be questionable. Therefore the French delegation would be against that.

23. The question before the Assembly today is a simple one and an important one. Do we want to curb the excessive growth in subsidiary organs? France is resolved to do so. In these circumstances, my delegation will be in favour of the draft resolution submitted by the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Subsidiary Organs in its report [A/35/47, para. 13] and I recall, incidentally, that the moratorium proposed to us is only for a one-year period.

24. However, if a consensus emerges to limit the scope of the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee, then the French delegation would not oppose that consensus.

25. The PRESIDENT: We shall now proceed to a decision. In accordance with the rules of procedure, I shall first put before the Assembly the amendment contained in document A/35/L.6/Rev.1. May I take it that the General Assembly adopts that amendment?

*The amendment was adopted.*

26. The PRESIDENT: I take it that the Assembly also adopts the draft resolution recommended by the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Subsidiary Organs in document A/35/47, as amended?

*The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted (resolution 35/5).*

## AGENDA ITEM 15

### Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs:

- (a) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;
- (b) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council

27. The PRESIDENT: With the permission of the General Assembly, we shall proceed first to the election of 18 members of the Economic and Social Council to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1980.

28. The 18 outgoing members are: Argentina, Central African Republic, China, Dominican Republic, Finland, Hungary, India, Japan, Lesotho, Malta, Romania, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, and United Republic of Tanzania. These 18 countries are eligible for immediate re-election.

29. I should like to remind the members of the Assembly that after 1 January 1981 the following States will be members of the Economic and Social Council: Algeria, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Cyprus, Ecuador, Ethiopia, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia. Those 36 States should therefore not appear on the ballot papers.

30. In accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 2847 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971, the 18 members to be elected should be as follows: four from African States, four from Asian States, three from Latin American States, four from Western European and other States and three from the socialist States of Eastern Europe. The ballot papers take that pattern into account.

31. The required number of candidates who receive the largest number of votes and the majority required will be declared elected. In the case of a tie vote for the last place, there will be a restricted ballot limited to those candidates which have obtained an equal number of votes. May I take it that the General Assembly agrees to that procedure?

*It was so decided.*

32. The PRESIDENT: In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election shall be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations.

33. Before the ballot papers are distributed, I should like to inform representatives that, in order to avoid any misunderstanding, representatives should be prepared to show their United Nations identification cards.

34. The ballot papers will now be distributed. I request representatives to use only those ballot papers and to write on them the names of the Member States for which they wish to vote in each group. Ballot papers containing more names than are assigned to that group will be declared invalid.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Vanreusel (Belgium), Mr. Rakotonaivo (Madagascar), Mr. Mueller (German Democratic Republic), Mr. Bold (Mongolia) and Mr. Flemming (Saint Lucia) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

35. The PRESIDENT: I propose to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

*The meeting was suspended at 11.40 a.m. and resumed at 12.30 p.m.*

36. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting for the election of 18 members of the Economic and Social Council is as follows:

### GROUP A

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	148
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	148
<i>Abstentions:</i>	3

<i>Number of members voting:</i>	145
<i>Required majority:</i>	97
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Kenya .....	141
United Republic of Cameroon .....	141
Burundi .....	140
Sudan .....	140
Mozambique .....	1
Sao Tome and Principe .....	1
United Republic of Tanzania .....	1

## GROUP B

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	148
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	148
<i>Abstentions:</i>	1
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	147
<i>Required majority:</i>	98
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Bangladesh .....	138
Fiji .....	138
India .....	138
China .....	131
Japan .....	1
Singapore .....	1
United Arab Emirates .....	1
Viet Nam .....	1

## GROUP C

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	148
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	148
<i>Abstentions:</i>	1
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	147
<i>Required majority:</i>	98
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Peru .....	144
Argentina .....	139
Nicaragua .....	134
Costa Rica .....	2
Trinidad and Tobago .....	1

## GROUP D

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	147
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	147
<i>Abstentions:</i>	3
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	144
<i>Required majority:</i>	96
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Denmark .....	144
Canada .....	140
Norway .....	140
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland .....	137
Malta .....	1

## GROUP E

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	148
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	1
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	147
<i>Abstentions:</i>	6

<i>Number of members voting:</i>	141
<i>Required majority:</i>	94
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Poland .....	141
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic .....	134
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics ..	132
Albania .....	1
Romania .....	1

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, the following States were elected members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1981: Argentina, Bangladesh, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, China, Denmark, Fiji, India, Kenya, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Poland, Sudan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United Republic of Cameroon (decision 35/306).

37. The PRESIDENT: I congratulate the countries which have been elected members of the Economic and Social Council and I thank the tellers for their assistance in this election.

38. The next item is the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council to replace those whose terms of office expire on 31 December 1980. The five outgoing members are: Bangladesh, Jamaica, Norway, Portugal and Zambia. These five countries cannot be re-elected and therefore their names must not appear on the ballot papers.

