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General Assembly

FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

Official Records

FIFTH COMMITTEE
51st meeting
held on
Friday, 1 December 1989
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 51st MEETING

Chairman: Mr. EL-MASRI (Syrian Arab Republic)

later: Mr. VAHER (Canada)

Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Buduetarv Questions: Mr. MSELLE

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The meeting was called to order at 3.25 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 1231 PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1990-1991 (continued)

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/44/L.24/Rev.2 concerning agenda item 82 (continued) (A/C.5/44/39)

1. Mr. HILLEL (Israel) said that for unforeseeable reasons his delegation had been absent during the decision on the programme budge implication8 of draft resolution A/C.2/44/L.24/Rev.2 (A/C.5/44/39). If it ht been present, it would have opposed the decision.

AGENDA ITEM 171 APPOINTMENTS TO FILL VACANCIES IN SUBSIDIARY ORGANS AND OTHER APPOINTMENT!?

(b) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTION8 (A/44/102, A/C.5/44/31)

2. The CHAIRMAN raid that the General Assembly needed to appoint six persons to fill vacancies that would arise in the membership of the Committee on Contribution6 when the terms of office of Mr. Bagbeni Adeito Nzengeya (Zaire), Mr, Carlos Antonio Bivero García (Venezuela), Mr. Peter Gregg (Australia), Mr, Atilio Norberto Molteni (Argentina), Mr, Dimitri Rallis (Greece) and Mr, Omar Sirry (Egypt) expired on 31 December 1989. Thr Secretary-General had oommuniaated the names of six persons who had boon nominated by their respective Governments and approved as candidates by their respective regional groups. As the number of candidate8 corresponded to the number of vacancies, ho would take it that the Fifth Committee wished to dispense with the secret ballot,

3. It was so decided.

4, The CHAIRMAN raid that, if ho hoard no objection, ho would take it that the Committee wished to rrcommsnd by acclamation the appointment of Mr, Bagbeni Adeito Nzengeya (Zaire), Mr. Sergio Chaparro Ruíz (Chile), Mr. Peter Gregg (Australia), Mr. Atilio Norborto Molteni (Argentina), Mr, Mohamed Mahmoud Ould El Qhaouth (Mauritania) and Mr. Dimitri Rallis (Greece) as members of the Committee on Contributiona for three-year terms of office beginning on 1 January 1990,

5. It was so decided.

(c) APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS (A/44/103, A/C.5/44/32)

6. Mr. AL-KHALIDI (Jordan) said that, acting on inrtructianr from its Government and in order to facilitate the Committee's work, his delegation withdrew its candidate in favour of the candidate of the Philippines, It would resubmit a candidate for a future vacancy on the Board of Auditors and it hoped that all delegations would then support that candidate. It thanked all those delegations which hrd supported the Jordanian candidate on the present occasion.

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7. Mr. LIBAS (Philippines) extended the appreciation of the Government and delegation of the Philippines to the Government and delegation of Jordan for the spirit of co-operation and solidarity which it had demonstrated by withdrawing its candidate in fsvour of the Philippine candidate. His delegation thanked those States which had supported thr Philippine candidate and the Asian Group for endorsing him,

8. The CHAIRMAN said that the General Assembly needed to appoint the Auditor-General, or officer holding the equivalent title, of a Member State to a position on tho Board of Auditors which would fall vacant an 1 July 1990, since the term of office of tho Chairman of the Commission of Audit of thr Philippines would expire on 30 June 1990, The Government of the Philippines had nominated th8 Chairman of the Commission of Audit for reappointment to tho Board of Auditors. A8 there was only onr candidate for the vacancy, ha would take it that the Committee wished to dispense with tho secret ballot,

9. It was so decided.

10. The CHAIRMAN raid that if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to recommend by acclamation the appointment of thr Chairman of the Commission of Audit of tha Philippine8 to the Board of Auditors for a term of office beginning on 1 July 1990 and ending on 30 June 1993.

