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PROVISIONAL VERBAVIM RECORD OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 16 December 1985, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. DE PINIÉS (Spain)

Mr. MAKEKA (Vice-President) (Lesotho)

- Effects of atomic radiation: report of the Special Political Committee: [74]
 - Report of the Special Committee to investigate Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the population of the occupied territories: [75]
 - (a) Report of the Special Political Committee
 - (b) Report of the Fifth Committee
 - International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space: report of the Special Political Committee: [76]
 - Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects: report of the Special Political Committee: [77]
 - Questions relating to information: report of the Special Political Committee: [78]
- /...

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the Official Records of the General Assembly.

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- United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East: [79]
 - (a) Report of the Special Political Committee
 - (b) Report of the Fifth Committee
- International co-operation to avert new flows of refugees: [80]
 - (a) Report of the Special Political Committee
 - (b) Report of the Fifth Committee
- Israel's decision to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea: report of the Special Political Committee: [81]
- Question of the Malagasy Islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India: report of the Special Political Committee: [82]
- Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations: report of the Special Political Committee: [83]
- The situation in the Middle East: [38] (continued)
 - (a) Reports of the Secretary-General
 - (b) Draft resolutions
- Programme of work

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

AGENDA ITEMS 74 TO 83

EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/40/806)

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE POPULATION OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

(a) REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/40/890)

(b) REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/40/972)

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/40/1023)

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/40/807)

QUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/40/1024)

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

(a) REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/40/921)

(b) REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/40/975)

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO AVERT NEW FLOWS OF REFUGEES

(a) REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/40/808)

(b) REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/40/956)

ISRAEL'S DECISION TO BUILD A CANAL LINKING THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA TO THE DEAD SEA: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/40/1025)

QUESTION OF THE MALAGASY ISLANDS OF GLORIEUSES, JUAN DE NOVA, EUROPA AND BASSAS DA INDIA: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/40/992)

QUESTION OF THE COMPOSITION OF THE RELEVANT ORGANS OF THE UNITED NATIONS: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/40/809)

Mr. Gonzalez (Chile), Rapporteur of the Special Political Committee, presented the reports of that Committee (A/40/806, A/40/890, A/40/1023, A/40/807, A/40/1024, A/40/921, A/40/808, A/40/1025, A/40/992, A/40/809) and then spoke as follows:

Mr. GONZALEZ (Chile), Rapporteur of the Special Political Committee (interpretation from Spanish): This afternoon it is my honour to present 10 reports of the Special Political Committee for the consideration of the General Assembly.

The first report (A/40/806) is related to item 74, entitled "Effects of atomic radiation". The Special Political Committee examined this item at two meetings and, after hearing 21 statements in the general debate, approved without a vote the draft resolution related to this subject. It is recommended that the General Assembly approve the draft resolution contained in paragraph 7 of the report.

(Mr. Gonzalez, Rapporteur,
Special Political Committee)

The second report relates to agenda item 75, entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories" (A/40/890). The Special Political Committee devoted nine meetings to the subject and 45 delegations participated in the proceedings. In paragraph 24 of the report, there are seven draft resolutions on the item, all of which were approved by recorded votes and are recommended for approval by the General Assembly.

The third report (A/40/1023) relates to agenda item 76 entitled "International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space". The Special Political Committee devoted 10 meetings to the item and, after hearing 49 speakers in the debate, approved without a vote the draft resolution contained in paragraph 11. It is recommended that this draft resolution be approved by the General Assembly.

The next report (A/40/807) relates to agenda item 77, entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects". The Committee devoted three meetings to the item and heard 29 speakers in the general debate. The draft resolution, which was approved without a vote, appears in paragraph 6 of the report and is recommended to the General Assembly for approval.

The report of the Committee on item 78 of the agenda, entitled "Questions relating to information" is in document A/40/1024. Twelve meetings were devoted to the consideration of the item and there were 68 speakers in the debate. The two draft resolutions relating to the subject appear in paragraph 14 of the report. They were approved by recorded votes, and are recommended to the General Assembly for approval.

With regard to agenda item 79, entitled "United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East", the report of the Committee appears in document A/40/921. The item was considered at nine meetings and 35

(Mr. Gonzalez, Rapporteur,
Special Political Committee)

statements were heard in the general debate. It is recommended that the General Assembly approve the 11 draft resolutions appearing in paragraph 35 of the report. Two of the draft resolutions were approved without a vote and the others by recorded votes.

The report of the Special Political Committee on item 80 of the agenda, entitled "International co-operation to avert new flows of refugees", appears in document A/40/808. Three meetings were devoted to this item and 27 delegations participated in the debate. The draft resolution, approved without a vote, appears in paragraph 10 of the report, and it is recommended that the General Assembly approve it.

The next report relates to agenda item 81, entitled "Israel's decision to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea", which appears in document A/40/1025. The Committee devoted two meetings to the item and heard one statement. The relevant draft resolution, which was approved by recorded vote, appears in paragraph 8 of the report and it is recommended for adoption by the General Assembly.

With regard to agenda item 82, entitled "Question of the Malagasy Islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India", the report of the Committee appears in document A/40/992. For the reasons set forth in paragraph 3 of the report, the Special Political Committee recommends that the General Assembly include the item in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session.

To conclude, I should like to present the report of the Committee on agenda item 83, entitled "Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations", contained in document A/40/809. For the reasons set forth in paragraph 3 of the report, the Special Political Committee recommends that the General Assembly include this item in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall consider that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the 10 reports of the Special Political Committee.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote. The positions of delegations regarding the various recommendations of the Special Political Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members that, in paragraph 7 of its decision 34/401, the General Assembly decided that, when the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, that is, either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee.

(The President)

May I also remind members that, in accordance with decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

I now invite members to turn their attention to the 10 reports of the Special Political Committee.

The Assembly will first take up the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 74, entitled "Effects of atomic radiation" (A/40/806).

We shall now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 7 of its report. The Special Political Committee adopted that draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 40/160).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 74.

We turn next to the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 75, entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories" (A/40/890).

The Assembly will now take a decision on the seven draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 24 of its report, which I shall put to the Assembly one by one. After all the votes have been taken, representatives will be given an opportunity to explain their votes.

I invite members to turn their attention first to draft resolution A. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominica, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Grenada, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaire

Draft resolution A was adopted by 95 votes to 2, with 37 abstentions (resolution 40/161 A).*

*Subsequently the delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Somalia advised the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We now turn our attention to draft resolution B.

