



# General Assembly

Seventy-second session

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## Fifth Committee

### Summary record of the 11th meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 2 November 2017, at 10 a.m.

*Chair:* Mr. Tommo Monthe . . . . . (Cameroon)  
*Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative  
and Budgetary Questions:* Mr. Ruiz Massieu

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*The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.*

**Agenda item 115: Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments**

1. **The Chair** drew the Committee's attention to rule 92 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly concerning elections by secret ballot, to paragraph 16 of General Assembly decision 34/401 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the General Assembly, and to paragraph 47 of General Assembly resolution 71/323 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

**(a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/72/101/Rev.1; A/C.5/72/4)**

2. **The Chair** drew the Committee's attention to notes by the Secretary-General referring to rules 155 and 156 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and inviting the Assembly to appoint five persons to fill the vacancies that would arise in the membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on 1 January 2018 (A/72/101/Rev.1), and communicating the names of six persons who had been nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2018 (A/C.5/72/4).

3. Since the number of candidates from the African States, the Eastern European States and the Western European and other States corresponded to the number of vacancies for those groups, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend the candidates' appointment or reappointment by acclamation.

4. *Mr. Abdallah (Chad), for the African States, Mr. Chernikov (Russian Federation), for the Eastern European States, and Mr. Terzi (Turkey) and Mr. Traystman (United States of America), for the Western European and other States, were recommended by acclamation for appointment or reappointment to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2018.*

5. **The Chair**, drawing the Committee's attention to rules 132 and 128 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, invited members to elect by secret ballot one candidate from the Latin American and Caribbean States.

6. *At the invitation of the Chair, Ms. Piché (Canada), Mr. Kovacik (Slovakia) and Mr. Wickramarachchige (Sri Lanka) acted as tellers.*

7. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	187
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	187
<i>Abstentions:</i>	2
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	185
<i>Required majority:</i>	93
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Ms. Maciel González (Paraguay)	112
Mr. Oliveira Sena (Brazil)	73

8. *Having obtained the required majority, Ms. Maciel González (Paraguay) was recommended for appointment to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2018.*

**(b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions (A/72/102/Rev.1; A/C.5/72/5)**

9. **The Chair** drew the Committee's attention to notes by the Secretary-General referring to rules 158 and 159 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and inviting the Assembly to appoint six persons to fill the vacancies that would arise in the membership of the Committee on Contributions on 1 January 2018 (A/72/102/Rev.1), and communicating the names of six persons who had been nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2018 (A/C.5/72/5).

10. Since the number of candidates from the Asia-Pacific States, the Eastern European States, the Latin American and Caribbean States and the Western European and other States did not exceed the number of vacancies for those groups, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend the candidates' appointment or reappointment by acclamation.

11. *Ms. Yoon Seongmee (Republic of Korea) and Ms. Zhang Wei (China) for the Asia-Pacific States, Mr. Kalugin (Russian Federation) for the Eastern European States, Mr. Sardinha Pinto (Brazil) for the Latin American and Caribbean States, and Mr. Holtsch (Germany) and Mr. Townley (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), for the Western European and other States, were recommended by acclamation for appointment or reappointment to the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2018.*

**(d) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission**

**(i) Appointment of members of the Commission**  
(A/72/104/Rev.1; A/C.5/72/7)

12. **The Chair** drew the Committee's attention to notes by the Secretary-General referring to articles 2 to 4 of the statute of the International Civil Service Commission and inviting the General Assembly to appoint five persons to fill the vacancies that would arise in the membership of the Commission on 1 January 2018 (A/72/104/Rev.1), and communicating the names of five persons who had been nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2018 (A/C.5/72/7).

13. Since the number of candidates from the Asia-Pacific States, the Latin American and Caribbean States, and the Western European and other States corresponded to the number of vacancies for those groups, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend the candidates' appointment or reappointment by acclamation.

