



General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 November 2024

Original: English

Seventy-ninth session

Agenda item 121

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Pēteris Filipsons (Latvia)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2024, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to allocate item 121 to all the Main Committees for the purpose of discussing their working methods, as well as considering and taking action on their respective tentative programmes of work.
2. The First Committee considered the item at its 11th and 33rd meetings, on 17 October and 8 November 2024, respectively.¹
3. On 13 October, the delegations of Singapore and South Africa submitted a draft decision entitled “Information on requests for votes” ([A/C.1/79/L.4](#)).
4. At its 11th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee adopted draft decision [A/C.1/79/L.4](#) without a vote (see para. 8, draft decision I).
5. At the same meeting, on the recommendation of the delegations of Singapore and South Africa, the Committee decided that, with regard to the work of the Committee, with immediate effect at the seventy-ninth session, the identity of the Member State or States that requested a vote on specific paragraphs and/or draft resolutions as a whole must be provided by the Chair of the Committee to the Committee when requested by a Member State.
6. At the 33rd meeting, on 8 November, the Chair made a statement and introduced the provisional programme of work and timetable of the Committee for 2025.
7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted its provisional programme of work and timetable for 2025, as set out in the annex to the present report.

¹ For an account of the Committee’s discussion of the item, see [A/C.1/79/PV.11](#) and [A/C.1/79/PV.33](#).



Recommendations of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I Information on requests for votes

The General Assembly, recalling rules 87 and 127 of its rules of procedure, in which it is stated that any representative of a Member State may request a recorded vote, reaffirming the need to continue to improve the working methods of the Main Committees of the Assembly, emphasizing the importance of openness, transparency and accountability in the work of the United Nations, as well as respect for the sovereign equality of all Member States, which are crucial to building trust and confidence among Member States, and recalling the invitation by the Assembly to the Chairs of the Main Committees to draw on best practices and lessons learned with a view to improving working methods:

(a) Decides that, with regard to the work of the First Committee, the identity of the Member State or States that request a vote on specific paragraphs and/or draft resolutions as a whole must be provided by the Chair of the First Committee to the Committee when requested by a Member State;

(b) Also decides to implement the decision in paragraph (a) above with immediate effect.

Draft decision II Provisional programme of work and timetable of the First Committee for 2025

The General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee, approves the provisional programme of work and timetable of the Committee for 2025, as set out in the annex to the report of the Committee.²

² A/79/417.

Annex

Provisional programme of work and timetable of the First Committee for 2025

<i>Programme/meeting</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Number of meetings</i>
Meeting for the organization of work	Friday, 3 October	1
General debate on all disarmament and international security agenda items ^a	Monday, 6 October, to Wednesday, 15 October	8
Closure of the list of speakers for the general debate on all disarmament and international security agenda items	Tuesday, 7 October, at 6 p.m.	
Debate on the working methods of the First Committee and programme planning ^b	Thursday, 16 October	1
Thematic discussion ^b on specific subjects and introduction and consideration of all draft resolutions and decisions submitted under agenda items, including:	Friday, 17 October, to Thursday, 30 October	14
(a) Exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, including on the follow-up to the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at its previous sessions/presentation of reports		
(b) Panel discussions and exchanges with independent experts and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament		
Deadline for submission of draft resolutions and decisions under all agenda items	Wednesday, 15 October, at noon	
Closure of the list of speakers for the thematic discussion	Monday, 20 October, at 6 p.m.	
Action on all draft resolutions and decisions submitted under agenda items	Friday, 31 October, to Friday, 7 November	7

^a A rolling list of speakers will be opened about a month before the beginning of the session. Delegations are encouraged to limit their statements for the general debate to a maximum of eight minutes; statements on behalf of a group of countries should not exceed 12 minutes. The list will give priority to high-level representatives and should be shared with the Committee on a regular basis so as to increase transparency. Wide civil society participation is encouraged.

^b During thematic discussions, delegations are encouraged to limit their statements to a maximum of five minutes; statements on behalf of a group of countries should not exceed seven minutes.

<i>Week</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
29 September–3 October					3 October morning
6–10 October	6 October morning	7 October morning	8 October morning	9 October morning	10 October morning
13–17 October	13 October afternoon	14 October afternoon	15 October afternoon	16 October afternoon	17 October morning and afternoon
20–24 October	20 October ^a	21 October morning and afternoon	22 October morning	23 October morning	24 October morning and afternoon
27–31 October	27 October morning and afternoon	28 October morning and afternoon	29 October afternoon	30 October afternoon	31 October afternoon
3–7 November	3 November morning	4 November morning	5 November ^b	6 November morning and afternoon	7 November morning and afternoon

Note: The Committee will exercise flexibility on the scheduling of the meetings during the last two weeks of the session without prejudice to the decisions to be taken by the General Assembly at its eightieth session.

^a Diwali floating holiday (see resolutions [69/250](#), [70/9](#) and [77/255](#)).

^b Gurburab floating holiday (see resolutions [69/250](#), [70/9](#) and [77/255](#)).