



Monday, 31 December 1979,
 at 11.50 a.m.

Official Records

NEW YORK

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<i>Abstentions:</i>	3
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	140
<i>Required majority:</i>	94
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Cuba	78
Colombia	62

President: Mr. Salim Ahmed SALIM
 (United Republic of Tanzania)

AGENDA ITEM 15

**Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs (*con-*
tinued):**

**(a) Election of five non-permanent members of the
 Security Council**

1. The PRESIDENT: This morning the Assembly will continue balloting for the election of one non-permanent member of the Security Council from the group of Latin American States, for a two-year term beginning on 1 January 1980. As I stated on Saturday, 29 December [116th meeting], we shall continue the balloting as long as is necessary. I sincerely hope that members have reflected seriously on the problem in order to help the Assembly to discharge its responsibility.

2. As members are aware, during 15 plenary meetings since 26 October 1979 the Assembly has held 139 ballots which have proved to be inconclusive. The Assembly will now proceed to the one hundred and fortieth ballot, the first of a series of three restricted ballots, in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure. This balloting is restricted to the two candidates that have obtained the largest number of votes, namely Cuba and Colombia. The ballot papers are now being distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

3. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 12 noon and resumed at 12.05 p.m.

4. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	143
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0

5. The PRESIDENT: As neither of the two countries obtained the required two-thirds majority, the General Assembly will continue the voting and will hold a second restricted ballot. As in the last ballot, the only countries whose names may be included in the ballot papers are Cuba and Colombia. Any papers containing the names of other countries will be declared invalid. The ballot papers will now be distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

6. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 12.30 p.m. and resumed at 12.40 p.m.

7. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	146
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	146
<i>Abstentions:</i>	2
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	144
<i>Required majority:</i>	96
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Cuba	81
Colombia	63

8. The PRESIDENT: As neither of the countries obtained the required two-thirds majority, the General Assembly will continue the voting and will hold a third restricted ballot. As in the last ballot, the only countries whose names may be included in the ballot papers are Cuba and Colombia. Any papers containing the names of other countries will be declared invalid. The ballot papers will now be distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

9. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 12.50 p.m. and resumed at 1 p.m.

10. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	146
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	146
<i>Abstentions:</i>	2
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	144
<i>Required majority:</i>	96
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Cuba	83
Colombia	61

11. The PRESIDENT: Since the third restricted ballot did not produce a candidate with the required two-thirds majority, the General Assembly will now proceed to a series of three unrestricted ballots in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure.

12. In these unrestricted ballots, any member State from the group of Latin American States may be a candidate for election except, of course, Bolivia, which is about to vacate its seat, and Jamaica, which is already a member of the Council. I would inform the Assembly that in view of the lateness of the hour we shall hold only one unrestricted ballot at this meeting, and, if it proves inconclusive, we shall continue the balloting this afternoon. The ballot papers will now be distributed.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mardovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Çelikol (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

13. The PRESIDENT: I propose now to suspend the meeting while the ballots are being counted.

The meeting was suspended at 1.05 p.m. and resumed at 1.15 p.m.

14. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	145
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	145
<i>Abstentions:</i>	2

Number of members voting: 143

Required majority: 96

Number of votes obtained:

Cuba 79

Colombia 63

Mexico 1

15. The PRESIDENT: Since the first unrestricted ballot has proved inconclusive, we shall proceed this afternoon to the second in this series of unrestricted ballots.

16. The representative of India wishes to speak on a point of order. I now call upon him.

17. Mr. B. C. MISHRA (India): Mr. President, I did not want to interrupt the process of balloting, but now that you are ready to adjourn this meeting, and for the sake of the good conduct of business this afternoon, I should like to inform you and the representatives present here that we are engaged in informal consultations on a proposal to be made this afternoon after the balloting has been concluded—if it seems necessary to make such a proposal.

18. Members will recall that on Friday afternoon [115th meeting], when I spoke on the Austrian proposal, I indicated that there were five options open to this Assembly and that four of those options depended upon the agreement of the candidates and the regional group concerned. Unfortunately, none of those four options has been exercised. Now we are left with either continuing to ballot beyond 31 December 1979 or trying some other method of unfreezing the situation.

19. I should like to inform representatives that we are now working informally on a proposal to suspend the operation of paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 1991 A (XVIII) in order to throw open the election to all Member States of the United Nations that are eligible for election under the Charter.

20. The PRESIDENT: I call upon the representative of Saint Lucia on a point of order.

21. Mr. AUGUSTE (Saint Lucia): The group of Latin American States desires through its Chairman to advise the General Assembly that if the representative of India submits the proposal to which he has just referred, the group shall wish to make a statement of principle in respect of that proposal—at a time convenient to you, Mr. President, and to the Assembly.

The meeting rose at 1.25 p.m.