

**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

*Official Records**



SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
2nd meeting
held on
Thursday, 24 September 1981
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2ND MEETING

Chairman: Mr. IRUMBA (Uganda)

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Distr. GENERAL

A/SPC/36/SR.2

28 September 1981

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: FRENCH

The meeting was called to order at 3.35 p.m.

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

1. The CHAIRMAN thanked members for electing him Chairman of the Committee and paid tribute to the outgoing Chairman, Mr. Lenardo Mathias of Portugal, for the skill and impartiality with which he had guided the work of the Committee the previous year. He welcomed the representative of Vanuatu, who was taking his seat for the first time in the Committee, and looked forward to welcoming the representative of Belize in the near future.

ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIRMAN

2. Mr. AL-REYANI (Yemen) nominated Mrs. Nowotny (Austria) for the office of Vice-Chairman.

3. Mrs. Nowotny was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

4. The election of the second Vice-Chairman was postponed to the next meeting.

ELECTION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

5. Mr. PELAEZ (Peru) nominated Mr. Radoukov (Bulgaria) for the office of Rapporteur.

6. Mr. Radoukov was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.

7. Mr. ANDRESEN (Portugal) congratulated the members of the Bureau on behalf of the outgoing Chairman, Mr. Lenardo Mathias, who had been unable to attend the meeting and had requested him to thank, on his behalf, members of the Committee and the secretariat for their co-operation during the previous session.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

8. The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of members to some rules to be observed in order to make the work of the Committee more efficient. He especially urged them to be punctual, to limit their requests for additional documentation, to inscribe their names in time on the list of speakers and to observe the decisions of the General Assembly concerning the exercise of the right of reply, explanations of vote, and the submission of draft resolutions. In that connexion he recalled that the General Assembly had set 1 December as the deadline for submission to the Fifth Committee of all draft resolutions having financial implications and that a minimum period of 48 hours should be allowed between the time such draft resolutions were submitted and the time they were put to the vote. The General Assembly had again authorized the Special Political Committee to obtain transcriptions of the debates of some of its meetings; he hoped the Committee would not abuse that privilege.

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9. He then drew attention to a letter which had been addressed to him by the President of the General Assembly (A/SPC/36/1) which inter alia stated that the General Assembly would consider agenda item 32 entitled "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa", directly in plenary meeting but that organizations having a special interest in the question would be permitted to be heard by the Special Political Committee as had been the practice during previous sessions. The Assembly had also decided that the Main Committees would consider the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit which dealt with subject-matters assigned to them. In the case of the Special Political Committee the relevant report related to agenda item 67, entitled "Questions relating to information". The Committee's programme of work should therefore be flexible enough to permit the necessary adjustments to be made in order to respond to the directives of the General Assembly.

10. After consulting with members of the Bureau he would draw up a programme of work which would be submitted to the Committee when it began its substantive work in the first week of October.

The meeting rose at 4.05 p.m.