A separate, recorded vote has been requested on operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution B. If I hear no objection, we shall proceed accordingly.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Cameroon, El Salvador, Saint Lucia, Zaire

Operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution B was adopted by 139 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.*

*Subsequently the delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Somalia advised the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I now put to the vote draft resolution B, as a whole. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Malawi, United States of America, Zaire

Draft resolution B, as a whole, was adopted by 137 votes to 1, with 6 abstentions (resolution 40/161 B).*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We come now to draft resolution C.

A recorded vote has been requested.

*Subsequently the delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Somalia advised the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Costa Rica, Grenada, Ivory Coast, Malawi, Saint Lucia, United States of America

Draft resolution C was adopted by 138 votes to 1, with 6 abstentions (resolution 40/161 C).*

*Subsequently the delegation of Somalia advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We shall now take a decision on draft resolution D. The programme budget implications of that draft resolution are to be found in the report of the Fifth Committee (A/40/972).

Separate, recorded votes have been requested on operative paragraphs 6 and 21. If I hear no objection, we shall vote first on paragraph 6.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Grenada, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Burma, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Greece, Guatemala, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Liberia, Malawi, Nepal, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zaire

Operative paragraph 6 of draft resolution D was adopted by 85 votes to 19, with 37 abstentions.*

*Subsequently the delegation of Somalia advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I put to the vote operative paragraph 21.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Cameroon, Grenada, Ivory Coast, Nepal, Saint Lucia, United States of America, Zaire

Operative paragraph 21 of draft resolution D was adopted by 136 votes to 1, with 7 abstentions.*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now put to the vote the draft resolution D as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

*Subsequently the delegation of Somalia advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Grenada, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Swaziland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaire

Draft resolution D, as a whole, was adopted by 109 votes to 2, with 34 abstentions (resolution 40/161 D).*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now put to the vote draft resolution E. A separate, recorded vote has been requested on operative paragraph 1. If I hear no objection we will vote first on paragraph 1 of draft resolution E.

*Subsequently the delegation of Somalia advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Grenada, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Swaziland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaire

Operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution E was adopted by 110 votes to 2, with 33 abstentions.*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We shall now vote on draft resolution E as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

*Subsequently the delegation of Somalia advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Germany, Federal Republic of, Grenada, Iceland, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, Norway, Saint Lucia, Swaziland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zaire

Draft resolution E, as a whole, was adopted by 126 votes to 1, with 19 abstentions (resolution 40/161 E).*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now put to the vote draft resolution F. A recorded vote has been requested.

*Subsequently the delegation of Somalia advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Cameroon, Costa Rica, Grenada, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Malawi, Saint Lucia, Swaziland, United States of America, Zaire

Draft resolution F was adopted by 136 votes to 1, with 10 abstentions (resolution 40/161 F).*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We shall now vote on draft resolution G. A separate, recorded vote has been requested on operative paragraph 2. If I hear no objection, we shall vote first on that paragraph.

*Subsequently the delegation of Somalia advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Ejjibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominica, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaire

Operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution G was adopted by 96 votes to 2, with 45 abstentions.*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now put to the vote draft resolution G as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

*Subsequently the delegation of Somalia advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominica, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Grenada, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Swaziland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaire

Draft resolution G, as a whole, was adopted by 112 votes to 2, with 32 abstentions (resolution 40/161 G).*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We have thus concluded consideration of agenda item 75.

*Subsequently the delegation of Somalia advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

(The President)

I invite members to turn next to the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 76, entitled "International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space". That report is contained in document A/40/1023.

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 11 of its report.

The Special Political Committee adopted that draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 40/162).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I call on the representative of Colombia, who wishes to speak in explanation of vote.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ MEDINA (Colombia) (interpretation from Spanish): We are gratified at the consensus that has been achieved on the item on international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space. Colombia believes that this co-operation should be emphasized in regard to developing countries and particularly that it should be guaranteed by the appropriate legal regulation. My country, as an equatorial country, therefore hopes that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and especially its Legal Sub-Committee - which has full responsibility for the legal regulation of this valuable resource - will, in carrying out its work, bear in mind the developing countries' needs and the equatorial countries' rights.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We have concluded our consideration of agenda item 76.

We shall now consider the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 77, entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects". That report is contained in document A/40/807.

The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

(The President)

The Special Political Committee adopted that resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly also wishes to do so?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 40/163).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We have concluded our consideration of agenda item 77.

We turn next to the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 78, entitled "Questions relating to information". That report is contained in document A/40/1024.

I call on the representative of Chile on a point of order.

Mr. GONZALEZ (Chile) (interpretation from Spanish): I wish to draw attention to a discrepancy in the report of the Special Political Committee now before the Assembly, on the item on questions relating to information. The annex to draft resolution A in document A/40/1024 concerns the recommendations in the report of the Committee on Information. Now, the report of the Committee on Information had 70 paragraphs, but the relevant part of the Special Political Committee's report in document A/40/1024 stops at paragraph 59. Therefore, there is a technical error that should be corrected - that is, everything contained in the report of the Committee on Information should be included in document A/40/1024.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The necessary correction will be made in the report.

The Assembly will now take decisions on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 14 of its report in document A/40/1024.

We turn first to draft resolution A. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Grenada, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Austria, Barbados, Greece, Haiti, Ireland, New Zealand, Spain, Turkey

Draft resolution A was adopted by 121 votes to 19, with 8 abstentions (resolution 40/164 A).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I now put to the vote draft resolution B. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

- In favour:** Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe
- Against:** Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Grenada, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America
- Abstaining:** Australia, Austria, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Spain, Turkey

Draft resolution B was adopted by 122 votes to 16, with 9 abstentions (resolution 40/164 B).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I now call on the representative of Colombia, who wishes to speak in explanation of vote.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ MEDINA (Colombia) (interpretation from Spanish): We are concerned at the fact that it has not been possible to achieve a consensus on the two draft resolutions that have just been adopted. A consensus is nevertheless very necessary, indeed urgent, on questions relating to information. We believe that we should try harder next year to reach a consensus, taking into account, on the one hand, the need to strengthen the Department of Public Information's efforts

(Mr. Rodriguez Medina, Colombia)

in the field of technology and, on the other, the calls for the establishment of the so-called new information order. We believe that this new world information order should be based above all on the right to information. In such a delicate matter as the one being dealt with now, there should not be more confrontation; on the contrary, we should seek genuine, true international co-operation.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): That concludes our consideration of agenda item 78.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Assembly will now consider the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 79, entitled "United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East" (A/40/921).

The General Assembly will take decisions on the 11 draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 35 of that report.

