

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION
*Official Records**

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SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
2nd meeting
held on
Friday, 28 September 1979
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. EL-CHOUFI (Syrian Arab Republic)

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Distr. GENERAL
A/SPC/34/SR.2
5 October 1979
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

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

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

1. The CHAIRMAN thanked the members of the Committee for having elected him Chairman and paid tribute to the outgoing Chairman, Mr. Piza Escalante of Costa Rica, who had guided the deliberations of the Committee at the thirty-third session with ability and impartiality. He extended a welcome to the representatives of Saint Lucia, who were participating in the Committee's work for the first time.

ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIRMEN

2. Mrs. NOWOTNY (Austria) nominated Mr. Figueroa (Argentina) for the office of Vice-Chairman.

3. Mr. EL FAKI (Sudan) nominated Mr. Tubman (Liberia) for the office of the Vice-Chairman.

4. Mr. Figueroa and Mr. Tubman were elected Vice-Chairmen by acclamation.

ELECTION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

5. Mr. MUBAREZ (Yemen) nominated Mr. Cotton (New Zealand) for the office of Rapporteur.

6. Mr. Cotton was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK (A/SPC/34/1)

7. The CHAIRMAN invited the members of the Committee to observe the provisions of the rules of procedure and the recommendations set forth in annex V relating to the organization of the session, with particular reference to punctuality, documentation, conference services, the list of speakers, the submission of draft resolutions, and the right of reply. He announced that the General Assembly had decided to limit to two the number of statements in exercise of the right of reply by any delegation at any meeting, the first to be limited to 10 minutes and the second to five minutes. As in previous years, the General Assembly had authorized the Committee to receive, on specific request, transcriptions of all or part of some of its debates. He trusted that members of the Committee would avail themselves of that privilege sparingly for budgetary reasons. The General Assembly had imposed a mandatory deadline of 1 December for the submission to the Fifth Committee of all draft resolutions having financial implications and had further decided that a minimum period of 48 hours should be allowed between the submission and voting of any draft resolution involving expenditure.

8. He hoped that delegations would complete their preparatory work as soon as possible so that they would be ready to make statements when the substantive work

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began. Should any difficulties arise to impede the orderly progress of the work, the officers would consult the Committee on any remedial measures that might be required.

9. He drew attention to a letter (A/SPC/34/1) in which the President of the General Assembly had informed the Committee of the items allocated to it as well as of certain other decisions of the Assembly that would have to be taken into consideration when the Committee drew up its programme of work. As at previous sessions, the Assembly had decided that when considering agenda item 21, entitled "Question of Cyprus", it would invite the Special Political Committee to meet for the purpose of affording representatives of the Cypriot communities an opportunity to express their views; the Assembly would then resume its consideration of that item, taking into account the report of the Special Political Committee. The Assembly had also decided to consider agenda item 28, entitled "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa", directly in plenary meetings, on the understanding that organizations having a special interest in the question would be permitted a hearing by the Committee.

10. He said that, in the light of the above-mentioned decisions, the Committee would have to maintain a degree of flexibility in its schedule. It was in that spirit, and in consultation with the other officers, that he intended to draw up a tentative programme of work, which would be discussed with the various regional groups before the Committee's next meeting devoted to the organization of work. Consideration of substantive items would not begin until the second week of October.

The meeting rose at 4.15 p.m.