

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

EIGHTEENTH SESSION

Official Records



**GENERAL COMMITTEE, 158th
MEETING**

*Friday, 6 December 1963,
at 3.30 p.m.*

NEW YORK

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*Chairman: Mr. Carlos SOSA RODRIGUEZ
(Venezuela).*

**Consideration of the agenda of the eighteenth session
and allocation of items (continued)**

**REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL
ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE EIGHTEENTH
SESSION: ITEM PROPOSED BY AUSTRALIA,
CANADA, CEYLON, CYPRUS, GHANA, INDIA,
JAMAICA, MALAYSIA, NEW ZEALAND, NIGERIA,
PAKISTAN, SIERRA LEONE, TANGANYIKA, TRINI-
DAD AND TOBAGO, UGANDA AND UNITED KING-
DOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRE-
LAND (A/5640)**

1. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the request submitted by sixteen Powers for the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda of the eighteenth session entitled "Admission of new Members to the United Nations" (A/5640).

2. Sir Patrick DEAN (United Kingdom) said that the sixteen Powers had submitted their request so that Zanzibar and Kenya, which were due to become independent on 10 and 12 December 1963 respectively, could, if they applied for membership and if their applications were approved by the Security Council and the General Assembly, be admitted to the United Nations at the current session.

3. Mr. ACHKAR (Guinea) said that his delegation always regarded the admission of new Members as an important event and particularly welcomed the admission of new African Members. The African countries would, however, have liked to associate themselves with the request before the Committee and hoped that they would be given such an opportunity when the matter came before the General Assembly.

4. Mr. BINDZI (Cameroon) welcomed the sixteen-Power request, but considered the comments made by

the representative of Guinea very pertinent. The present leader of Kenya had been one of the founders of Pan Africanism and the territories under his authority offered a perfect example of a multiracial society. Kenya and Zanzibar would show other countries whose policies were not consistent with the Charter how different groups could live together in harmony.

5. Mr. Nur ELMI (Somalia) said that his delegation was grateful to the sixteen Powers for their initiative, particularly since Kenya and Zanzibar were neighbours of Somalia. It agreed with the Guinean representative's comment and would be happy to co-sponsor the relevant draft resolution at the appropriate time.

6. Mr. DIAZ CASANUEVA (Chile) said that he believed he was interpreting the feelings of all Latin American delegations in saying that it would have been a pleasure to be associated with the request before the Committee. On behalf of his own delegation he wished to support it. The admission of Zanzibar and Kenya would contribute to the achievement of the purposes of the United Nations. His delegation would contribute to the achievement of those purposes; it wished to congratulate the United Kingdom upon its efforts in helping those countries to achieve independence.

7. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) said that he supported the sixteen-Power request and looked forward to the admission of Kenya and Zanzibar.

8. Mr. THORS (Iceland) said that the Scandinavian countries took pleasure in supporting the request. The admission of Kenya and Zanzibar would be a further application of the principle of universality fundamental to the Organization.

9. The CHAIRMAN said that if there were no objections he would take it that the General Committee had decided to recommend the inclusion in the agenda of the eighteenth session of the Assembly of an additional item entitled "Admission of new Members to the United Nations".

It was so agreed.

10. The CHAIRMAN said that in the absence of objections the item would be allocated to plenary meetings of the Assembly.

It was so agreed.

**INCLUSION OF A NEW SUB-ITEM OF ITEM 61 IN
THE AGENDA OF THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION (A/
5620, A/5637)**

11. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the Secretary-General's report on an appointment to fill a vacancy in the membership of the Investments Committee (A/5620). The only action required was for the Assembly to confirm the appointment submitted by the Secretary-General. The Fifth Committee

had already considered the matter under agenda item 61 and submitted its report (A/5637).

12. In the absence of objections he would take it that the General Committee recommended the inclusion of the question "Appointment to fill a vacancy in the membership of the Investments Committee" as sub-item (f) of item 61.

It was so agreed.

Organization of the eighteenth session of the General Assembly

13. Mr. SCHURMANN (Netherlands) said that the First Committee's work had been proceeding very well. Six out of the seven items on its agenda had been dealt with and almost all the draft resolutions had been adopted by acclamation. The remaining item, "The Korean question", would be started on Monday, 9 December, and, it was hoped, would be completed by Wednesday.

14. Mr. HASEGANU (Romania) said that the Special Political Committee had completed consideration of the report of the Commissioner-General of UNRWA (item 32) two weeks before. There had then remained on its agenda the item on the South African Government's policies of apartheid (item 30), and two related items concerning the membership of the General Committee (item 81) and of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council (item 82). The Committee had been unable to take up the apartheid question until the Security Council had completed its debate on the same subject, which it had since done. The Committee had therefore decided to consider the related items 81 and 82. However, the general opinion of members of the Committee had been that discussion of those items would be pointless unless it was based on some agreement of principle on the way in which the problem should be approached. Despite all efforts, it had not proved possible to draft a text which would be acceptable to the different groups. It had therefore been decided that if no progress had been made by the following Monday morning the Committee would then return to the apartheid item, which should be finished quickly since the general debate was almost over. The Committee's remaining business should take no more than two or three meetings, so that it should complete its work by Thursday, 12 December.