I shall first put to the vote draft resolution A, entitled "Assistance to Palestine refugees". A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel

Draft resolution A was adopted by 149 votes to none, with 1 abstention (resolution 40/165 A).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Draft resolution B is entitled "Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East". The Special Political Committee adopted that draft resolution without a vote. May I consider that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution B was adopted (resolution 40/165 B).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Draft resolution C, entitled "Assistance to persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities", was adopted without a vote as well. May I take it that the General Assembly adopts that draft resolution?

Draft resolution C was adopted (resolution 40/165 C).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We turn next to draft resolution D, entitled "Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for Palestine refugees". A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname,

Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel

Draft resolution D was adopted by 147 votes to none, with 1 abstention (resolution 40/165 D).*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Draft resolution E is entitled "Palestine Refugees in the Gaza Strip". A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden,

*Subsequently the delegation of the Dominican Republic informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Grenada, Zaire

Draft resolution E was adopted by 146 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions (resolution 165 E).*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Draft resolution F is entitled "Resumption of the ration distribution to Palestine refugees". A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Subsequently the delegation of Greece informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Austria, Costa Rica, Grenada, Spain

Draft resolution F was adopted by 127 votes to 20, with 4 abstentions (resolution 40/165 F).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We come now to draft resolution G, entitled "Population and refugees displaced since 1967". A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Grenada, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Swaziland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaire

Draft resolution G was adopted by 127 votes to 2, with 23 abstentions (resolution 40/165 G).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We come next to draft resolution H, entitled "Revenues derived from Palestine refugee properties". A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Grenada, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Swaziland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaire

Draft resolution H was adopted by 122 votes to 2, with 26 abstentions (resolution 40/165 H).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We turn next to draft resolution I. A separate recorded vote has been requested on the seventh preambular paragraph of this draft resolution.

A recorded vote was taken.

- In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe
- Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America
- Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Barbados, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Finland, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Ivory Coast, Japan, Liberia, Malawi, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Uruguay, Zaire

The seventh preambular paragraph of draft resolution I was adopted by 101 votes to 16, with 29 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now put to the vote draft resolution I, as a whole. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaire

Draft resolution I, as a whole, was adopted by 116 votes to 2, with 33 abstentions (resolution 40/165 I).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish: Draft resolution J is entitled "Palestine refugees in the West Bank." A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Grenada, Malawi

Draft resolution J was adopted by 146 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions (resolution 40/165 J).*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish: Finally, we come to draft resolution K, "University of Jerusalem 'Al-Quds' for Palestine refugees".

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of that draft resolution is contained in document A/40/975. A recorded vote has been requested.

*Subsequently the delegation of Somalia advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Grenada

Draft resolution K was adopted by 149 votes to 2, with one abstention (resolution 40/165 K).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I call on the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, who wishes to explain his vote after the voting.

Mr. FARTAS (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) (interpretation from Arabic): My delegation voted in favour of all the draft resolutions on Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the population of the occupied Arab territories, as well as those on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

(Mr. Fartas, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

My delegation wishes to emphasize that it has reservations on any reference in those draft resolutions that may be directly or indirectly understood as including any readiness by my country to recognize Israel or its practices in the occupied Arab territories.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 79.

May I now invite members to turn their attention to the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 80, entitled "International co-operation to avert new flows of refugees" (A/40/808).

If there are no explanations of vote, we shall now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 10 of its report (A/40/808).

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of that draft resolution is contained in document A/40/956.

The Committee adopted that draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 40/166).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We have now concluded our consideration of agenda item 80.

We turn now to the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 81, entitled "Israel's decision to build a canal linking the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea" (A/40/1025).

If there are no explanations of vote before the vote, the Assembly will now proceed to take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

A recorded vote was requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

The draft resolution was adopted by 150 votes to 1 (resolution 40/167).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 81.

We shall now consider the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 82, entitled "Question of the Malagasy Islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India" (A/40/992).

If no one wishes to make an explanation of vote, the Assembly will now take a decision on the recommendation of the Special Political Committee contained in

(The President)

paragraph 4 of its report. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly should include the item entitled "Question of the Malagasy Islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India" in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session.

If I hear no objection, I shall consider that the General Assembly adopts that recommendation.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 82.

(The President)

We turn now to the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 83, entitled "Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations" (A/40/809).

In paragraph 5 of its report, the Special Political Committee recommends that the General Assembly should include in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled "Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations".

In the absence of any objection, I shall take it that the Assembly adopts that recommendation.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 83, and of all the reports of the Special Political Committee.

I thank representatives of all countries for their co-operation in the Special Political Committee and in the General Assembly in successfully concluding the work of the Special Political Committee. In this connection, I should like to mention in particular the Committee's Chairman and its officers.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Before going on to our next agenda item for this afternoon, I should like to inform the Assembly that we have just been advised that the Fifth Committee will need more time to conclude its work. I wish to raise the matter in the Assembly today, so as to facilitate the work of delegations in making the necessary arrangements. I suggest the following: instead of concluding the session tomorrow afternoon, 17 December, we prolong the session for 24 hours, until 18 December. May I take it that the General Assembly agrees to this suggestion?

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 38 (continued)

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

- (a) Reports of the Secretary-General (A/40/168, A/40/688 and Add.1, A/40/779 and Corr. 1)
- (b) Draft resolutions (A/40/L.43 to A/40/L.45)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Assembly will now resume its consideration of agenda item 38, entitled "The situation in the Middle East". May I remind representatives that the debate on this item was concluded at the 107th plenary meeting, held on Friday, 6 December 1985.

In this connection the Assembly has before it the draft resolutions contained in documents A/40/L.43 to A/40/L.45.

I first call on the representative of India, who will introduce the draft resolutions.

Mr. KRISHNAN (India): I have the honour, on behalf of the respective sponsors, to introduce for the consideration of the General Assembly the draft resolutions on agenda item 38, "The situation in the Middle East", contained in documents A/40/L.43, L.44 and L.45. Like similar draft resolutions in previous years, these draft resolutions contain the basic principles for a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the conflict in the Middle East, principles already established and approved earlier by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

Draft resolution A/40/L.43 is a comprehensive text on the situation in the Middle East. While welcoming the world-wide support extended to the just cause of the Palestinian people and the other Arab countries in their struggle against Israeli aggression and occupation, it calls for a comprehensive, just and lasting solution of the Middle East problem. It reaffirms the conviction that the question of Palestine is at the core of the conflict in the Middle East and that no comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region can be achieved without the

(Mr. Krishnan, India)

full exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable national rights and the immediate unconditional and total withdrawal of Israel from all Palestinian and other territories occupied since June 1967. The draft resolution reaffirms further that a just and comprehensive settlement cannot be achieved without the participation, on an equal footing, of all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the representative of the Palestinian people. It reaffirms the call for the convening of the International Peace Conference in the Middle East, under the auspices of the United Nations, and on the basis of relevant resolutions of the United Nations as specified in paragraph 5 of the Geneva Declaration on Palestine and endorsed by resolution 38/58 C of 13 December 1983.

