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ENGLISH

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE TWO THOUSAND
SEVEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 27 March 1987, at 11.30 a.m.

President: Mr. DELPECH

(Argentina)

Members: Bulgaria
China
Congo
France
Germany, Federal Republic of
Ghana
Italy
Japan
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland
United States of America
Venezuela
Zambia

Mr. TSVETKOV
Mr. LI Luye
Mr. ADOUKI
Mr. BLANC
Mr. LAUTENSCHLAGER
Mr. DUMEVI
Mr. LAY
Mr. KIKUCHI
Mr. BELONOGOV
Mr. AL-SHAALI

Mr. BIRCH
Mr. WALTERS
Mr. PABON GARCIA
Mr. ZUZE

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The meeting was called to order at 11.30 a.m.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING PRESIDENT

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): As this is the first meeting of the Security Council for the month of March, I should like to pay tribute, on behalf of the Council, to the President for the month of February, His Excellency Ambassador Peter Zuze, Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations, for the great diplomatic skill with which he conducted the Council's business during February.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

DATE OF AN ELECTION TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE
(S/18760)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Members of the Security Council will have had an opportunity to study document S/18760, which explains the need for this item on our agenda. The recent death of Judge Guy Ladreit de Lacharrière on 10 March 1987 has created a vacancy on the International Court of Justice which has to be filled.

I am sure that I am expressing the sentiments of all the members of the Council in extending sincere condolences to the delegation of France on this sad occasion.

Guy Ladreit de Lacharrière held a doctorate of law from the University of Paris. His academic career included teaching at a number of prestigious institutions, as well as lecturing to The Hague Academy of International Law. During the course of an outstanding career in the service of his Government, he represented France both at sessions of United Nations organs and at conferences on

(The President)

questions of international law, such as the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. He was a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration and agent of France in several arbitration cases. He was also the author of numerous works on international questions.

Judge Ladreit de Lacharrière was a member of the International Court of Justice since 6 February 1982 and its Vice-President from February 1985.

In accordance with Article 13 of the Statute his term of office would have expired on 5 February 1991. He was a most distinguished international lawyer and diplomat, and an eminent judge.

His loss has been deeply felt by the Government and the people of France, by the International Court of Justice, and by the international community as a whole.

Under Article 14 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, the Security Council is required to fix the date for the election to fill any vacancy in the Court. Members of the Council have before them in document S/18761 the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of consultations.

May I take it that the Council is now ready to proceed to take a decision on the draft resolution?

There being no objection, it is so decided.

After consultation, it is my understanding that the Council is ready to adopt unanimously the draft resolution contained in document S/18761.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 595 (1987).

Mr. BLANC (France) (interpretation from French): Thank you, Mr. President, for what you have said about Mr. Ladreit de Lacharrière, whose loss we have just suffered. You may be assured that the condolences you expressed on your own behalf and on behalf of all the members of the Council will be transmitted through my delegation to the Government of the French Republic and to the family of Mr. de Lacharrière.

It is true, as you have said, Sir, that he was a very outstanding diplomat, a great jurist. He will be remembered very fondly by everyone who knew him. We deeply regret that he will no longer be with us.

Since this is the first time I have spoken in the Security Council, I should like to say that I was very touched by the words you spoke last week, Sir, in welcoming me to the Council on your own behalf and on behalf of all your colleagues.

In your words of welcome and in what you have said about Mr. de Lacharrière I have found appropriate reflection of your personal qualities: a sympathetic approach, intelligence and a great deal of understanding, and I thank you and all our colleagues on whose behalf you spoke.

I should also like to express gratitude to the representative of Zambia, who was President of the Council when I assumed my functions. I think that was the first visit I paid to him, and I found in him a friendly, competent and understanding colleague.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I thank the representative of France for the kind words he addressed to me.

The Security Council has thus concluded its business for this meeting.

The meeting rose at 11.45 a.m.