

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION

Official Records



**THIRD COMMITTEE, 1822nd
MEETING**

Friday, 24 September 1971,
at 4.15 p.m.

NEW YORK

Chairman: Mrs. Helvi SIPILÄ (Finland).

Statement by the Chairman

1. The CHAIRMAN expressed thanks for the confidence which Governments had shown in her country and in her personally in electing her Chairman of the Committee. She accepted that honour in all modesty, since she knew that little could be done to further the common cause of the Committee without the co-operation of all members.

2. In discharging their duties, members, besides bearing in mind the fact that they were representatives of their countries, should remember that if the many items on the agenda were to be dealt with successfully, a broad unity and a determined spirit of co-operation would be necessary. It had been said that the best way of solving the problems of the world was to look at them through other eyes. If that was true, by looking through other eyes in the Committee it would be seen that those problems appeared very different depending on whether they were viewed from countries situated in different geographical regions, from industrialized or agricultural countries, from countries with a largely rural or largely urban population, from countries with a higher *per capita* income or countries where the *per capita* income was one hundredth of that earned in one of the rich countries, from countries with a high level of education or from countries where the majority of the population was illiterate. Those were merely examples, but they sufficed to show that when needs differed there could not be a single solution for all problems. Consequently, it was essential to establish priorities, always bearing in mind the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, which must guide the work of the Committee in the days to come.

Election of the Vice-Chairman

3. The CHAIRMAN announced that the meeting would be suspended for consultations.

The meeting was suspended at 4.25 p.m. and resumed at 4.35 p.m.

4. Mr. AKRAM (Pakistan) nominated Mr. Mahmassani (Lebanon) as Vice-Chairman.

5. Mr. BERK (Turkey), Mr. ARVESEN (Norway), Mr. MANI (India) and Mrs. BARISH (Costa Rica) seconded the nomination.

Mr. Mahmassani (Lebanon) was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

6. Mr. MAHMASSANI (Lebanon) promised the Chairman his whole-hearted support and co-operation and thanked the Committee for the confidence which it had placed in him.

Election of the Rapporteur

7. Mr. GANDA (Sierra Leone) nominated Mr. Moussa (Egypt) as Rapporteur.

8. Mr. CALOVSKI (Yugoslavia) seconded the nomination of Mr. Moussa as Rapporteur and outlined his qualifications for that office.

9. Mr. MANI (India) and Mr. VAN WALSUM (Netherlands), referring to the proposal made by the Special Committee on the Rationalization of the Procedures and Organization of the General Assembly that rule 105 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly should be amended to limit to one speaker the nomination of each candidate, said that since the report of that Committee had not yet been adopted by the General Assembly, they wished to take the opportunity, which might well be the last, to join those who seconded the nomination of Mr. Moussa.

10. Mr. DAES (Greece), Mr. BABAA (Libyan Arab Republic), Mr. ESCOREL (Brazil), Mr. PAPADEMAS (Cyprus), Mr. STILLMAN (United States of America), Mr. LEHTIHET (Algeria), Mr. NENEMAN (Poland), Mr. BOURGOIN (France), Mr. NASSER-ZIAYEE (Afghanistan), and Miss SOLESBY (United Kingdom) also seconded the nomination of Mr. Moussa.

Mr. Moussa (Egypt) was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.

11. Mr. MOUSSA (Egypt), Rapporteur, expressed his gratitude for the confidence which the Committee had placed in him and thanked the members who had expressed support for his election. The Third Committee was an extremely active body and dealt with matters which were of the highest importance for the future of mankind. The year 1971 was International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the first year of the Second United Nations Development Decade. It was therefore essential that at the current session the prestige which the Committee had already acquired should be maintained and even enhanced—a goal to which he would devote all his energy.

Welcome to new Member States

12. Mr. MANI (India) welcomed the representatives of the new States Members of the United Nations, Bahrain, Bhutan and Qatar.

13. The CHAIRMAN welcomed the representatives of the new Member States to the Committee and asked them, like their colleagues, always to bear in mind the fact that the social, humanitarian and cultural nature of the items dealt with by the Third Committee, made it more closely

concerned with the fundamental character of mankind than any other Committee.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.