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ENGLISH

Forty-second session

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THIRD MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 18 September 1987, at 3 p.m.

President:

Mr. FLORIN

(German Democratic Republic)

- Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: first report of the General Committee (A/42/250 and Corr.1)

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

ITEM 8 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK: FIRST REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE (A/42/250 and Corr.1)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The Assembly will consider the report of the General Committee circulated in document A/42/250 and Corr.1. I shall refer to specific paragraphs of the report which contain recommendations for consideration by the Assembly.

The General Committee, in paragraph 2, draws the attention of the General Assembly to the provisions reproduced in annexes V, VI and VII of its rules of procedure.

May I take it that the General Assembly takes note of those provisions?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We shall now examine section II of the report, which deals with the organization of the session.

In paragraph 4, dealing with the rationalization of the work of the General Assembly, the General Committee draws our attention to recommendations 2,3,4 and 7 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations.

In connection with recommendation 3(c), in particular, the General Committee recommends to the General Assembly that the practice of not holding concurrent meetings of the Special Political and Fourth Committees should be continued during the forty-second session.

May I take it that the Assembly agrees to that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn next to paragraph 6, which relates to the closing date of the forty-second session.

(The President)

The General Committee recommends that, in view of the financial problems still being faced by the United Nations and in the context of the process of renewal and reform under way, no closing date should be decided upon at this time and that every effort should be made to curtail the duration of the forty-second session.

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): In this connection, I wish to reiterate my appeal to all the Main Committees, without exception, to start their work as soon as possible.

Regarding the schedule of meetings, referred to in paragraphs 7, 8 and 9, the General Committee recommends in paragraph 7 that meetings should start at 10 a.m. promptly both for all plenary meetings and meetings of the Main Committees during the forty-second session.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): In paragraph 8, the General Committee also recommends that, in order to avoid the late start of meetings and as a cost-saving measure, the General Assembly should waive, as it did at its forty-first session, the requirement of the presence of at least one third of the members to declare a plenary meeting open and permit the debate to proceed and at least one quarter of the members to declare a meeting of a Main Committee open and permit the debate to proceed. This recommendation is made on the understanding that such a waiver would not imply any permanent change in the relevant provisions of rules 67 and 108 of the rules of procedure.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): In this connection the General Committee, in paragraph 9, recommends to the General Assembly that delegations should be reminded of the utmost importance of punctuality in the interest of ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations.

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): In this connection, I should like to assure the Assembly that I shall be in the Chair punctually at the scheduled time, and I urge the Chairmen of the Main Committees to do the same. I sincerely hope that all delegations will make a special effort to co-operate in this regard.

We turn now to paragraphs 10 and 11, concerning the general debate.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves the recommendations contained in paragraph 10?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): In view of the very large number of names already inscribed on the list of speakers, I urge representatives to speak in the order in which their names appear on the list. Those who are unable to speak at the scheduled time will be put at the end of the list for that day.

In paragraph 11 the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to the decision taken by the Assembly at the 3rd plenary meeting of its forty-first session, held on Saturday, 20 September 1986 - namely, that the practice of expressing congratulations in the General Assembly Hall after a speech had been delivered was prohibited.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to decide that that provision should also apply during the forty-second session?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We shall now turn to paragraphs 12 and 13, regarding explanations of vote, the right of reply and the length of statements.

(The President)

In paragraph 12 the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of its decision 34/401.

May I take it that the General Assembly takes note of those provisions?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): In paragraph 13, regarding the length of statements, the General Committee draws the attention of the Assembly, as it did at the forty-first session, to rules 72 and 114 of the rules of procedure and paragraph 22 of annex VI thereof for appropriate action in the XXIV Assembly and the Main Committees.

May I take it that the Assembly takes note of those provisions?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Paragraph 14 deals with records of meetings.

May I take it that the Assembly approves the recommendations contained in paragraph 14?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): In paragraph 15 the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraphs 18 and 19 of its decision 34/401, concerning the election of the Chairmen of the Main Committees. I would express the hope that those provisions will be fully implemented to facilitate the organization of the work of future sessions of the General Assembly.

The General Committee also draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 17 of its decision 34/401, which is reproduced in paragraph 16 of the Committee's report, concerning concluding statements in the General Assembly and its Main Committees.

(The President)

Paragraph 17 refers to questions related to the programme budget. In this connection, the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention first to paragraph 12 of its decision 34/401.

The Committee also draws the Assembly's attention to paragraph 6 of its resolution 35/10 A of 3 November 1980, which deals with proposals affecting the schedule of conferences and meetings, and to regulation 4.9 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation - resolution 37/234.

(The President)

As members are aware, this has been a serious problem, especially towards the end of the session. If the General Assembly succeeds in curtailing the duration of the forty-second session, the target date for the conclusion of the work of the Main Committees and the mandatory deadline for the submission to the Fifth Committee of all draft resolutions with programme budget implications should be adjusted accordingly.

May I take it that the General Assembly takes note of the provisions contained in paragraph 17?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Paragraphs 19 and 20 refer to documentation. In paragraph 19, the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 28 of the Assembly's decision 34/401.

In paragraphs 21 and 22, the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 32 of its decision 34/401, concerning resolutions, to subparagraph (f) of recommendation 3 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts, and to the relevant recommendations made by the Presidents of the General Assembly in the appendix to document A/40/377.