11. It was so decided.

(d) CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE (A/44/1,04, A/C.5/44/22)

12, The CHAIRMAN said that, in doaumont A/C.5/44/22, the Secretary-General submitted for confirmation by the General Assembly the reappointment of Mr, Yves Oltramare (Switzerland), Mr, Emmanuel No5 Omaboo (Ghana) and Mr. Juergen Reimnitz (Federal Republic of Germany) as member8 of the Investments Committee for three-year terms of office beginning on 1 January 1990. If he heard no objection, he would tako it that the Fifth Committee wished to recommend confirmation of those appointment8 by acclamation,

13. It was so decided.

(e) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL (A/44/105, A/C.5/44/33)

14. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the General Assembly needed to appoint two persons to fill vacancies that would arise in the membership of the Administrative Tribunal on 1 January 1990, The Secretary-General had indicated that Mr, Jerome Ackerman (United States of America) and Mr, Arnold Wilfred Geoffrey Kean (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) had bean nominated by their respective Government8 for reappointment. Since the number of candidate8 corresponded to the number of vacancies, he would take it that the Committee wished to dispense with the secret ballot.

15. It was so decided.

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16. The CHAIRMAN said that, if there war no objection, ho would take it that the Committee wished to recommend the reappointment of those candidates for three-year terms of office beginning on 1 January 1990.

17. It was so decided.

(a) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS (A/44/101 and Add.2, A/C.5/44/30)

18. The CHAIRMAN said that, as indicated in document A/44/101/Add.2, Mr. Ferguson Iheme (Nigeria) had resigned from membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The General Assembly would therefore be required to appoint a replacement to serve for the unexpired portion of his term of office, until 31 December 1991. In document A/C.5/44/30 the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly that the Government of Nigeria had nominated Mr, Lawrence Agubuau to fill the unexpired portion of thr term of office of Mr, Iheme. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Fifth Committee wished to recommend by acclamation the appointment of Mr. Lawrence Agubuzu to membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a two-year trrm of office beginning on 1 January 1990.

19. It was so decided.

20. The CHAIRMAN said that the General Assembly needed to appoint six persons to fill vacancies which would arise in the membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions with the expiry of the term8 of office of six of its members on 31 December 1989. In document A/C.5/44/30 the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly that seven persons had been nominated by their respective Governments. The number of candidate8 from the Group of Asian States and the Group of Latin American Stat88 corresponded to the number of vacancies for those Groups. If he heard no objection, therefore, he would take St that the Committee wished to recommend by acclamation the appointment of Mr, Carlos Casap (Bolivia), Mr. Yogesh Kumar Gupta (India), Mr. Tadanori Inomata (Japan), and Mr. Yang Hushan (China) to membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for three-year terms of office beginning on 1 January 1990.

21. It was so decided.

22. The CHAIRMAN said that, as there were three candidates for the two vacancies for the Group of Western European and Other States, the Committee would hold a secret ballot.

23. At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Shitakha (Kenya), Mr. Abraszewski (Poland) and Mrs. Berenguer (Brazil) acted as tellers.

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24. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 4.10 p.m. and resumed at 4.55 p.m.

Number of ballot papers:	143
Invalid ballots:	2
Number of valid ballots:	145
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	145
Required majority:	73
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Michel Brochard	76
Mr. Ulrich Kalbitzer	93
Ms. Irmeli Mustonen	101

25. Ms. Mustonen (Finland) and Mr. Kalbitzer (Federal Republic of Germany) having obtained the required majority, the Committee recommended their appointment as members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for three-year terms of office beginning on 1 January 1990.

