

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

THIRTY-NINTH SESSION

*Official Records**



FIRST COMMITTEE
1st meeting
held on
Tuesday, 18 September 1984
at 5.05 p.m.
New York

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 1ST MEETING

Temporary Chairman: Mr. LUSAKA (President of the General Assembly)

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Distr. GENERAL
A/C.1/39/PV.1
19 September 1984
ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 5.05 p.m.

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: Rule 103 of the rules of procedure provides that each Main Committee shall elect a Chairman, two Vice Chairmen and a Rapporteur. These officers shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, experience and personal competence.

The elections shall be held by secret ballot unless the Committee decides otherwise in an election where only one candidate is standing. The nomination of each candidate shall be limited to one speaker, after which the Committee shall immediately proceed to the election.

Furthermore, rule 110 of the rules of procedure provides that congratulations to the officers of a Main Committee shall not be expressed except by the Chairman of the previous session or, in his absence, by a member of his delegation - after all the officers of the Committee have been elected.

This meeting has been convened to elect the Chairman of the First Committee. Are there any nominations?

Mr. TELLMAN (Norway): May I take this opportunity, Sir, to convey to you our sincere congratulations on your election to the presidency of the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly? We are confident that, with your experience and diplomatic skill, you will be able to guide the proceedings of this session with distinction and success.

The issues to be discussed in the First Committee are complex in nature and of fundamental importance for the preservation of peace and security in the world. At the same time the present international situation, regrettably, has made it even more difficult - if not less important - to achieve substantial progress in the field of international security and disarmament.

In these circumstances the role of the Chairman in guiding and inspiring the work of the First Committee will be particularly important. It is my privilege and an honour to nominate as Chairman of the First Committee Ambassador Celso Antonio de Souza e Silva of Brazil. Ambassador Souza e Silva's current diplomatic assignment is Special Representative of Brazil for Disarmament Affairs and head of the Brazilian delegation to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. He has served his country with distinction in the Ministry for External Affairs of Brazil as Chief of Staff to the Foreign Minister and later as head of

(Mr. Tellman, Norway)

the Department of International Organizations. He also has broad experience in the field of bilateral diplomacy, having served in Caracas, San Salvador and Paris and as Ambassador to Moscow.

Ambassador Souza e Silva has an equally impressive background in multilateral diplomacy. He was Minister Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations from 1967 to 1973 and alternate representative of Brazil on the Security Council from 1967 through 1979. Ambassador Souza e Silva also acquired a thorough knowledge of the proceedings of the First Committee as the delegate of Brazil to the Committee from 1979 through 1981. I should also like to emphasize his longstanding association with the work of the United Nations Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament from 1967 through 1977 as a member of the Brazilian delegation.

I feel sure that Ambassador Souza e Silva will discharge his responsibilities as Chairman of the First Committee in a most dedicated and effective way. By electing him its Chairman the Committee will benefit greatly from his dedication, his negotiating experience and his diplomatic skills. I therefore take pleasure in nominating Ambassador Souza e Silva for the post of Chairman of the First Committee.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: The representative of Norway has nominated Mr. Celso Antonio de Souza e Silva of Brazil. Since only one candidate has been presented, I propose that under rule 103 the Committee decide not to hold a secret ballot.

It was so decided.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: I therefore declare His Excellency Mr. Celso Antonio de Souza e Silva of Brazil elected Chairman of the First Committee by acclamation.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.