Paragraphs 23 and 24 relate to special conferences. The General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to recommendation 6 of the Committee on Conferences, adopted by the Assembly in paragraph (b) of its decision 34/405, paragraphs 10 (h) and (i) of section I of its resolution 40/243, and to recommendation 4 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts.

In paragraph 25, the General Committee, in the light of recommendations submitted by the Committee on Conferences, recommends to the General Assembly that the following organs should be authorized to hold meetings during the forty-second

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session: the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa; the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination; the Committee of Trustees of the United Nations Fund for South Africa; the Committee on Relations with the Host Country; the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People; the Intergovernmental Group to Monitor the Supply and Shipping of Oil and Petroleum Products to South Africa; the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea; the Special Committee against Apartheid; the United Nations Council for Namibia; and the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves those recommendations?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): That completes our consideration of section II of this report of the General Committee, which relates to the organization of the session.

We turn now to section III of the report of the General Committee, relating to the adoption of the agenda.

May I just remind members of the General Assembly that rule 23 of the rules of procedure provides that

"Debate on the inclusion of an item in the agenda, when that item has been recommended for inclusion by the General Committee, shall be limited to three speakers in favour of, and three against, the inclusion".

I should like to stress that at this time we are not discussing the substance of any item.

(The President)

Paragraph 27 deals with item 16 (a) of the draft agenda, "Election of twenty members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme". The General Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 40/200 of 17 December 1985 and Governing Council decision 14/4 of 18 June 1987, including the draft resolution annexed thereto, in which the Council, inter alia, requested

"the Secretary-General to conduct consultations with Governments to establish the necessary transitional arrangements for a change in the term of office of members of the Governing Council from three years to four, with one half of the membership being elected every two years".

Should the Assembly adopt the draft resolution, it might decide not to hold an election this year, but to extend by one year the term of office of those members whose term will expire on 31 December 1987.

In paragraph 28, the General Committee recommends that the wording of item 21 of the draft agenda should read as follows:

"Critical economic situation in Africa: United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990".

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): In paragraph 29, dealing with item 41 of the draft agenda, "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations", and item 43, "Current financial crisis of the United Nations", the General Committee recommends the inclusion of those items in the agenda, on the understanding that their consideration would take place currently.

May I take it that the General Assembly adopts that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we turn to paragraph 30 dealing with item 47 of the draft agenda, "Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations". The General Committee recalls the decision taken by the General Assembly at the 103rd plenary meeting of the forty-first session, held on 14 September 1987, by which the Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item to the forty-third session and to include it in the provisional agenda of that session.

May I take it that the Assembly takes note of this?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): In paragraph 31 the General Committee recommends to the General Assembly that consideration of sub-item 73 (c) of the draft agenda, "Need for result-oriented political dialogue to improve the international situation", should be deferred to the forty-third session and should be included in the provisional agenda of that session.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves those recommendations?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): In paragraph 32 concerning item 114 of the draft agenda, "Question of East Timor", the General Committee recommends that the consideration of this item should be deferred to the forty-third session and that the item should be included in the provisional agenda of that session.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves those recommendations?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Paragraph 33 deals with item 128 of the draft agenda, "Measures to prevent international terrorism which endangers or takes innocent human lives or jeopardizes fundamental freedoms and study of the underlying causes of those forms of terrorism and acts of violence

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to sacrifice human lives, including their own, in an attempt to effect radical changes" and item 147, "Convening, under the auspices of the United Nations, of an international conference to define terrorism and to differentiate it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation".

May I take it that the Assembly approves the recommendation of the General Committee to include both items in the agenda and that item 147 should be sub-item (b) of item 128, which will read as it appears in paragraph 33 of the report? If I hear no objection, it will be so decided.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn now to the draft agenda which the General Committee recommends for adoption by the General Assembly.

In keeping with past practice we shall follow the numbering given in paragraph 36 of the General Committee's report (A/42/250 and Corr.1) and shall consider together several items in groups, where that seems appropriate. I should like to remind members once again that at present we are not discussing the substance of any item except when such discussion can assist the Assembly in deciding whether or not to include an item in the agenda.

Items 1 to 6 have already been acted on in plenary meeting. Therefore their inclusion has been approved.

We come now to items 7 to 23, including item 21, the wording of which the Assembly has just amended to read "Critical economic situation in Africa: United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990".

I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to include those items in the agenda.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Item 24 is entitled "The situation in Kampuchea".

May I consider that item 24 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we come to items 25, 26 and 27.

May I consider that these items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we turn to item 28, entitled "Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security".

May I consider that item 28 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The next item, item 29, is entitled "Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte".

Taking duly into account the statements made in the General Committee, may I take it that item 29 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we come to item 30, entitled "Judgement of the International Court of Justice of 27 June 1986 concerning military and paramilitary activities in and against Nicaragua: need for immediate compliance".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to include this item in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we come to item 31, "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