Draft resolution A/40/L.44 deals with the continued occupation by Israel of the Syrian Golan Heights. While condemning Israel for its failure to comply with the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, it declares Israel's occupation of the Golan Heights an act of aggression under the provisions of Article 39 of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 3314 (XXIX). It also declares Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan Heights null and void and without legal validity and emphasizes that that decision must be rescinded. While calling upon Member States to apply certain measures with a view to isolating Israel, the draft resolution reaffirms the necessity for the total and unconditional withdrawal by Israel from all Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since June 1967, including Jerusalem, as an essential prerequisite for the establishment of a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East.

Draft resolution A/40/L.45 deals with the Holy City of Jerusalem and determines that Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and

(Mr. Krishnan, India)

administration on Jerusalem is illegal and therefore null and void and having no validity.

I have briefly enumerated the contents of the three draft resolutions before us. I do not believe that there is any need to dwell at length on each one of these texts since they are all self-explanatory.

The tragic conflict in the Middle East constitutes a grave threat not only to peace in the region but also to international peace and security. Recent months have witnessed a deterioration in the situation resulting in further acts of aggression and intimidation by Israel against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. It is important to find an early solution to this conflict, which has brought untold misery to millions of people, in particular the Palestinian people which has been unjustly denied its basic and inherent right to self-determination and nationhood.

India has consistently advocated that a just and comprehensive solution to the problems of West Asia should comprise the exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable national and human rights, including the right to establish an independent State in its homeland; the total and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the Holy City of Jerusalem; and a guarantee for all States in the region, including Palestine, to live within secure and recognized borders.

Along with other non-aligned countries, India has been active in mobilizing international support for a just, comprehensive and lasting solution of the Middle East problem on the basis of internationally recognized guidelines and principles. Support for and solidarity with our Palestinian brothers and sisters has been a notable feature of our Movement. In recent months, our efforts have been concentrated on gathering support for the early convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, under the auspices of the United Nations, as

(Mr. Krishnan, India)

proposed by the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, held in Geneva in 1983. The situation in the region does not brook any delay, and urgent preparatory measures should be undertaken so that the Conference may be convened at the earliest possible time.

I submit draft resolutions A/40/L.43, L.44 and L.45 to the General Assembly for its consideration and adoption.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The representative of the Yemen Arab Republic wishes to speak on behalf of the Arab Group, and I now call on him.

Mr. BASENDWAH (Yemen) (interpretation from Arabic): Member States of the United Nations have always supported all just and equitable aspects of the Arab cause, which is based on international legitimacy and international norms, in keeping with the objectives and ideals of the Charter of the United Nations and many General Assembly resolutions.

The international community has stressed and still stresses the marked differences between the just Arab position and that of Israel, which has always been based on policies of aggression, annexation and occupation of territories and the usurpation of the lands of others by the use of force.

As a result of the consideration of this issue, which threatens peace and security in the Middle East, we believe that Israel's policies are illegal and that Israel does not recognize the dangers inherent in them so long as it achieves its ambitions in Arab and Palestinian territories by forcing its hegemony on the region.

We, therefore, commend the draft resolutions before the Assembly in order to achieve minimum respect for security and justice in the area.

The Arab countries, for their part, have supported all peaceful initiatives in international forums aimed at achieving a just, peaceful and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. This unanimous position was clearly reflected in the Arab Peace Plan adopted at the Fez Summit Conference.

Meanwhile Israel persists in its intransigence and rejection of all peaceful initiatives. Indeed, it continues to defy the will of the international community as represented in relevant United Nations resolutions because of the unlimited support for its position, which is outside international legitimacy, from its friends which have ignored all appeals to take an objective and realistic position vis-à-vis the conflict in the Middle East, without any bias or discrimination.

(Mr. Basendwah, Yemen)

However, it is regrettable that this situation has reached the stage of wide-ranging relations with and much generosity towards only one party to the conflict, in such a way as to continue facilitating Israel's obtaining all types of weapons of mass destruction and military equipment in unlimited quantities, in addition to Israel's enjoyment of economic privileges and freedom of movement for its commercial goods. This assists in disguising all types of military, economic and moral assistance given to the Israeli aggressor, which are all covered under so-called trading assistance.

For this reason, we believe it our duty, in accordance with responsibilities entailed by membership in the United Nations, to draw attention in a draft resolution to the provision of economic and other types of assistance to Israel, a country which practises open aggression and occupation and considers that the corner-stone of its policies. This, in turn, leads to encouraging Israel to continue perpetrating acts of aggression, in addition to the historical indications of its defiance of a United Nations resolution on the imposition of a ban on South African products that are currently marketed in Europe under cover of privileges provided to Israel.

In accordance with international legitimacy and the Charter of the United Nations we expect the Member States of the United Nations to vote in favour of the draft resolutions now before the General Assembly, in support of the cause of peace and security in the world and stability in the Middle East region.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now call on those representatives who wish to explain their votes before the voting on any or all of the three draft resolutions. Representatives will also have an opportunity to explain their votes after all the votes have been taken.

(The President)

I should like to remind the Assembly that, under rule 88 of the rules of procedure, "The President shall not permit the proposer of a proposal or of an amendment to explain his vote on his own proposal or amendment".

May I also remind representatives that explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

I have on my list as additional sponsors of draft resolutions A/40/L.43, L.44 and L.45, the following countries: Afghanistan, Cuba, Mongolia and Viet Nam.

Mr. FALTZ (Luxembourg) (interpretation from French): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the 10 members of the European Economic Community, as well as Spain and Portugal, in order to make a statement on the draft resolutions before us.

Our views on the principles which should be applied to ensure peace in the Middle East are well known and have been reiterated only last week in the Assembly.

It is quite clear that we have serious reservations about the draft resolutions which deal with important aspects of a comprehensive settlement of the Israeli-Arab conflict and which are not in accord with our common stand on the principles for such a peace. Furthermore, we have stressed repeatedly the need for such resolutions to take a balanced approach. Hence we cannot accept formulations levelling criticisms against a permanent member of the Security Council for having exercised its rights in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

With regard to draft resolution A/40/L.45, which we shall support, we should like to recall the importance we attach to Security Council resolution 478 (1980).

Mr. ALBORNOZ (Ecuador) (interpretation from Spanish): It is the constant policy of Ecuador to reject the occupation of territories by force, as well as to support the search for a just and comprehensive solution to the problem of the Middle East, with the participation on an equal footing of all the parties involved, according to the relevant resolutions of the United Nations calling for the withdrawal by Israel from the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and the cessation of all hostile acts in those territories.