39. Apart from the five permanent members, the Security Council in 1981 will include the German Democratic Republic, Mexico, the Niger, the Philippines and Tunisia. Therefore, the names of these States also should not appear on the ballot papers.

40. Of the five non-permanent members which will remain in office in 1981, three are from the groups of African and Asian States, one from the group of Eastern European States and one from the group of Latin American States. Consequently, in accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 1991 A (XVIII) of 17 December 1963, the five non-permanent members to be elected should be as follows: two States from Africa and Asia, one State from Latin America and two States from the group of Western European and other States. The three ballot papers take that pattern into account.

41. In accordance with existing practice, the required number of candidates receiving the largest number of votes and not less than the majority required will be declared elected. In case of a tie vote for the last place, there will be a restricted ballot limited to those candidates which have obtained an equal number of votes. May I take it that the General Assembly agrees to that procedure?

*It was so decided.*

42. The PRESIDENT: In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election shall be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations.

43. The representatives of New Zealand and Cuba have asked to make a statement at this stage. I call first on the representative of New Zealand.

44. Mr. FRANCIS (New Zealand): In my capacity as Chairman for this month of the group of Western European and other States, I have been asked to inform members of the General Assembly that there are three candidates from that group for the two vacancies on the Security Council to be filled from the group of Western European and other States at this present election. Those three candidates are, in alphabetical order: Ireland, Malta and Spain.

45. Mr. ROA KOURÍ (Cuba) (*interpretation from Spanish*): I have received instructions and with your authorization, Sir, I should like to read the following letter which is addressed to you:

“New York, 20 October 1980.

“Mr. President: In accordance with instructions from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba, I should like to inform you that my Government has decided to withdraw the candidacy of Cuba for the post of non-permanent member of the Security Council for the group of Latin American States.

“As was the case at the thirty-fourth session of the General Assembly, the candidacy of Cuba this year received a favourable response from all the Governments whose support we solicited. Cuba is most grateful for that support.

“However, as happened last year, other candidacies from the same geographical region have also been submitted together with that of Cuba. The experience of 154 ballots in 1979 leads us to presume that the candidacies that have been submitted along with that of Cuba are aimed at blocking our election and that, in all probability, the General Assembly would once again have to repeat the experience of last year.

“The Government of Cuba recognizes the importance of being able to rely upon the stability of the principal organs of the United Nations at this time of threats to peace and security through which the world is living, and it cannot therefore allow the irresponsibility of some to create an artificial problem within this Assembly. It is for that reason that it has decided to withdraw its candidacy.

“The march of history is irreversible. When the Cuban revolution broke out, external pressures were exerted on the Latin American group that forced it for eight years into virtual paralysis as a result of the attempt to isolate Cuba. Since that time, the inevitable has occurred and the group was able to meet again officially when Cuba was able to participate in its meetings. Just as the attempt to deny Cuba's right to be a member of the Latin American group failed, the attempts to exclude it as a non-permanent member of the Security Council will also inevitably fail.

“I should like to take this opportunity, Mr. President, to extend to you the assurances of my high consideration.”

46. The PRESIDENT: I thank the representative of Cuba for his statement and for the co-operation offered therein, which I am sure will be appreciated by members of this Assembly.

47. Before the ballot papers are distributed, I should like to inform representatives that in order to avoid

any misunderstanding they should be prepared to show their United Nations identification cards.

48. I request representatives to use only the ballot papers that have been distributed and to write on them the names of the Member States for which they wish to vote in each group. Ballot papers containing more names than assigned to that group will be declared invalid.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Tinca (Romania), Mr. Jasudasen (Singapore) and Mr. Adeyemi (Nigeria) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

49. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are counted.

*The meeting was suspended at 1 p.m. and resumed at 1.30 p.m.*

50. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting for the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council is as follows:

#### GROUP A

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	150
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	150
<i>Abstentions:</i>	3
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	147
<i>Required majority:</i>	98
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Japan .....	141
Uganda .....	134
Zimbabwe .....	2
Chad .....	1
Senegal .....	1

#### GROUP B

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	151
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	1
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	150
<i>Abstentions:</i>	15
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	135
<i>Required majority:</i>	90
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Costa Rica .....	89
Guyana .....	26
Cuba .....	9
Nicaragua .....	6
Panama .....	2
Grenada .....	1
Peru .....	1
Trinidad and Tobago .....	1

#### GROUP C

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	151
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	151
<i>Abstentions:</i>	2
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	149
<i>Required majority:</i>	100
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Spain .....	109
Ireland .....	107
Malta .....	74

*Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Ireland, Japan, Spain and Uganda were elected non-permanent members of the Security Council for a two-year term beginning on 1 January 1981 (see decision 35/311).*

51. The PRESIDENT: I congratulate the countries which have just been elected non-permanent members of the Security Council.

52. Since one seat remains to be filled in the Latin American group, we shall this afternoon proceed, in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure, to a second ballot restricted to two candidates: Costa Rica and Guyana, the two countries which were not elected but which obtained the greatest number of votes in the vote which was just taken.

*The meeting rose at 1.40 p.m.*