Taking duly into account the statements made in the General Committee, may I take it that item 31 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We come now to item 32, entitled "Law of the sea". May I take it that item 32 is included?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Item 33 is entitled "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa". May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to include this item on the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn next to item 34, "The situation in Central America: threats to international peace and security and peace initiatives". May I consider that item 34 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we come to item 35, entitled "Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986". Taking duly into account the statements made in the General Committee, may I consider that item 35 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we come to item 36, entitled "Question of Namibia". May I take it that this item is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we turn to item 37 "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)". May I consider that item 37 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we come to item 38 entitled "Question of Palestine". I take it that the Assembly wishes to include this item in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Item 39, entitled "The situation in the Middle East", is recommended for inclusion. I take it that this item is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We now come to item 40, entitled "United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy". I take it that this item is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We come next to item 41, entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations". I take it that the Assembly wishes to include this item in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn now to item 42, entitled "Question of peace, stability and co-operation in South-East Asia". May I take it that item 42 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We now turn to item 43, entitled "Current financial crisis of the United Nations". May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to include item 43 in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I take it that the General Assembly has no objection to the inclusion in the agenda of the next item, item 44, "Launching of global negotiations on international economic co-operation for development"?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Item 45 entitled "Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council" has been recommended for inclusion in the agenda. May I take it that the Assembly approves this recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Item 46 "Question of Cyprus", has been recommended for inclusion in the agenda. I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Item 47 is entitled "Consequences of the prolongation of the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq". I take it that the Assembly wishes to include this item in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We now come to the inclusion of items 48 to 65. May I take it that those items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next, we turn to item 66, entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session". Members will recall that at the last meeting of its forty-first session, held on 14 September 1987, the General Assembly decided to include sub-item (n), entitled "Comprehensive programme of

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disarmament" in the draft agenda of the forty-second session. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to include this item, including sub-item (n), in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we come to items 67 to 71. May I take it that those items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn now to item 72 entitled "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

The General Committee recommended that sub-item (c), entitled "Need for result-oriented political dialogue to improve the international situation", should be deferred to the forty-third session.

May I take it, therefore, that the General Assembly wishes to include item 72, including only sub-items (a) and (b)?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): May I also take it that item 73 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn next to items 74 to 79.

May I take it that these items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn now to the question of the inclusion of item 80, entitled "Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India".

Taking duly into account the statements made in the General Committee, may I take it that item 80 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn now to the question of the inclusion of item 81, entitled "Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations".

May I take it that item 81 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We now come to items 82 to 86.

May I take it that they are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We come next to items 87 to 107.

May I take it that those items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We come now to items 108 to 112.

May I take it that those items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Items 113 to 125 have been recommended for inclusion in the agenda.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Item 126 has been recommended for inclusion in the agenda.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation as amended by its earlier decision?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn next to items 127 to 139, which have been recommended for inclusion.

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Item 140, entitled "Aggression against and occupation of Chad by Libya", has been recommended for inclusion in the agenda.

Mr. AZZAROUK (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) (interpretation from Arabic): My delegation proposes that the title of item 140, which is now "Aggression against and occupation of Chad by Libya" be amended to read "The situation between Chad and Libya". That would accord with the recommendations and documents of the Organization of African Unity.

Mr. ADOUM (Chad) (interpretation from French): First, I should like to ask whether the text of the proposed amendment has been distributed, because we do not have it before us and we are not exactly aware of its contents. Secondly, the title of the item, "Aggression against and occupation of Chad by Libya", properly reflects the de facto situation that has existed in Chad for some decades now. The international community as a whole is aware that the description is correct because the situation suffered by Chad has been very thoroughly explained.

Since the Libyan delegation has referred to the Organization of African Unity (OAU), I would simply point out that the situation in Chad has been very well explained in the report of the relevant committee of the OAU filed at the twenty-third Conference of Heads of State of the Organization of African Unity, held last July in Addis Ababa.

(Mr. Adoum, Chad)

That report does in fact refer to the inalienable rights of Chad and recommends their furtherance. Nevertheless, unfortunately, those rights have been violated with impunity by the occupation of part of our territory, which has been going on since 1973. There have been typical acts of aggression to corroborate this, apart from the daily sufferings visited upon our country and the great harm caused to our economic and social development. A number of tangible facts, of which the international community has been regularly informed, attest to this.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I call upon the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, who has asked to speak on a point of order.

Mr. AZZAROUK (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) (interpretation from Arabic): Our suggestion is clear. There is no need to enter into any further arguments. The President must take an immediate decision on the case.

Mr. ADOUM (Chad) (interpretation from French): It is not my intention to enter into the substance of the matter. I was simply giving you the reasons why we gave the title of the item as it now appears in the document before us.

It appears to me that if the word "aggression" is not to the liking of the Libyan delegation, it is because they know what it means. In these conditions, we have to define exactly what we mean by "aggression". As we see it, there has definitely been aggression against and occupation of Chad by Libya. The concept of aggression, as set forth in the Robert dictionary, means "armed attack of one state against another which is not justified by self-defence".

It should also be recalled that General Assembly resolution 3314 (XXIX) states in article 1 of its annex:

"Aggression is the use of armed force by a State against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of another State ..."

(Mr. Adoum, Chad)

Article 2 of the annex adds:

"The first use of armed force by a State in contravention of the Charter shall constitute prima facie evidence of an act of aggression ..."

And Article 3 describes acts of aggression which are clearly set forth in paragraphs (a), (b) and (g).

Therefore only persons of bad faith could dare here to challenge such overwhelming proof. Libya itself is aware of the fact that it has carried out aggression against Chad and has occupied Chad. How can we understand Libya itself coming here to complain last year of having suffered a minor raid on Tripoli and Benghazi, which it described as aggression? How can we describe otherwise the situation in Chad? So far as we are concerned, there has definitely been aggression against and occupation of Chad.

Mr. ENGO (Cameroon): We have had occasion to express our dismay at finding two of our brother African nations involved in a situation that is not consistent with the solidarity that our forebears have tried to establish in our continent. Therefore if I do speak it is out of that spirit of remorse, that feeling of remorse, that we address the question.