My delegation will vote in favour of draft resolutions A/40/L.43 and A/40/L.45, although we do not agree with the wording of certain paragraphs of draft resolution A/40/L.43. We shall abstain in the vote on draft resolution A/40/L.44 because it contains paragraphs which affect the principle of the universality of the United Nations and decisions flowing from the sovereignty of a State, decisions

(Mr. Albornoz, Ecuador)

which in no circumstances should be subordinated to any decision or urgings of third countries or international organizations.

Mr. TEO (Singapore): Before voting on draft resolutions A/40/L.43, L.44 and L.45 on the situation in the Middle East, my delegation would like to take this opportunity to urge all parties concerned to refrain from further acts of violence and help to end the killing and destruction in that troubled region. We should like to add our voice to those calling for a halt to hostilities and to make a renewed effort to seek a negotiated settlement that will include the following elements: first, withdrawal of Israel from all Arab territories occupied since 1967; secondly, self-determination and a homeland for the Palestinian people; and, thirdly, the right of all States in the region, including Israel, to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries, free from threats or acts of force, as embodied in Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973).

On the basis of the above understanding, my delegation is unable to support draft resolutions that do not recognize the legitimate rights of the State of Israel, or those that are selective and unbalanced in their condemnation, or those impinging on the sovereign right of third countries having diplomatic relations with Israel. However, we support all efforts aimed at restoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and a return to a just and durable peace in the Middle East. My delegation will accordingly vote in favour of draft resolutions A/40/L.43 and L.45, and abstain in the vote on A/40/L.44.

Mr. OKUN (United States of America): This body will once again consider a series of draft resolutions under the rubric of "The situation in the Middle East". These draft resolutions do nothing to further the cause of peace, to resolve the question of the territories now occupied by Israel or to meet the legitimate needs of the Palestinian people. In their repeated and futile condemnations, deplorings, demands and other rhetorical posturings, they do not

(Mr. Okun, United States)

advance the cause of peace. Indeed, by seeking to place the entire burden of blame on one party to the Arab-Israeli conflict, they tend to widen rather than to reconcile the differences among the parties, thus making any process of peace between Israel and its Arab neighbours even more difficult to achieve.

The United States will vote against draft resolution A/40/L.43 in its entirety because of its self-defeating polemics. We find operative paragraph 10 of that draft resolution particularly repugnant. It represents an unwarranted interference in the internal affairs and decision-making of the United States, totally outside the jurisdiction of the General Assembly. We reject, moreover, the allegation that our co-operation with and assistance to Israel threaten the security of the region and have an adverse effect on peace efforts. Strong American relations with Israel and with other States in the region are essential to the pursuit of peace. The United States will not be deterred from maintaining strong ties with Israel or any other State by the passage of mischievous, futile resolutions.

Draft resolution A/40/L.44, which declares, inter alia, that Israel is "not a peace-loving Member State" and accuses Israel of an "act of aggression," is another polemic which does not advance peace and is not consistent with Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973). While the United States supported Security Council resolution 497 (1981) concerning the Golan Heights, we reject pernicious charges of this nature, which are grossly improper and purport to engage the General Assembly in matters which, under the United Nations Charter, are expressly and necessarily reserved to the Security Council. We shall therefore vote against this draft resolution.

On draft resolution A/40/L.45, the United States, as on similar draft resolutions in the past, will abstain in the vote. It is long-standing United States policy that the status of Jerusalem can only be determined through

(Mr. Okun, United States)

negotiations among the concerned parties in the framework of an overall peace settlement. We believe that repeated resolutions on the question serve no useful purpose.

I shall end by urging again that the Members of this body not be distracted by polemical resolutions from pursuing peace between Israel and its neighbours through the process of direct negotiations. This process has yielded the only concrete steps towards peace achieved so far. This process, rather than angry, futile rhetoric, deserves support by all who genuinely seek a just and lasting settlement.

Mrs. HALLIDAY (New Zealand): New Zealand has always held that the basis for a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East has been set out in Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and in resolutions acknowledging the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to establish their own state if that is their wish. It follows that we do not recognize the validity of Israel's annexation of East Jerusalem, the extension to the Golan Heights of Israeli law, jurisdiction and administration, or the establishment of new settlements in the occupied territories.

We are always ready to support draft resolutions which reflect both the balance of principles embodied in the Security Council resolutions and the measured approach that is essential if the co-operation of all parties to the dispute is to be secured. It is regrettable that these elements are absent from two of the draft resolutions before us. For that reason in particular we consider they are not well calculated to contribute to a negotiated settlement. New Zealand will accordingly vote against them.

Mr. JOSSE (Nepal): Nepal's position on the situation in the Middle East is well known and based on three cardinal principles: first, Nepal believes that resolution of the Palestinian question, including the right of the Palestinian people to statehood, is central to a comprehensive, just and lasting solution of the Middle East problem; secondly, my country is firm in its view that none should enjoy the fruits of aggression. Hence it has consistently called for the withdrawal of Israel from all Arab territories occupied since 1967. Thirdly, it is my delegation's conviction that all States in the region, including Israel, should have the right to live within secure and internationally recognized boundaries.

As a result, we find ourselves in agreement with the spirit and thrust of the three draft resolutions - A/40/L.43, L.44 and L.45 - now before us. However, we note that there are a number of elements in the draft resolutions which, in our view, are not only extraneous but also run counter to the aforementioned three guiding principles of our Middle East policy which find reflection in Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973).

Thus, although Nepal is second to none in working for an early comprehensive solution of the Middle East problem, my delegation believes that the diplomatic isolation and economic boycott of Israel, as called for in operative paragraph 13 of draft resolution A/40/L.44, is not only likely to be unhelpful but could possibly be counter-productive as well in that regard.

Bearing in mind those considerations, we shall vote in favour of draft resolutions A/40/L.43, L.44 and L.45 which are before us, with reservations on portions that are against our policy. If separate votes are held on certain paragraphs, we shall abstain in the vote on those that we deem inappropriate.

Mr. BEIN (Israel): I am forced once again to remind the General Assembly that we are here ostensibly to vote on the situation in the Middle East. Sadly, however, there is not even one draft resolution before us that honestly attempts to address that issue.

During the debate on the situation in the Middle East, my delegation mentioned only a few of the major conflicts now raging throughout the Middle East. Instead of properly addressing those issues, the sponsors of the draft resolutions have resorted to their main strategy - averting any initiative towards a solution of the real issues or even a discussion of those issues and instead using the time allocated to the situation in the Middle East to repeat again the false accusations that dominate the debate on the question of Palestine. They also dominate the work of the Special Political Committee and the Second Committee.