14. *Mr. Kumamaru (Japan), for the Asia-Pacific States, Mr. Hermosillo (Mexico), for the Latin American and Caribbean States, and Mr. Mantovani (Italy), Mr. Mounts (United States of America) and Mr. Stöckl (Germany) for the Western European and other States, were recommended by acclamation for appointment or reappointment to the International Civil Service Commission for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2018.*

**(ii) Designation of the Vice-Chair of the Commission** (A/C.5/72/7/Add.1)

15. **The Chair** drew the Committee's attention to article 2 of the statute of the International Civil Service Commission and invited the General Assembly to designate a Vice-Chair to fill the vacancy that would arise in the membership of the Commission on 1 January 2018. In his note on the designation of the Vice-Chair of the Commission (A/C.5/72/7/Add.1), the Secretary-General communicated the name of one person nominated by his Government to serve as Vice-Chair of the Commission for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2018.

16. Since the number of candidates corresponded to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend the candidate's designation by acclamation.

17. *Mr. Mantovani (Italy) was recommended by acclamation for designation as Vice-Chair of the*

*International Civil Service Commission for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2018.*

**(e) Appointment of members of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee** (A/72/105; A/C.5/72/8)

18. **The Chair** drew the Committee's attention to notes by the Secretary-General referring to paragraphs 3, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 61/275 and inviting the Assembly to appoint two persons to fill the vacancies that would arise in the membership of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on 1 January 2018 (A/72/105), and communicating the names of two persons who had been nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2018 (A/C.5/72/8).

19. Since the number of candidates from the African States and the Western European and other States corresponded to the number of vacancies for those groups, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend the candidates' reappointment by acclamation.

20. *Mr. Quartey (Ghana), for the African States, and Ms. St. Laurent (United States of America), for the Western European and other States, were recommended by acclamation for appointment or reappointment to the Independent Audit Advisory Committee for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2018.*

**(j) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee** (A/C.5/72/9)

21. **The Chair** said that, at its 34th plenary meeting, the General Assembly, at the recommendation of the General Committee on the request by the Secretary-General (A/72/231), had decided to include in the agenda for the seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments," a sub-item entitled "Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee", and to allocate that sub-item to the Fifth Committee.

22. He drew the Committee's attention to the note by the Secretary-General referring to the Regulations, Rules and Pension Adjustment System of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, in particular article 20 and section E of annex III, and submitting the names of two persons for confirmation of reappointment by the General Assembly as ad hoc members of the Investments Committee for a one-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2018 (A/C.5/72/9).

23. *The Committee recommended by acclamation that the Assembly should confirm the reappointment of Ms. Adeosun (Nigeria) and Ms. Honda (Japan) as ad hoc members of the Investments Committee for a one-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2018.*

**(c) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors (A/72/103; A/C.5/72/6)**

24. **The Chair** drew attention to the notes by the Secretary-General inviting the General Assembly to appoint the Auditor-General, or officer holding the equivalent title, of a Member State to fill the vacancy that would arise in the membership of the Board of Auditors on 1 July 2018 (A/72/103), and informing the Assembly that the Government of Chile had nominated the Comptroller General of Chile and the Government of Sierra Leone had nominated the Auditor-General of Sierra Leone for appointment to the Board of Auditors (A/C.5/72/6).

25. After drawing the Committee's attention to rules 132 and 128 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, he invited members to elect by secret ballot one candidate to fill the vacancy.

26. *At the invitation of the Chair, Ms. Piché (Canada), Mr. Kovacik (Slovakia) and Mr. Wickramarachchige (Sri Lanka) acted as tellers.*

27. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	190
<i>Number of invalid ballots:</i>	1
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	189
<i>Abstentions:</i>	1
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	188
<i>Required majority:</i>	5
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Comptroller General of Chile	97
Auditor-General of Sierra Leone	91

28. *Having obtained the required majority, the Comptroller General of Chile was recommended for appointment to the Board of Auditors for a six-year term beginning on 1 July 2018.*

**Agenda item 133: Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (continued) (A/C.5/72/L.4)**

*Draft resolution A/C.5/72/L.4: Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors*

29. *Draft resolution A/C.5/72/L.4 was adopted.*

**Agenda item 136: Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 (continued)**

*Request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (A/72/7/Add.7 and A/72/341)*

30. **Ms. Bartsiotas** (Controller), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on the request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (A/72/341), said that the report outlined the substantive progress achieved by the Extraordinary Chambers, presented information on their continuing financial challenges, and provided estimates of resource requirements for the national and international components for the biennium 2018–2019.

