

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION

Official Records



**THIRD COMMITTEE, 1740th
MEETING**

Friday, 25 September 1970,
at 3.30 p.m.

NEW YORK

Chairman: Miss Maria GROZA (Romania).

*Organization of work (continued) (A/C.3/620,
A/C.3/L.1762, A/C.3/L.1763)*

1. Mr. VAN WALSUM (Netherlands) said that he was surprised that so many delegations had asked him not to press his proposed amendment to the order of consideration of items proposed by the representative of Pakistan (A/C.3/L.1763), an amendment which would have consisted merely in reversing the order of items 46 and 47, both of which enjoyed the highest priority and were in any case consecutive. He repeated that his country's authorities attached fundamental importance to item 47, on human rights in armed conflicts, but would like to have more time to study the Secretary-General's report (A/8052). However, in view of the problems which had arisen as a result of his initiative, and taking into consideration the fact that he felt his delegation had now underlined sufficiently the importance which many delegations attached to item 46, he had decided not to make a formal proposal.

2. Mr. RYBAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, in view of the comments by the Netherlands representative, he did not consider it necessary for his own delegation to submit an amendment.

3. Mr. MANI (India) said that all the items on the agenda were equally important and deserved due consideration. Nevertheless, he would have preferred high priority to be assigned to the questions relating to social progress and development. Although his delegation had had a plan of its own regarding the order of consideration of items, it had decided in a spirit of conciliation to support the proposal of the representative of Pakistan.

4. The CHAIRMAN said that, if there were no objections, she would take it that the Committee adopted the proposal concerning the order of consideration of items submitted by Pakistan (A/C.3/L.1763), as orally revised by the representative of that country (see 1739th meeting, para. 15).

The proposal, as orally revised, was adopted without objection.

5. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee would hold approximately eighty meetings during the current session. She therefore suggested that the following number of meetings should be provisionally allocated for consideration of the various items: item 55, seven meetings; items 53 and 60, eleven; item 47, seven; item 46, seven; item 50, four; item 49, four; item 12, seven; item 52, three; item 48, four;

item 54, seven; item 51, seven; item 56, four; item 58, four; item 59, one; and item 57, three.

6. In connexion with item 57, she drew attention to paragraph 9 of document A/C.3/L.1762, which stated that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had expressed the hope that the Committee might find it convenient to consider his report during the week beginning 16 November 1970. She also pointed out that paragraph 3 of the same document suggested that the Committee might wish to complete its work by 11 December 1970.

7. If there were no objections, she would take it that the Committee agreed to the number of meetings provisionally allocated to the various items, as also to the suggestions set forth in document A/C.3/L.1762.

It was so decided.¹

8. Mr. WALLOT (Central African Republic) said that he feared that, in the allocation of the Committee's time, not enough attention had been paid to the urgency of the problem of refugees, since only three meetings had been set aside for item 57. While it agreed that the other important questions on the agenda should be given the most careful consideration, his delegation would prefer four meetings to be devoted to that item.

9. Mr. RYBAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) emphasized that his delegation attached great importance to item 49, concerning the measures to be taken against nazism and racial intolerance, and item 50 on the question of the punishment of war criminals and of persons who had committed crimes against humanity. On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, those matters deserved greater attention than item 46, concerning the creation of the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, yet each had been allocated only half the amount of time devoted to item 46. With a view to rectifying such an obvious lack of balance, he suggested that two more meetings should be allocated to item 49, at the expense of the time devoted to item 46, and that a further two or three meetings should be set aside for item 50, with a corresponding reduction in the number of meetings allocated to item 12.

10. Mr. MAHMASSANI (Lebanon) said that his delegation had reservations regarding the allocation of items to the Third Committee. It should be borne in mind that the General Assembly might also place on the Committee's agenda the item relating to the report of the Special

¹ The programme of work adopted by the Committee was subsequently circulated as document A/C.3/621.

Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories and that some meetings would be required for its consideration.

11. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the allocation of meetings that she had announced earlier did not constitute a rigid schedule. Rather, it was a rough programme of work which in practice would depend on the length of the debate on each item.

12. Mr. WYZNER (Poland) asked that, just as the allocation of meetings had been announced, the Secretariat should give a rough indication of the date on which each item was to be considered; that would enable delegations to prepare their work better.

13. Mr. PAOLINI (France) supported the Polish representative's suggestion. He fully agreed with the allocation of meetings announced by the Chairman; in his opinion, that arrangement was in perfect harmony with the importance of the items on the agenda and he urged the Committee to do everything possible to keep to that schedule.

14. Mr. AKRAM (Pakistan) thanked the Netherlands representative for the spirit of conciliation he had displayed in not pressing his amendment to the Pakistan proposal.

15. Mr. SCHREIBER (Director Division of Human Rights) said that document A/7921, concerning item 55, on youth, had already been circulated. In connexion with that item, the Director of the Social Development Division would refer to the question of the participation of youth in national development, a subject on which there were no basic documents.

16. A seminar on the role of youth in the promotion and protection of human rights had been held at Belgrade in June 1970. It had not yet been possible to issue the report of the seminar² in more than one of the working languages of the Organization. With the agreement of the Chairman, the Secretariat intended to circulate the conclusions set forth in the report in all the working languages³ for the information of the members of the Committee.

The meeting rose at 4 p.m.

² Document ST/TAO/HR/39.

³ Subsequently circulated as document A/C.3/L.1764.