The voting for resolutions dealing with the question of Palestine has already taken place. This repetition is not only a waste of money but also proves once again that the sponsors' intention is only to divert attention away from the many problems facing our region. They do not promote solutions; they block even the search for them. They do promote instability and use this body to spread hatred and false propaganda.

My delegation will, of course, vote against draft resolutions A/40/L.43, L.44 and L.45.

Mr. AL-ASHTAL (Democratic Yemen) (interpretation from Arabic): The delegation of Democratic Yemen will vote in favour of draft resolution A/40/L.43, because it contains all the elements pertaining to the situation in the Middle East, beginning with the question of Palestine and ending with the idea of holding an international peace conference.

(Mr. Al-Ashtal, Democratic Yemen)

However, in explaining my vote I wish to base myself on some of the remarks in a paper distributed by the delegation of the United States of America to many delegations in an attempt to convince them not to vote on some paragraphs contained in that draft resolution. Indeed, that is the right of the United States delegation; but we believe it is the right of other delegations to hear the opinions of others on some items in the United States paper.

The United States paper claims that draft resolution A/40/L.43 hampers negotiations for achieving a solution to the problems in the Middle East. At this point, I cannot but refer to operative paragraph 13 of that draft resolution, which:

"Reaffirms its call for the convening of an International Peace

Conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations..."

That call has not met with a positive response from the United States and has been rejected outright by Israel. We wonder how such a draft resolution can hamper negotiations, while the draft resolution in its most important operative paragraph calls for negotiations?

With reference to operative paragraph 10 - also mentioned in the United States paper - it mentions "agreements on strategic co-operation between the United States of America and Israel" and the effects of those agreements on the region as a whole. I believe that operative paragraph 10 does not condemn those agreements; it merely mentions facts. The first is that the agreements on strategic co-operation between the United States of America and Israel have indeed encouraged Israel to commit acts of aggression. That was what happened when Israeli forces bombarded the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Tunisia. Israel continues to pursue that same aggressive policy, unchanged.

As for the creation of a free trade area between the two Governments, we believe that such an agreement - although it is the right of any Government - encourages Israel not to respond to or heed the international will on negotiations and the convening of an international peace conference.

(Mr. Al-Ashtal, Democratic Yemen)

Based on those observations on the United States paper, we shall vote in favour of draft resolution A/40/L.43, and we call on all delegations to do likewise.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The General Assembly will now begin the voting process and take decisions on the three draft resolutions before it.

(The President)

We turn first to draft resolution A/40/L.43.

A separate vote has been requested on operative paragraph 10 of that draft resolution. If there is no objection, I shall take it that the Assembly agrees to that request for a separate vote.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I therefore first put to the vote operative paragraph 10 of draft resolution A/40/L.43. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ethiopia, German Democratic Republic, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Burma, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Haiti, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Liberia, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Nepal, Niger, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent

and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zaire

Operative paragraph 10 of draft resolution A/40/L.43 was adopted by 64 votes to 33, with 41 abstentions.*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I now put to the vote draft resolution A/40/L.43 as a whole. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, El Salvador, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Burma, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Finland, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan,

*Subsequently the delegation of Comoros advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour; the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany that it had intended to vote against.

Liberia, Malawi, Panama, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Uruguay, Zaire

Draft resolution A/40/L.43 as a whole was adopted by 98 votes to 19, with 31 abstentions (resolution 40/168 A).*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Assembly will now vote on draft resolution A/40/L.44. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Qatar, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Subsequently the delegation of Comoros advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Cameroon, Colombia, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Liberia, Malawi, Nepal, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Swaziland, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zaire

Draft resolution A/40/L.44 was adopted by 86 votes to 23, with 37 abstentions (resolution 40/168 B).*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I now put to the vote draft resolution A/40/L.45. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Subsequently the delegation of Barbados advised the Secretariat that it had intended to abstain.

Against: Costa Rica, Israel

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Guatemala, Liberia, Malawi, Paraguay, Swaziland, United States of America, Zaire

Draft resolution A/40/L.45 was adopted by 137 votes to 2, with 10 abstentions (resolution 40/168 C).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now call on those representatives who wish to speak in explanation of vote.

Mr. BORIO (Brazil): With regard to draft resolutions A/40/L.43 and A/40/L.44, I wish to reiterate that the Brazilian Government believes that a global solution to the situation in the Middle East must necessarily include the right of all States in the region to exist within internationally recognized boundaries.

My delegation has been insisting on the withdrawal of the occupation forces from Arab territories and on the right of the Palestinians to an autonomous and independent territory. But it also considers that the possibilities of achieving that goal should not be reduced by the diplomatic isolation of one of the parties to the conflict, even if that party has been acting in a manner incompatible with international law and with numerous resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. We strongly condemn such behaviour but, at the same time, do not want to offer the Israeli Government excuses to act, because of its isolation from the international community, in further disregard for the rules of international law and for the mutually respectful relationship among peoples. It is necessary for Israel to understand that its attitude does not lead to peace or to its own security. No action, and in particular no illegal action, will give Israel the right to live in peace if it does not respect the security and territorial integrity of its neighbours.*

*Mr. Makeka (Lesotho), Vice-President, took the Chair.

Mr. SHAKER (Egypt) (interpretation from Arabic): It was indeed natural that during the consideration at this session of the General Assembly of the situation in the Middle East, Egypt should support draft resolution A/40/L.43. That draft resolution included many principles to which Egypt strongly adheres, foremost among which are the inadmissibility of the occupation of the territory of others by force; the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the occupied Arab territories, including the Syrian Golan Heights; the condemnation of the policy of the establishment of settlements in any occupied Arab territory.

It was also natural for Egypt to support the draft resolution on Jerusalem, in document A/40/L.45.

It was natural, too, for Egypt to be among the States supporting the draft resolutions adopted by the Assembly this year on the item concerning the investigation of Israeli practices in the occupied Arab territories, including the draft resolution on the Syrian Golan Heights contained in document A/40/L.13.

Draft resolution A/40/L.44 contained, both in its preamble and in its operative part, many positive elements which Egypt has always upheld because they deal with the principles for a settlement in the Middle East. Egypt's unchanging position of principle is the confirmation of the illegitimacy of Israel's annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights and of the fact that Israel's practices in that territory and its decision to extend its jurisdiction and laws to it are illegal and hence null and void.

However, draft resolution A/40/L.44 contained elements which Egypt found difficult to approve. We therefore decided to abstain in the voting on that draft resolution.