We cannot forget the fact, the truth, that this matter came before the General Committee. This matter was thoroughly debated in the General Committee before you, Mr. President, and we have had occasion to hear the two parties who are addressing us this afternoon. It would appear to me that if we open the door and ignore convention, we shall be doing just what we had decided not to do, that is, waste time and consequently waste further the finances of this Organization. This is not to say that the issue is not important; it is not to say that one side is correct and the other is wrong.

(Mr. Engo, Cameroon)

The procedure of requesting a general committee to discuss agenda items and critical subjects to be included on the agenda is motivated by a worthy desire to cut time, to save a lot of time.

This room is so big and the voice of each delegation resounds in the Hall so much that sometimes one has the feeling that delegations enjoy listening to their own voices. I recently heard a joke, Mr. President - and I apologize for saying this but it is necessary - that diplomats have committed so many offences that they have two punishments: the first is that they must listen to speeches, and the second is that they must make them. I do not want to subscribe to that.

Recommendations have been made to us by the General Committee after thorough debate. My delegation would not like to see that debate repeated, so if I may I would suggest that, with all the confidence we have in your dignity, in your experience, in your wit, as everybody has said, you might wish to examine the new situation and consider whether the convention of admitting what the General Committee has recommended is going to be set aside. Rather than allowing a debate here, which will take us nowhere, it might be useful for you, Mr. President, to suspend this matter for the moment, to carry out consultations and come back to the Assembly at an appropriate time on Monday and inform the General Assembly of the results of your efforts. You did do this in the General Committee and it was useful, so we recommend that there be no debate on this issue. Otherwise we shall be obliged to request that a new amendment to the existing recommendations be put to a vote. I would appeal to you not to resort to that, but rather to give delegations some opportunity to consult further, to see whether some agreeable compromise can be reached. I thank you for your patience.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I appeal to members of the Assembly not to open a discussion here because that will involve a great loss of

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time, as we have seen recently in the General Committee. I have a specific proposal and a specific request to make. Since reference has been made to the rules of procedure, there is a need for me to do something.

Mr. MILIS-LUTTERODT (Ghana): The Ghana delegation is very unhappy at the turn of events regarding this item 140. We would have hoped that the statement by the representative of Zambia at the General Committee level, speaking on behalf of the current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) would be sufficient to end the controversy. We recognize that the problem of Chad and Libya has been with the international community for a long time, but we note that for the first time, through the continued efforts of the OAU, the regional body to which the two sisterly countries belong, the prospect exists for a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

Under the chairmanship of the President of Zambia, the current OAU Chairman, a meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee set up by the OAU to look into the issue, has been scheduled to take place in Lusaka in a few days' time. It is necessary, therefore, to give this initiative a chance. That is why the Ghana delegation will support the view that item 140 need not be discussed now at the present session. As now presently worded, too, there is the danger that a discussion of the item would generate more heat than light. The Ghana delegation wishes to believe that this is not the outcome that the international community would like to see.

It will be recalled that at the General Committee meeting an attempt was made to remove unnecessary connotations from the wording of the item. The emotional debate that ensued succeeded only in creating further difficulties for all concerned. If the international community wishes to see an amicable settlement of the conflict between the two parties, it should do nothing that would jeopardize the delicate negotiations that would take place at the meeting under the chairmanship of the President of Zambia. In any case, we think that it would be irreverent to short-circuit the efforts of such an eminent personality, which for the moment appear to have the best chance of success.

(Mr. Mills-Lutterodt, Ghana)

The Ghana delegation is fully aware that Chad's request to bring the matter to the United Nations and to have the item included in the agenda derives from a provision of the Charter and the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. Ghana fully recognizes this right. At the same time, the Ghana delegation does not believe that an appeal on the basis of Article 52 of the Charter is inconsistent with this right. This is why we would urge that the appeal by Zambia be heeded.

In conclusion, I should like to associate myself with the suggestion made by the Permanent Representative of the Cameroon in asking for a suspension for consultation.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I wish to announce to the Assembly that the representative of Libya has informed me that he does not insist on a vote on his amendment. He intends to continue further consultations with the delegation of Cameroon.

I also consider that it would be desirable to avoid lengthy procedural debates and to postpone a decision.

I should like to request the representative of Gabon, who has asked to speak, whether he really intends to speak.

Mr. BIFFOT (Gabon) (interpretation from French): My remarks will be very brief.

The Ad Hoc Committee, presided over by the President of Gabon, will be meeting at Lusaka, beginning on 22 September, and its work will continue on 23 September. I leave it in your hands to decide what to do next. I believe deferment is in order and I fully endorse the view put forward by the representative of Cameroon.

Mrs. MUYUNDA (Zambia): My contribution will be very brief because Zambia has already made its stand on the issue very clear in the Committee. I just want to concur with the view expressed by the representatives of Cameroon and Ghana that it would be advisable for the issue to be deferred to some time next week in order to give all the representatives an opportunity to hold the necessary consultations. We should also give sufficient time to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which will be meeting in Zambia from 24 to 25 September and which has been given the responsibility of dealing with this issue. Only after that time could any views be discussed in the Assembly.

Zambia's desire is to bring peace to this region. I concur with the other colleagues who have proposed that the issue be deferred until next week to allow respective members to hold the necessary consultations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I think it would be correct for us to decide to defer consideration of this matter so that consultations can take place that will, we hope, enable us to take an appropriate decision.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I now call on the representative of the United States on a point of order.