15. Mr. THAJEB (Indonesia) said that the Second Committee was at present considering two draft resolutions on the question of the conversion to peaceful needs of the resources released by disarmament (item 34). Whether or not they could be merged would depend on the sponsors, but it was hoped to complete consideration of the item that afternoon. The Committee also had before it a draft resolution on the enlargement of the Economic, Social and Co-ordination Committees of the Economic and Social Council, submitted under item 12, which it would discuss during two meetings on Monday, 9 December. The only remaining item dealt with the organization of the Second Committee's work at future sessions, which should be completed that afternoon. He therefore hoped that the Committee would finish its work on Monday, 9 December, but if it did not, only one more meeting should be necessary.

16. Mr. DIAZ CASANUEVA (Chile) pointed out that the Third Committee had the biggest agenda and had had to hold the most meetings. It would unfortunately be obliged to defer until the next session the items on

freedom of information (item 46), the draft Declaration on the Right of Asylum (item 45), the draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Religious Intolerance (item 44), measures to accelerate the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms (item 41), manifestations of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance (item 42) and the draft Recommendation on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages (item 40). The Committee was at present engaged in a protracted debate on a draft resolution submitted by Romania in connexion with item 47, "Measures designed to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples". It seemed unlikely that agreement would be reached. The Committee would hold a meeting that afternoon devoted to item 79, "Designation of 1968 as International Year for Human Rights", and two more meetings on the following Monday night and Tuesday morning, 10 December. It would wish to hold two meetings on Wednesday and one on Thursday in order to complete those items.

17. Mr. ACHKAR (Guinea) said that the Fourth Committee had almost completed its work on three of the four main items on its agenda, but it was still awaiting the report of the Secretary-General on the question of Southern Rhodesia. It expected to have completed its consideration of the question of Oman and the recurrent items on its agenda by Tuesday, and should be able to take up the last major item, the report of the Trusteeship Council, on Thursday, 12 December. It hoped that, by holding one or two night meetings and one very long afternoon meeting, it would be able to finish its work in time to submit its report to the Assembly by 16 December. If the Committee had not been able to deal more expeditiously with its agenda, that was because an additional item, the question of Oman, had been assigned to it and because it had devoted several meetings to discussing the granting of hearings to petitioners and to giving hearings.

18. Mr. GREGG (Canada) said that the Fifth Committee had made good headway with its agenda. It had started its consideration of item 19 (United Nations Emergency Force: (b) Cost estimates for the maintenance of the Force) and the rate of progress would depend on how quickly the consensus of opinion could be reached. The Committee hoped to have finished its work by Friday, 13 December, and planned to hold night meetings if that became necessary.

19. Mr. RUDA (Argentina) said that the Sixth Committee was still working on item 71 (Consideration of principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations), but it hoped to be able to submit its report to the Assembly by Friday, 13 December.

20. The CHAIRMAN said that good progress had been made with the items allocated to the plenary meetings of the Assembly. The general debate on item 23 had been concluded, but the fact that no draft resolution had yet been submitted had been an obstacle to further progress. However, it was hoped to complete consideration of that item early the following week. The Assembly still had to deal with item 3 (b) (Report of the Credentials Committee), item 12 (Report of the Economic and Social Council), item 21 (Report of the Committee on arrangements for a conference for the purpose of reviewing the Charter), and item 25 (Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Improve-

ment of the Methods of Work of the General Assembly). In connexion with item 25, a report on the question of mechanical voting was expected from the Fifth Committee, on which the Assembly was expected to make a decision of principle regarding the adoption of such a system. In addition, the report on item 77 (The violation of human rights in South Viet-Nam) was expected early the following week, and the reports of the Main Committees on different items were still to be submitted to the plenary meetings of the Assembly. However, he was prepared to hold night and Saturday meetings in order to complete consideration of all items by the afternoon or evening of Tuesday, 17 December.

21. Mr. BINDZI (Cameroon) regretted that the Chairman of the Credentials Committee was not a member of the General Committee, for it would have been interesting to know how far the Credentials Committee had progressed with its work. He deplored the fact that that Committee, which usually met early in the session, was not meeting until the end of the current session, for that had prevented a number of delegations, including those of many African States, from challenging the credentials of certain other delegations. Any action of that kind would now be quite pointless, as the delegations objected to had already participated in the debates.

22. It was unfortunate that the Special Political Committee was only just beginning its debate on the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa, for it still had two other important items to consider, the question of the composition of the General Committee of the General Assembly, to which was linked the question of the equitable repre-

sentation of Member States in the chairmanships of the Main Committees, and the question of equitable representation on the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council. It was understandable that progress on the latter item might be slow because it would involve a revision of the Charter, but there was no such obstacle to progress with regard to the former, for which a resolution of the General Assembly was all that was required. When Kenya and Zanzibar were admitted to membership in the United Nations, there would be thirty-four African Member States. It was not enough for the other Member States to receive them with open arms upon their admission to the United Nations; they must be equitably represented in the different United Nations organs. He appealed to the Committee to see that that question, or at least the question of enlarging the General Committee so that it should accurately reflect the membership of the Organization, was considered at the current session. The Conference of African States at Addis Ababa had asked the representatives of African States in the United Nations to press for the specific representation of Africa. He trusted that his appeal would not go unheeded.

23. The CHAIRMAN said that he and the Chairman of the Special Political Committee had made every effort to ensure that the question of the composition of the General Committee (item 81) was resolved at the current session. However, it was necessary to await the outcome of the negotiations now under way in order to have a sound basis for the consideration of the item. The Cameroonian representative could rest assured that every effort would be made to solve that very important question before the end of the session.

The meeting rose at 4.30 p.m.