Mr. MOYA PALENCIA (Mexico) (interpretation from Spanish): Mexico has repeatedly stated that it favours a peaceful negotiated settlement of the Middle East conflict in conformity with the principles of the United Nations and with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

A just, final settlement must take into account the interests of all the parties concerned and must duly meet the national aspirations of the Palestinian people: unless that central aspect of the conflict is resolved there can be only temporary agreements which will block any lasting solution.

The problem of the Middle East has become one of the major challenges facing the international community, as it demands collective solutions which would be in keeping with the interests of all parties concerned and which could form the basis for coexistence among the States of the region.

Mexico believes that a general framework for the solution of the Middle East conflict may be found in Security Council and General Assembly resolutions calling, inter alia, for recognition of and respect for the sovereignty, integrity and political independence of all States of the area and for their right to live in peace within secure and recognized borders, and reaffirming the right of the peoples of the region to self-determination without outside interference and, in particular, calling for respect for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

It is urgent that there be progress towards negotiations acceptable and fair to all the peoples and States of the region; it is therefore necessary for the parties concerned to take positions promoting accord on agreements. In that context it is good that for the first time the parties involved in the conflict seem to be considering the possibility of negotiating an agreement under international auspices. That would constitute progress towards normalizing political relations in the area.

(Mr. Moya Palencia, Mexico)

Mexico has always maintained that inflexibility opens the way to the use of force and is the most serious obstacle to the achievement of settlements by political and diplomatic means. Therefore, in the case of the Middle East Mexico hopes that efforts to ease recent paralysis and stagnation can result very soon in peace formulas acceptable to all. We wholeheartedly support such efforts.

Mexico is convinced that a satisfactory, lasting solution to the Middle East problem will be possible only if all parties to the conflict participate in reaching it. We therefore supported the General Assembly's convening an international conference on peace in the Middle East through our vote in favour of resolution 40/96 D only a few days ago. Nevertheless we know that that conference, if it is to be viable and constructive, must be preceded by arduous negotiations and diplomatic preparations to remove obstacles and open the way to effective political negotiations. Careful preparation would avoid the polarization and radicalization of the various positions now espoused and would enable the Conference in due course to be a clear step towards peace.

I wish finally to note that Mexico voted in favour of draft resolutions A/40/L.43, L.44 and L.45, thus reaffirming its genuine commitment to United Nations resolutions on the Middle East, despite its serious reservations on paragraphs 12, 13 and 14 of draft resolution A/40/L.44. Similarly, had there been a separate vote on paragraph 6 of draft resolution A/40/L.43, my delegation would have abstained in that vote.

Mr. IRTEMCELİK (Turkey): Turkey's position on the Arab-Israeli dispute and the question of Palestine, which we consider to be the core of that multi-faceted problem which has plagued the Middle East for an intolerably long time, has been firm and consistent and has been explained in no uncertain terms in the United Nations and elsewhere, on every relevant occasion.

(Mr. Irtemcelik, Turkey)

It is in conformity with that well known and unequivocal position that the Turkish delegation supported the draft resolutions on the situation in the Middle East just adopted by the General Assembly. However, we should like to place on record that had there been separate votes on paragraphs 8, 13 and 14 of draft resolution A/40/L.44 Turkey would have abstained, with the following considerations in mind: first, the right of veto is a prerogative accorded to the permanent members of the Security Council under the Charter. All Member States are, of course, entitled to criticize the way in which that right may be exercised by any of the permanent members. However, criticizing the manner in which the right of veto is used on any given occasion and deploring in a General Assembly resolution the use of that right are two different things. Therefore, we find it difficult to associate ourselves with the tendency to deplore the way in which that right is exercised on a particular issue.

Secondly, particularly in view of the recent developments, which, we believe, deserve encouragement, we find it difficult to reconcile paragraphs 13 and 14 of draft resolution A/40/L.44 with efforts deployed with a view to initiating the long-overdue negotiating process aimed at working out a just, lasting and comprehensive solution to the problems in question within a mutually agreeable diplomatic framework and with the participation on an equal footing of all parties concerned.

Let me add that Turkey's positive vote on paragraph 10 of draft resolution A/40/L.43 should not be taken to mean that we fully agree with its contents. We are of the view that the reference to the Agreement on the Establishment of a Free-Trade Area between the United States and Israel is an unhelpful injection in that paragraph.

Mr. SANCHEZ (Philippines): The Philippines has consistently emphasized the view that a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Middle East conflict should be achieved on the basis of the following key principles: first, withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem; second, recognition of the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to establish an independent State of Palestine; third, participation of the Palestinian people, through the Palestine Liberation Organization, in the peace negotiations; and, fourth, recognition of the right of all States in the region, including Israel, to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized boundaries, free from threats or acts of force, in conformity with Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973).

We also continue to be of the view that resolutions on the situation in the Middle East, in order that they may contribute positively to the peace efforts, should be balanced in substance and should not prejudice the sovereign rights of States to conduct their own international affairs in the way they see fit.

In the light of the foregoing, my delegation was constrained to abstain in the vote on draft resolution A/40/L.44.

By the same token, while my delegation voted in favour of draft resolution A/40/L.43, we do have reservations on the formulation of some of its provisions.

Mr. STROMHOLM (Sweden): Sweden abstained in the vote on the draft resolution contained in document A/40/L.43, as we have done on corresponding draft resolutions in previous years.

I want to put on record, however, that my Government decided to refrain from a negative vote on this year's draft only after considerable hesitation. The text suffers from a severe lack of balance. We have particularly strong reservations on operative paragraphs 10 and 11. We feel, moreover, that a couple of new elements introduced into the text this year further emphasize that bias. Should this trend

(Mr. Stromholm, Sweden)

continue in the years to come, my delegation will have great difficulties in maintaining the present vote.

We were compelled once again to cast a negative vote on the draft resolution contained in document A/40/L.44, despite our full support for the central theme of the draft resolution. We have strong objections to a number of paragraphs in that text, in particular, operative paragraphs 12 to 16. Our objections to those paragraphs relate to their substantive content as well as to the fact that they cannot be reconciled with the division of the responsibilities between the General Assembly and the Security Council as envisaged by the Charter.

Mr. IKOSIPENDARCHOS (Greece): Last week, the representative of Luxembourg expressed the views of the 10 Member States of the European Community, Spain and Portugal, on the situation in the Middle East, with which we fully agree.

My Government's position on that question is determined by our unshakable attachment to the principles enshrined in Article 2, paragraph 4, of the Charter and to the Helsinki Final Act. We maintain that Israel must withdraw from the territories occupied since 1967. We believe that the Palestinians are entitled fully to exercise their right to self-determination, including the right to create their own State. We believe that the Palestine Liberation Organization, as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, has an essential role to play in the efforts to reach a solution to the problem, efforts in which all interested parties should participate. The Greek Government supports also the right of Israel to exist within secure and internationally recognized borders. It is for those reasons that my delegation voted in favour of draft resolutions A/40/L.43, L.44 and L.45.