(f) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (A/44/186 and Add.1 and 2; A/C.5/44/34)

26. The CHAIRMAN said it was necessary for the General Assembly to appoint five persons to fill vacancies in the membership of the International Civil Service Commission which would arise on 31 December 1989. In addition, one person must be appointed to fill the unexpired portion of the term of office of Mr. Karel Houska (Czechoslovakia), whose resignation was reported in document A/44/106/Add.2. The number of candidates for the Group of Asian States and the Group of Latin American States corresponded to the number of vacancies for those Groups. If he heard no objection, therefore, he would take it that the Committee wished to recommend by acclamation the appointment of Mr. Ku Tashiro (Japan) and Mt. Antonio Fonseca Pimentel (Brazil) for four-year terms of office beginning on 1 January 1990.

27. It was so decided.

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28. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the Government of Czechoslovakia had recommended Mr. Ladislav Smid for appointment to serve the unexpired portion of the term of office of Mr. Karel Houska. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to recommend by acclamation the appointment of Mr. Ladislav Smid (Czechoslovakia) for a one-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1990.

29. It was so decided.

30. The CHAIRMAN said that three vacancies needed to be filled by candidates from the Group of Western European and Other States. On the basis of consultations, the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, suggested that the Fifth Committee should recommend the appointment of Mr. Michel Jean Bardoux (France), Ms. Claudia Cooley (United States of America) and Mr. Alexis Stephanou (Greece). In addition, the delegation of the United Kingdom had nominated Mr. Anthony Mango. The Committee must therefore proceed to a secret ballot.

31. Mr. KINCHEN (United Kingdom) remarked that, as on previous occasions when the number of candidates for appointment had exceeded the number of places available, the Secretary-General was suggesting the re-election of outgoing members of the Commission. His delegation had noted the comments by some executive heads on the need for continuity in the membership of the International Civil Service Commission. He felt that continuity was ensured by the retirement of a minority of the members of the Commission every year and was grateful to the Chairman for proposing a procedure whereby the Fifth Committee could select the candidates of its choice.

32. At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Shitakha (Kenya), Mr. Abraszewski (Poland). Mrs. Berenuuer (Brazil) and Mr. Al-Ayyar (Kuwait) acted as tellers.

33. Mr. Vaher (Canada) took the Chair.

34. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meetina was suspended at 5.25 p.m. and resumed at 6 p.m.

Number of ballot papers:	150
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	150
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	149
Required majority:	75

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Number of votes obtained:

Mr, Michel Jean Bardoux	100
Ms, Claudia Cooley	105
Mr, Anthony Mango	61
Mr. Alexis Stephanou	111

35. Mr. Stephanou (Greece), Mr. Bardoux (France) and Ms. Cooley (United States of America) having obtained the required majority, the Committee decided to recommend their appointment as members of the International Civil Service Commission for four-year terms of office beginning on 1 January 1990.

AGENDA ITEM 1591 FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER GROUP I# CENTRAL AMERICA (continued) (A/44/246/Add.1 and Add.2)

36. Mrs. SERRANO (Nicaragua) said that the item under consideration was enormously important both for Central America and for the United Nations itself. The crisis in Central America, which stemmed from social and ● aoaomia injustice dating back to the very foundation of societies and nation States, war now taking on very serious political and military dimensions. There war a clear need tO carry out the agreements reached by the Central American Presidents, in particular those relating to the demobilization of the counter-revolutionary forcer which had been assisting Nicaragua for nearly a decade, the introduction of an agreed cease-fire and immediate, effective and substantive negotiations between the Government Of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Martí pare la Liberacíon Nacional (FMLN). If more rapid action had been taken, it might have been possible to avoid many of the recent painful events.

37. As far as her country was concerned, United Nation8 involvement in the search for a solution to the Central American crisis had always been a priority. Accordingly, it unreservedly endorsed the establishment of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA), and of the International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV) and the United Nations Observer Mission for the Verification of the Electoral Process in Nicaragua (ONUVEN). Given the urgency of the situation, she urged the Committee to vote unanimously in support of ONUCA.

The meeting rose at 6.20 p.m.