Miss BYRNE (United States of America): I raised the sign, not on a point of order but because, before you banged the gavel, I wanted to ask a question. The United States delegation would like to know exactly when we will revert to consideration of this very important question.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): It is rather difficult for me in this case to say exactly on which date we will come back to the question because after the adoption of the agenda we have to carry out the allocation of items and because the general debate is beginning in plenary next week. But I assure you that we shall try to return to this matter as soon as possible.

Mr. ADOUM (Chad) (interpretation from French): Chad is the delegation most concerned in this matter. Consequently, I would be glad if attention could be given to our views.

I think we are confusing two things here. We are meeting now to adopt the report of the General Committee. In other words, we are deciding whether to include the item or not. There is a distinction between these two things. We are talking about the adoption of the matter for inclusion rather than the debate on it. We are discussing the inclusion of the item in the agenda of the forty-second session.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): A proposal has been made to defer consideration of this question. I consider that this would be expedient. It is therefore, so decided.

Mr. ENGO (Cameroon): We are delighted to see that most of our brothers support our proposal. The problem seems to be that we are all expressing ourselves in language that is not our own; we are using words interchangeably, and to some the implications are a little different. My original suggestion was that we should suspend consideration of the question whether to inscribe the item and take a final decision on Monday afternoon, perhaps. Between now and then we would be in a position to consult among ourselves. The proposal was not to defer consideration of the item; one cannot defer consideration of an item which has not already been put on the agenda. My suggestion, therefore, is to suspend consideration of the question of inscription and to work over the weekend - my delegation would be prepared to - so that we can return to the matter early next week and decide whether to inscribe the item in this form. I hope that makes it clear.

Mr. ADOUM (Chad) (interpretation from French): What I had to say has already been said by my brother from Cameroon. This is a matter of suspending the debate on the question now and taking it up again early next week, or perhaps tomorrow. There has been no request for postponement of consideration of this matter.

Mr. OUEDRAOGO (Burkina Faso) (interpretation from French): I wish to endorse the proposal made by the representative of Cameroon, which we consider to be the wisest of the many proposals that have been made.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): There is a proposal to postpone consideration of the question of the inclusion of this item in the agenda until next week, since we cannot meet tomorrow. May I take it that this decision is acceptable to the Assembly?

Mr. BIFFOT (Gabon) (interpretation from French): I hope that the suspension can last until the Lusaka meeting. As I have said, that will take place on 22 and 23 September and we shall get the results from Lusaka on the 23rd. So it seems to me that on the 24th we shall have the necessary information to consider this question better and reach an appropriate decision. The Lusaka meeting was originally to be held on the 24th and the 25th, but at the request of President Kenneth Kaunda it will now begin early on the morning of the 22nd and finish on the 23rd.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): That proposal can no doubt be taken into account in the consultations.

Mr. ENGO (Cameroon): I believe that my brother from Gabon, for whom I have tremendous respect and even affection as a result of our good-neighbourly relationship, means well, but I think that his appeal might be made at a more appropriate time. He may wish to reconsider his proposal. The position at the moment is that two of our brothers have intervened. Chad requested the inscription of an item and the General Committee recommended that it be included in the agenda. Our brother from Libya spoke this afternoon and suggested that the item should be worded differently. The issue before the General Assembly at this stage is not the timing of the discussion which would take into consideration the initiatives in Africa and elsewhere, but rather what the title of the item should be if it is inscribed. Therefore, I appeal to my brother from Gabon, knowing very well that he and I always see eye to eye, to agree to allow us to consult as quickly as possible on what the title of the item should be. Thereafter, I would

(Mr. Engo, Cameroon)

probably join him in considering whatever proposals - wise as they usually are - might come from my brother from Gabon, among others as to how we should deal with the matter. I still ask that we suspend the discussion and that the President hold consultations, after which I hope that we shall have an acceptable solution to this problem.

Mr. MOUMIN (Comoros): I do not think there is any contradiction between what my brothers from Cameroon and Gabon have said. I believe that the consultations can start at any time, but I understood my brother from Gabon to say that since the Committee on this matter is to meet in Lusaka on 22 and 23 September, it would be better, even after the consultations have taken place, for us to consider this question after the 23rd, instead of on Monday. Two or three more days will not make any difference. Perhaps we should consider the matter on the 24th, because by that time we may not even need to discuss the matter; the question may be settled by then. Therefore, I believe that the proposal of my brother from Gabon is very good and that we should accept it. If the matter is settled in Lusaka, perhaps Chad will not need to request the inscription of this question on the agenda.

Mr. TREIKI (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) (interpretation from Arabic):

Mr. President, I thought that you had settled the situation, in spite of our clear position vis-à-vis this item. We have already expressed our reasons, but we shall now express them again in order not to take up any more time. The item should not be included in the Assembly's agenda. However, in order not to be blamed, we suggested that it be amended and we agreed to the proposal of our brother the representative of Cameroon.

If the Assembly wishes to continue discussion of this subject, we are prepared to do so, but the President must settle the matter, because a decision was taken and the gavel sounded.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Can we agree as follows: we will cease discussion of this matter now, as proposed, and postpone consideration of the inclusion of the item on the agenda. We shall hold consultations and, next week, I shall report to the Assembly on the situation with regard to the question.

