



General Assembly

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THIRTIETH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 15 October 1990, at 11 a.m.

President:

Mr. de MARCO

(Malta)

- The situation in Cambodia [32]
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General
 - (b) Draft resolution
- Adoption of the agenda and organization of work [8] (continued)
 - (a) Letter from the Chairman of the Second Committee
 - (b) Request for the inclusion of an item submitted by the Secretary-General
- Programme of work

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The meeting was called to order at 11.20 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 32

THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA

- (a) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/45/605)
- (b) DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/45/L.5)

The PRESIDENT: I am of the view that draft resolution A/45/L.5, which has been issued under this item, is a balanced text that duly reflects the concerns of the parties involved and underscores the urgent need for a comprehensive political solution to the situation in respect of Cambodia.

Accordingly, the draft resolution I submitted is the result of a consensus between the parties. I trust that the Assembly, too, will adopt it by consensus.

The situation in Cambodia has commanded the attention of the General Assembly and the international community for a long time now. Over the years, the countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), as well as other countries, notably Australia, have exerted tremendous efforts to find a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem. Such efforts have resulted lately in the achievement of a broad agreement on the basic outlines of a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem.

(The President)

On 20 September 1990 the Security Council adopted resolution 668 (1990) endorsing the framework agreed among the five permanent members, having taken into consideration the latest developments. The progress that has been achieved so far has inspired the ASEAN countries, in consultation with other parties concerned and the general membership of the United Nations, to work towards having the General Assembly adopt a draft resolution which is forward-looking, reflecting a spirit of co-operation and conciliation. The bitterness and the acrimony of the past should be set aside. What is important now is for all the parties concerned to be given the opportunity to proceed with further efforts to ensure the early achievement of a comprehensive political settlement.

May I note that what has been achieved so far is the result of the untiring quiet diplomacy by the parties concerned having peace in the region as the common objective.

The General Assembly, in adopting the draft resolution by consensus will, together with the Security Council, provide further impetus for the early achievement of a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian conflict.

Before we take action on the draft resolution, I wish to point out that, as part of the understanding between those directly concerned, it was agreed that there should be no debate on the item in the General Assembly. It is therefore suggested that we abide by this understanding, which is designed to permit the broadest possible support for the draft resolution. If I hear no objection, I will take it that the General Assembly agrees not to discuss the item under consideration.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/45/L.5.

(The President)

Should the draft resolution be adopted, the Secretary-General believes that it is difficult to provide, at this time, precise estimates of the resource requirements for the implementation of the draft resolution, since they will largely depend on the pace of progress in the current negotiations for a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem. It is anticipated, however, that the related requirements could be met from within the resources programme under section 3E, South-East Asia: Political and Humanitarian Affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Should these resources prove to be insufficient, proposals in that respect would be submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with established procedures.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt this draft resolution?

Draft resolution A/45/L.5 was adopted (resolution 45/3).

The PRESIDENT: The Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of item 32.

AGENDA ITEM 8 (continued)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

- (a) LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE (A/45/616)
- (b) REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ITEM SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/45/235)

The PRESIDENT: In connection with the organization of our work, we shall now address the requests contained in the letter dated 8 October 1990 from the Chairman of the Second Committee, document A/45/616, and in the note by the Secretary-General dated 12 October 1990, document A/45/235.

Unless there is an objection, I shall take it that the General Assembly agrees that, under the circumstances described in the letter from the Chairman of the

(The President)

Second Committee and the note by the Secretary-General, the provision of rule 40 of the rules of procedure, which would require a meeting of the General Committee on the question of the allocation of a sub-item and of the inclusion and allocation of an item, should be waived.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We shall first turn to the request contained in document A/45/616.

Members will recall that at its 3rd plenary meeting, held on 18 September 1990, the Assembly allocated to the Second Committee sub-item (c) of agenda item 79, entitled "Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries". The letter now before the Assembly, sets out a request:

"that the debate on agenda item 79 (c) ... should, in view of the importance of the issue, be held directly in plenary, on the understanding that appropriate action on the sub-item would be taken by the Second Committee". (A/45/616)

The request now before the Assembly involves a reconsideration of the decision taken at the 3rd plenary meeting concerning the allocation of sub-item (c) of agenda item 79. Therefore, a decision is required under rule 81 of the Assembly's rules of procedure, which reads:

"When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the General Assembly, by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the motion, after which it shall be immediately put to the vote."

(The President)

If I hear no objection, may I take it that the Assembly agrees to reconsider the question of the allocation of sub-item (c) of agenda item 79?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In light of the decision we have just taken, we may now proceed to consider the request contained in document A/45/616. According to that request, the debate on sub-item (c) of agenda item 79 would, in view of the importance of the issue, be held directly in plenary on the understanding that appropriate action on the sub-item would be taken by the Second Committee.

If I hear no objection, may I take it that the General Assembly agrees to the request contained in document A/45/616?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: As the General Assembly has agreed to the request contained in document A/45/616, I should like to inform members that the debate on sub-item (c) of agenda item 79 will be held in plenary session on 1 November in the afternoon.

We shall now consider the request contained in document A/45/235. By its resolution 43/72 of 7 December 1988 the General Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament". However, owing to a technical error, the item was omitted from the provisional agenda of the forty-fifth session contained in document A/45/150. It is therefore proposed that the item be included in the agenda of the current session. May I take it that the General Assembly decides to include the item in the agenda of the current session?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: It is further proposed that the item be allocated to the First Committee. May I take it that the Assembly decides to allocate the item to the First Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: The Chairman of the First Committee will be informed of the decisions just taken.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

The PRESIDENT: I should like to remind delegations that at the 26th plenary meeting, on Tuesday, 9 October, they were informed of the tentative programme of work for October.

I should like to inform members of one change and one addition in our tentative programme of work for October. Item 21, "Co-operation between the United

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Nations and the Organization of American States", originally scheduled for consideration tomorrow morning will be taken up instead on Thursday, 25 October, in the afternoon. On Tuesday, 23 October, in the afternoon, the Assembly will also take up item 13, "Report of the International Court of Justice".

The meeting rose at 11.35 a.m.