31. By its resolution 71/272, the General Assembly had authorized the Secretary-General, as an exceptional measure, to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed \$11 million to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers for 2017. That amount had been based on the shortfall of pledges for the international component at the time of the Assembly's consideration of the related budget proposal. The commitment authority, combined with voluntary contributions, had been insufficient to cover the 2017 budget for the Chambers. To address the funding shortfall of about \$2 million, the Chambers had, inter alia, frozen recruitment against vacant positions, except in the case of positions that were critical for ensuring the continuation of legal proceedings.

32. The Secretary-General shared the concern expressed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions with regard to the persistent funding challenges faced by the Chambers and the need to intensify fundraising efforts to ensure the successful conclusion of their work. In that regard, although the Secretariat's close collaboration with the Principal Donors Group in New York and the Friends of the Extraordinary Chambers in raising voluntary contributions for the international and national components had resulted in renewed support from existing donors, it had not contributed to a significant broadening of the donor base.

33. The proposed budget for the Chambers for the biennium 2018–2019 had been prepared for the first time using a results-based approach, had been endorsed by the United Nations Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials Steering Committee, and would be submitted for consideration by the Group of Interested States. The resource requirements for 2018–2019 were significantly lower than in 2016–2017, owing to cost-saving measures introduced in 2017 and the expected

conclusion of the investigations related to cases 003 and 004 in 2018. At the same time, the level of voluntary contributions in 2018 was projected to be lower than in 2017.

34. In order to ensure successful fulfilment of the Chambers' mandate, the Secretary-General sought the General Assembly's approval of an appropriation for a subvention for the international component in the amount of \$10.4 million for 2018, taking into account the projected voluntary contributions of about \$8.5 million for that year. While aggressive outreach and fundraising efforts would continue, an appropriation would provide the funding necessary to meet the 2018 budgetary requirements for the Chambers, in particular by making it possible to extend staff contracts in order to ensure the completion of judicial work according to the proposed timelines.

35. **Mr. Ruiz Massieu** (Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), introducing the related report of the Advisory Committee ([A/72/7/Add.7](#)), recalled that, in its resolution [57/228 B](#), the General Assembly had approved an agreement whereby the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers would be funded by voluntary contributions from the international community and the expenses of the national component would be borne by the Government of Cambodia. Although the Extraordinary Chambers had operated on the basis of that agreement between 2005 and 2013, since 2014, the Secretary-General had been requesting subventions from the regular budget to cover shortfalls in voluntary contributions.

36. The requested subvention for 2018 would help cover the proposed requirements of \$18.9 million for the international component. While acknowledging that the practice of requesting subventions was no longer exceptional in nature, the Advisory Committee was of the view that voluntary contributions should remain the major source of funding for the Chambers and that continued reliance on subventions should be avoided. Nevertheless, in view of the projected funding shortfall for the international component for 2018 and to ensure operational continuity, the Advisory Committee recommended that the General Assembly should authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed \$8 million to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the international component for 2018. In addition, the Advisory Committee urged the Secretary-General to make every effort to increase the level of voluntary contributions and encouraged the Chambers to fulfil their mandate expeditiously.

37. **Mr. Tuy** (Cambodia) said that the Government of Cambodia had been increasing its contributions in cash and in kind to the Extraordinary Chambers since 2013 and had consistently supported requests for subventions to the international component since 2014. Given the importance of the Chambers' judicial work, his Government supported the subvention requested by the Secretary-General for 2018. In line with the level of its contributions to the Chambers since 2015, the Government would cover the full operational costs of the national component and the first six months of national staff salaries in 2018. It looked forward to receiving support from the Organization for its efforts to raise funds to cover the remaining salary payments for 2018. He thanked the European Union, the Principal Donors Group and the Group of Interested States for their support and underscored his Government's commitment to ensuring that the Chambers completed their work according to plan.

*The meeting rose at 11.45 a.m.*