Mr. ADOUM (Chad) (interpretation from French): I have just heard my brothers from Cameroon, Gabon and the Comoros. Our brother from Cameroon made a proposal which we find acceptable, namely, that the Assembly suspend its discussion of this item and resume it tomorrow or Monday. Under no circumstances, however, should the discussion of this matter be linked to the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee at Lusaka, since at the time the matter was decided in the General Committee no such linkage had been established. If that meeting scheduled for 23 September is postponed to 1988, for example, will we have to wait until then to deal with the request made by the representative of Chad? The proposal made by the representative of Cameroon is surely the best.

Mr. BAGBENI ADEITO NZENGEYA (Zaire) (interpretation from French): In the meeting of the General Committee my delegation expressed its pleasure at seeing

(Mr. Bagbeni Adeito Nzengeya, Zaire)

you, Sir, presiding over the work of the forty-second session of the General Assembly. Now that the Assembly is in plenary meeting, I should like to say how very pleased we are to see you demonstrating your well-known efficiency in guiding our proceedings.

We discussed this question at length in the General Committee in the course of a meeting held two days ago. We all recall that in the General Committee a decision was taken to recommend the inclusion of the item entitled "Aggression against and occupation of Chad by Libya" in the agenda of the General Assembly. That recommendation followed a vote in which the members of the General Committee were called upon to settle the matter.

My delegation would therefore find it very difficult indeed to see this question deferred, since a decision was reached in the General Committee. We are now, of course, meeting in plenary session, and when considering the report of the General Committee, the Assembly may also find that under Article 35 of the Charter a Member State is seeking to bring to the Assembly's attention a dispute between it and another Member State. I do not see why members cannot purely and simply accept inclusion of this item.

At the meeting of the General Committee we also agreed that, no matter what developments might occur with regard to this question within the Organization of African Unity, particularly at the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee to be held probably at Lusaka, there was no reason why the General Assembly should not also consider the matter at the same time organs of the Organization of African Unity were considering it.

My delegation would therefore prefer that we not adjourn consideration of the matter but, rather, come to a decision regarding it. If the General Assembly's rules of procedure must be invoked in order to do so, that is perfectly all right with my delegation.

Mr. BIFFOT (Gabon) (interpretation from French): I wish to dispel any misunderstanding that may have crept in with regard to my last remarks. There is no contradiction between what was said by the representative of Chad and what I said. I wholeheartedly and unreservedly support the position of Chad, and I would like a distinction to be made between inclusion of an agenda item and consideration of an agenda item. As I stated yesterday, there is no incompatibility between concomitant consideration of a matter by the United Nations and consideration of that same matter by the Organization of African Unity. So let there be no misunderstanding: the position of Gabon is the same as that of Chad.

Mr. AL-ALFI (Democratic Yemen): My delegation feels that you have ruled, Mr. President, on the request of the representative of Cameroon: to postpone discussion of the agenda item now under consideration. I should like to point out, first of all, that paragraph 36 of the General Committee's report (A/42/250) states: "the General Committee recommends". Thus the decisions of the General Committee are recommendations to the General Assembly, and we here are the ones to decide the agenda for the Assembly's session.

We thus have that recommendation and, at the same time, we have a proposal for a different wording. However, a wise suggestion by the representative of Cameroon, supported by a number of delegations, was that the President provide for more consultation so that all views might be accommodated. I believe that the President has taken a decision, ruling that such consultations would be pursued.

(Mr. Al-Alfi, Democratic Yemen)

The discussion was only opened because one representative asked, "When are we to resume?". You, Sir, have answered that question. I think that by stressing a definite date we are in fact challenging the wisdom of the President.

I should thus like to ask: Are we challenging the President here by saying we must have a specific date? Or are we to accept in good faith that the President will carry out consultations and whenever he deems it appropriate - whether on Monday, or on Friday - report to the General Assembly? That is the simple question before us, and I think we must end our discussion here.

Mr. OULD BOYE (Mauritania) (interpretation from Arabic): I find the proposal -

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The representative of Ghana has asked to speak on a point of order, and I call on him.

Mr. GBEHO (Ghana): I should like first of all to apologize most sincerely to my colleague from Mauritania for interrupting him. It is not in the nature of the Ghana delegation to interrupt speakers, and I hope he will forgive me.

Obviously our rules of procedure will have to apply to our consideration of this item. A ruling has been made, which you, Mr. President, have further interpreted. I think it would be contrary to our rules of procedure to continue any further with the discussion.

Without wishing to manipulate the conduct of the Assembly, may I ask that only those representatives who wish to challenge your ruling be called on, so that we may take a decision on the matter. Certainly, the clarification and reclarification we are hearing from the floor is not in the interest of our business today. I ask you, Sir, to rule on the matter.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I should like first to ask the representative of Mauritania whether he wishes to conclude his remarks.

Mr. OULD BOYE (Mauritania) (interpretation from Arabic): I shall be very brief. I find the proposal of the representative of Cameroon - from whom we have grown accustomed to moderate positions - to be a wise one allowing for our international Organization to play its role in mediating between peoples and countries. The delegation of Mauritania, which maintains excellent fraternal relations with the parties concerned, supports the proposal of the representative of Cameroon, and we should like you, Sir, to act decisively upon the matter, heeding the proposal made by the representative of Cameroon.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): As President, I rule, on the basis of my authority, that we defer consideration of the matter - that is, the inclusion or non-inclusion, or amendment of the title, of this item - until next week. Anyone disagreeing with this ruling is welcome to speak under the relevant rule of procedure.