However, my delegation is unable to go along with certain paragraphs of draft resolutions A/40/L.44 and L.45. Had separate votes been taken, my delegation would

(Mr. Ikosipendarchos, Greece)

have abstained on operative paragraph 12 of A/40/L.43 and on operative paragraphs 8, 13 C and 13 D of A/40/L.44 and would have voted against operative paragraph 14 of A/40/L.44. Thus, my delegation dissociates itself from those paragraphs, while having voted in favour of the said draft resolutions, as a whole.

Mr. PAPAJORGJI (Albania): The Albanian delegation voted in favour of the draft resolutions on the situation in the Middle East contained in documents A/40/L.43, L.44 and L.45, expressing the full support of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania for the struggle of the Arab peoples against the imperialist Zionist aggression, reaffirming its conviction that the question of Palestine is the core of the conflict in the Middle East and that no just and lasting peace in the region will be achieved without the full exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable national rights and the immediate unconditional and total withdrawal of Israel from all the Palestinian and other Arab occupied territories.

The Albanian delegation expressed once again the position of its Government in the statements delivered during the debate in the General Assembly. However, as in the past, this time too, we have our reservations regarding some paragraphs, such as the second and fifth preambular paragraphs and operative paragraph 13 of draft resolution A/40/L.43, as well as on some documents in the resolutions adopted in the past which are included in the above-mentioned draft resolution.

Mr. FISCHER (Austria): Austria has had the opportunity to explain its position on the situation in the Middle East during the recent debate on the item. Our position is well known and has been consistent over the years.

Although we share the concern and agree with many elements expressed in the draft resolutions before us, my delegation has difficulty in supporting those which would not only aggravate the existing situation but impede the search for peace.

Austria does not believe that measures aimed at breaking relations with Israel and thus leading to its isolation would bring us any closer to a solution of the

(Mr. Fischer, Austria)

Middle East problem. Such attempts do not take account of the need of all parties to seek negotiated solutions, the very condition to find peace in that troubled region.

We cannot support any formulation which could be interpreted as impinging on the principle of universality of membership in the United Nations, a principle that Austria has consistently upheld.

It is in that context that Austria, while supporting draft resolution A/40/L.45, felt compelled to abstain in the votes on draft resolutions A/40/L.43 and A/40/L.44.

Mr. GARCIA (Peru) (interpretation from Spanish): The delegation of Peru wishes to explain its vote on draft resolutions A/40/L.44 and A/40/L.43.

My delegation abstained in the vote on A/40/L.44 because we think that it contains certain considerations and recommendations whose orientation, far from contributing to a just, comprehensive and lasting solution of the Middle East problem, is liable to prejudice efforts and possibilities of achieving such a solution within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the already adopted relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly.

We do not think that the adoption of the measures proposed in draft resolution A/40/L.44 is the best way of initiating a peace process in the region. On the contrary, what is implicit is the danger of infringing on some of the principles and norms of international law and also of a gradual increasing erosion of the authority and effectiveness of this Organization.

(Mr. Garcia, Peru)

We voted in favour of draft resolution A/40/L.43. Nevertheless, we should like to state our clear objections to the interpretation that may be given to the wording of operative paragraphs 6, 10 and 11. Bearing in mind the gravity and continuing deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, we believe that none of these paragraphs recognizes the relevance of all the peace efforts initiated in this region nor are the references made to the relations between certain States and others strictly connected to the question of Palestine as a central problem with regard to the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the need to reject and avoid the carrying out of the policies or acts that are contrary to the possibility of a definitive political settlement in the Middle East.

Finally my delegation would like to have seen explicit mention in the text of draft resolution A/40/L.43 to Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), which for my country continue to provide an acceptable and just basis for the parties involved to reach agreement.

Mr. FARTAS (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) (interpretation from Arabic): My delegation voted in favour of draft resolution A/40/L.43, one of the three draft resolutions placed before us on the situation in the Middle East. My delegation wishes to stress that it has strong reservations against anything mentioned in the draft resolution that would imply, directly or indirectly, that my country is prepared to recognize the Zionist entity or the fait accompli imposed by force of arms in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories. These reservations apply to any similar reference in any of the draft resolutions on the Middle East.

Mr. LAGORIO (Argentina) (interpretation from Spanish): The delegation of Argentina voted in favour of draft resolutions A/40/L.43, L.44 and L.45.

With regard to draft resolution A/40/L.43, the Argentine delegation abstained in the vote on operative paragraph 10 and had there been separate votes on operative paragraphs 6 and 11 the Argentine delegation would have done the same.

(Mr. Lagorio, Argentina)

With regard to the text of draft resolution A/40/L.44, our affirmative vote is based on the understanding that its essence relates to the illegal occupation of the Syrian territory of the Golan Heights. Nevertheless the Argentine delegation wishes to express its reservations about the eighth preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 9, 12, 13 and 14, because we do not consider them to be substantive aspects of Argentina's foreign policy or compatible with the objective of a comprehensive negotiated solution of the Middle East problem.

Mr. CARRASCO (Bolivia) (interpretation from Spanish): Bolivia shares with the international community the view that the situation in the Middle East and events in the area continue to pose a threat to international peace and security. Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council still remain unimplemented. Certain efforts have been made to improve the situation by means of negotiations, but little or nothing has been achieved to date.

Regarding this question, my delegation supports and will continue to support any effort aimed at bringing about a negotiated and peaceful solution of the problem of this turbulent region. Therefore we categorically reject any acquisition of territory by force of arms and consider null and void any act of annexation of territory. Nevertheless, we abstained in the vote on draft resolution A/40/L.44 because we do not agree with certain considerations in certain paragraphs since they do not contribute to a solution in the Middle East.

Once again we would urge all parties involved in the conflict in the Middle East to adopt flexible positions and take the path of peaceful settlement and conciliation.

Mr. El-FATTAL (Syrian Arab Republic) (interpretation from Arabic): The delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic had wished to join the sponsors of draft resolution A/40/L.43. However, we did not do so because of the language in operative paragraph 4, which mentions an international conference held in

(Mr. El-Fattal, Syrian Arab
Republic)

Casablanca in August 1985. We have explained our position respecting that conference in General Assembly document A/40/584. On this occasion the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic wishes to emphasize its full support of the decisions taken at the Arab Summit Conference held at Fez in September 1982.

The PRESIDENT: We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 38.

The meeting rose at 5.50 p.m.