Mr. BIRCH (United Kingdom): I regret that I am not quite clear about your ruling, Sir. My understanding is that we are merely deferring a decision on the title of this item, not on the question of whether the item should actually be included in the agenda. The decision as I understand it - and I would like to know that I am correct in my understanding - is only that we are deferring a decision on the title of the item and that we are not going to take a decision on its inclusion, which has already been decided in the General Committee.

Mr. BAGBENI ADEITO NZENGEYA (Zaire) (interpretation from French): My delegation believes that a decision has already been taken to that effect by the General Committee when it decided to include in the agenda the item entitled "Aggression against and occupation of Chad by Libya". Are we now calling into question that decision taken by the General Committee? This is a question I am

(Mr. Bagbeni Adeito Nzengeya,
Zaire)

asking of the President, particularly since, if we are talking about the actual title of the item, it is up to the item's sponsor, in accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, to agree to such an amendment, all the more so because the inclusion of the item on the agenda was decided upon on the basis of an explanatory memorandum that goes into details justifying its inclusion.

Consequently, if any amendment were to be made to the title of the item, that amendment could not alter the substance of the matter. Further, a decision was taken by the General Committee. How can we now call it into question?

I think, rather, that a decision should be taken purely and simply to include this item, in accordance with Article 35 of the United Nations Charter, in order that a Member State that wished to bring a matter before the General Assembly might do so and make known to the Assembly detailed information pertaining to the problems besetting that State.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I now call upon the representative of Botswana, who has asked to speak on a point of order.

Mr. LEGWAILA (Botswana): I have asked to speak in order to ask, first, if the General Committee has decided that the item should be included. Then I must question why I am sitting here. For are we not sitting here in the full General Assembly in order to ratify the decision of the General Committee? It is therefore up to you, Mr. President, to tell us whether we should take all these recommendations as accepted, because they have been accepted by the General Committee.

Since it appears that we are going to be here until doomsday, I should like to raise another question: Is there any way - since we always resort to voting when we find ourselves in a quandary - that we can support your ruling, Mr. President, by voting, so that we can end the debate. For it seems that if you are going to

(Mr. Legwaila, Botswana)

invite representatives to debate your ruling, Sir, they can debate your ruling until the Ad Hoc Committee in Lusaka has finished its work.

I therefore think the best thing would be to resort to the rules of procedure to find out if we can use the vote to terminate the debate - because I can tell you, Sir, with all due respect, that the debate is becoming sterile and meaningless.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I now call on the representative of Democratic Yemen on a point of order.

Mr. AL-ALFI (Democratic Yemen): I do not understand the position, Mr. President. I am aware of your personal qualities - that you want to give all representatives a chance to express their views. But the point is this: You made a ruling, and you repeated it. You asked whether anyone wished to challenge that ruling. Am I to understand that those representatives who spoke after that were challenging your ruling? If so, I would agree totally with what the representative of Botswana said. We have to vote on the challenge to your ruling. What has been happening now is that other points are being raised and the discussion is being reopened.

Therefore, Mr. President, I would request that, perhaps for the third time, you make your ruling clear, and that this discussion be ended and we adhere to your ruling.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I do in fact believe that it would be desirable to conclude the discussion on this matter.

As President, I should like once again to make it clear to the representative of the United Kingdom that we have before us a recommendation of the General Committee, which is not in any way binding upon us. It can and should be discussed in the General Assembly, and a decision must be taken on it.

Therefore, I declare once again, as President, that my ruling is that we should defer consideration of whether or not this item should be included in the agenda and of what the exact title of the item should be. That would enable us to hold the necessary consultations, and next week I should be able to inform the General Assembly of the situation.

That is my ruling.

I call on the representative of the United Kingdom on a point of order.

Mr. BIRCH (United Kingdom): Thank you, Mr. President, for clarifying the position.

My understanding, however, was that the Libyan proposal which started this whole discussion was simply that the title of the item should be altered - not that the item should not be inscribed on the agenda. My understanding was that the Libyan representative accepted inscription of the item, that it was only the title of the item that he did not accept. It now appears, through your ruling, Mr. President, that the question of whether the item should appear on the agenda at all is being deferred.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): If no one else wishes to question the ruling I have made as President, I shall take it that my ruling remains in force and we shall proceed with our consideration of the recommendations in the report of the General Committee now before us.

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

Mr. ADOUM (Chad) (interpretation from French): I, too, should like to have some clarification. Is it a question of reopening the debate on whether this item should be included, or is it simply a question of suspending any decision on the title of the item, pending consultations?

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I think I made it fairly clear that we are deferring consideration of whether or not the item should be included in the agenda and, if it were to be included, what the title should be. My ruling was that we were deferring both matters for consultations.

It appears that no one wishes to challenge that ruling, and we shall therefore suspend consideration of this item for the time being and proceed with the other recommendations in the document now before us.

Item 141 is also recommended for inclusion.

May I take it that this item is included?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we come to item 142, which is recommended for inclusion.

May I take it that the Assembly includes this item in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Items 143 and 144 are recommended for inclusion.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to include those items in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We now turn to the question of the allocation of items, dealt with in section IV of the report of the General Committee. In this connection, the General Committee, in paragraph 37, draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 4 of its decision 34/401, which states that

"Substantive items should normally be discussed initially in a Main Committee and, therefore, items previously allocated to plenary meetings should henceforth be referred to a Main Committee unless there are compelling circumstances requiring their continued consideration in plenary meeting."

The modifications indicated in paragraph 38 are reflected in the proposed allocation. We shall therefore consider them when we come to the relevant items under paragraph 40.

I now invite members to turn to the list of items recommended for consideration in the plenary Assembly.

We come first to item 12, "Report of the Economic and Social Council".

The General Committee recommends that two plenary meetings should be devoted on Monday, 12 October 1987, to the observance of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Regarding item 18, the General Committee recommends in paragraph 38 (a) (ii) that the Assembly should refer to the Fourth Committee chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to specific Territories, so that the General Assembly might deal in plenary meeting with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I now invite members to turn their attention to item 33, entitled "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa". In this connection, as stated in paragraph 38 (a) (iii), the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that the representatives of the Organization of African Unity and of national liberation movements recognized by that organization would be permitted to participate in the discussion in plenary meeting and that organizations and individuals having a special interest in the question would be permitted to be heard by the Special Political Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation of the General Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn now to the recommendation of the General Committee on the allocation of item 36, entitled "Question of Namibia". As indicated in paragraph 38 (a) (iv), the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that hearings of the organizations concerned would be held in the Fourth Committee.

(The President)

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I now invite members to consider item 37, "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)". In this connection, as stated in paragraph 38 (a) (v), the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Fourth Committee in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting.

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I now invite the General Assembly to turn its attention to paragraph 38 (a) (vi), regarding the item entitled "Question of Cyprus". The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that it would, when considering the item, invite the Special Political Committee to meet for the purpose of affording representatives of the Cypriot communities an opportunity to take the floor in the Committee in order to express their views, and that the Assembly would then resume its consideration of the item taking into account the report of the Special Political Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly adopts that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We come next to item 141, regarding observer status for the African Development Bank in the General Assembly. In paragraph 38 (a) (viii) it is recommended that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

(The President)

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The General Committee recommends in paragraph 38 (a) (ix) that item 143, "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States", should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Finally we come to paragraph 38 (a) (x), concerning co-operation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System. The General Committee recommends that this item too should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): May I consider that the General Assembly approves the allocation of the other items listed for consideration directly in plenary meeting?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn now to the list of items the General Committee has recommended for allocation to the First Committee.

In connection with item 62, "General and complete disarmament", the General Committee has recommended, in paragraph 38 (b), that the relevant paragraphs of the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is to be considered directly in plenary meeting under item 14, should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of item 62.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): May I take it that the General Assembly approves the allocation of the items proposed for allocation to the First Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn now to the list of items the General Committee has recommended for allocation to the Special Political Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves the allocation of the items proposed for allocation to the Special Political Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn now to the list of items the General Committee has recommended for allocation to the Second Committee.

In connection with item 82 (e), relating to the environment, the General Committee has recommended in paragraph 38 (c) that prior to the consideration of that sub-item by the Second Committee the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development transmitted to the General Assembly by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme should be introduced at a plenary meeting.

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): May I also take it that the General Assembly approves the proposed allocation of items to the Second Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We now come to the items proposed for allocation to the Third Committee.

In connection with item 96 (c), "United Nations Development Fund for Women", the General Committee recommends in paragraph 38 (d) (i) that the annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the operations, management and budget of the Fund should be referred to the Second Committee for consideration under item 83, "Operational activities for development".

May I take it that the Assembly adopts that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we come to item 142, "Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes". The General Committee recommends in paragraph 38 (d) ii) that this item be allocated to the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly approves this recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): May I also take it that the General Assembly approves the proposed allocation of items to the Third Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): If there are no comments on the proposed allocation of items to the Fourth Committee, I shall take it that the General Assembly approves the proposed allocation.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We turn next to the list of items recommended for allocation to the Fifth Committee.

In connection with item 41, "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations", and item 43, "Current financial crisis of the United Nations", the General Committee, in paragraph 38 (e) (i), recommends that the items be allocated to the Fifth Committee on the understanding that such decision should in no way prejudice the arrangements to be made for their future consideration. The Committee also decided to recommend that the consideration of the items be held concurrently.

May I take it that the Assembly approves those recommendations?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Regarding item 119, entitled "Joint Inspection Unit", the General Committee recommended in paragraph 38 (e) (ii) that the item be allocated to the Fifth Committee on the understanding that the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit dealing with subject-matters assigned to the other Main Committees would be referred also to those Committees.

May I take it that the General Assembly adopts that recommendation and approves the allocation of the others items proposed for allocation to the Fifth Committee.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Next we come to the items recommended for allocation to the Sixth Committee.

In connection with item 126, entitled "Measures to prevent international terrorism which endangers or takes innocent human lives or jeopardizes fundamental freedoms and study of the underlying causes of those forms of terrorism and acts of violence which lie in misery, frustration, grievance and despair and which cause

(The President)

some people to sacrifice human lives, including their own, in an attempt to effect radical changes", the General Committee decided to recommend that the item be allocated to the Sixth Committee, on the understanding that sub-item (b), entitled "Convening, under the auspices of the United Nations, of an international conference to define terrorism and to differentiate it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation", should first be introduced at one plenary meeting before being considered by the Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts this recommendation and approves the allocation of the items proposed for allocation to the Sixth Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of the first report of the General Committee.

I thank the members of the Assembly for their co-operation, which has made it possible for us to complete this task expeditiously.

Each Main Committee will soon receive the list of agenda items allocated to it so that it may begin its work as soon as possible, in accordance with rule 99 of the rules of procedure.

On my own behalf, I would urge that draft resolutions be submitted in the Committees at the earliest possible date so that the work in the Committees and in the General Assembly may be conducted as efficiently as possible.

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.