

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**  
FORTY-FOURTH SESSION  
*Official Records*

SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE  
12th meeting  
held on  
Thursday, 2 November 1989  
at 10 a.m.  
New York

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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 12th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. OUDOVENKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic)

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/SPC/44/SR.12  
10 November 1989

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

89-56816 1841S (E)

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12p.

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 78: COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS (continued) (A/44/301; A/SPC/44/L.6 and Corr.1, L.7)

1. Mr. WATSON (United States of America) said that important changes that had taken place in the world, and issues, which had preoccupied the Special Committee's peace-keeping operations for over two decades, had disappeared. Efforts must be made to build upon the broadened consensus in support of peace-keeping, particularly by resolving regional conflicts.

2. The extraordinary achievements of the "blue helmets" had finally been recognized when they were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Perhaps that recognition had been delayed by the fact that expectations of the United Nations in its early years had been overly high, leading inevitably to disappointments. Rather than creating unrealistic expectations, the Special Committee had issued a set of carefully considered recommendations (A/44/301, para. 32) which formed a basis for measured optimism. His delegation was pleased that they included several United States proposals. Ideas for strengthening peace-keeping activities should be considered first in the Special Committee, which should continue its measured and constructive approach. The Committee should not be distracted by issues such as preventive diplomacy which, however important, were dealt with by another Special Committee.

3. Mr. VILLAGRAN DE LEON (Guatemala) said that at a time when the international community looked increasingly to the United Nations to resolve conflicts, it became urgent to undertake a thorough review of peace-keeping operations, as requested by the Secretary-General in his report on the work of the Organization (A/44/1). In that context, the resumption of the work of the Special Committee was cause for satisfaction. Among the proposals contained in the Special Committee's report (A/44/301), the establishment of a registry of potential troop contributors was of particular interest. As four new operations had been established and the possibility of establishing three others - including one in Central America - was being seriously considered, his delegation supported the request contained in paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/SPC/44/L.6.

4. A greater number of countries must provide human, material and technical resources for peace-keeping and, to that end, it would be necessary to exchange experiences in the field. His delegation supported the idea of establishing regional training centres for military and civilian personnel and preparing training programmes and manuals. The Special Committee could pursue its discussion of the item with a view to elaborating specific proposals beyond those already contained in the draft resolution.

5. His delegation also agreed that the Secretary-General should prepare a model status-of-forces agreement between the United Nations and host countries, which would serve to reassure troop-contributing countries. No political argument could possibly be advanced to justify threats to the physical safety of members of observer groups and peace-keeping forces.

(Mr. Villagran de Leon, Guatemala)

6. The success of peace-keeping operations would depend largely on the willingness of the parties to the conflict to co-operate and provide the necessary facilities. Special mandates which clearly defined the goals and functioning of each peace-keeping operation should be previously agreed to by the parties. The support of the Security Council and the international community and, above all, a sound financial base were also essential.

7. The Central American Governments were fully prepared to facilitate and support the establishment of a peace-keeping operation in their region. The impartial role of peace-keeping operations could be extremely valuable in the ultimate solution of conflicts through direct negotiations between the parties. Peace-keeping operations must be provisional in nature, seeking to stimulate - not broker - a genuine settlement between the parties.

8. Mr. HUSSEN (Iraq) said that peace-keeping operations were the object of growing international attention in the current period of détente and incipient solutions to regional conflicts. The United Nations and its Charter were major instruments in the cause of peace, which could be achieved, given the requisite political will. The role of the United Nations peace-keeping forces was fundamental. Iraq supported the provisions of Chapters VI and VII of the Charter, and felt it was necessary to work realistically to increase the effectiveness of the United Nations and its agencies. There had been many successes. The sending of United Nations forces to supervise the elections in Namibia would help to eliminate colonialism and bring independence to that country. There had also been failures, such as in southern Lebanon, which after 11 years still suffered from Israeli occupation and aggression. Each case should therefore be considered separately.

9. Regarding the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG), he stressed his country's co-operation in providing it with all its requirements. Iraq had helped to defray its expenses and signed an agreement with the United Nations to designate a headquarters for UNIIMOG. The recent Belgrade Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement had adopted a resolution stressing the role of UNIIMOG in maintaining the cease-fire and reducing tension. He hoped that its presence would be temporary and that direct negotiations between Iraq and Iran under United Nations auspices would result in a speedy and full implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987), leading to a comprehensive, just, honourable and lasting settlement.

10. The Special Committee was moving in the right direction, as witnessed by the general consensus on the recommendations in its report. He hoped that there would be general support for the adoption of draft resolution A/SPC/44/L.6.

11. Mr. MENSAH (Togo) noted that the disruption of peace in the world, largely in the developing countries, had heightened the need for the Organization's peace-keeping activities. The Nobel Peace Prize and the increased demand for peace-keeping forces were a tribute to their effectiveness. The United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG), to which Togo provided military observers,

(Mr. Mensah, Togo)

and UNIIMOG, demonstrated that the Security Council, the Secretary-General and the parties to the conflict were all vital to the launching of peace-keeping operations. States Members of the United Nations must adapt their political, material and financial commitments to the changing functions of the peace-keeping forces, illustrated by the role of UNTAG in the decolonization of Namibia and of UNIIMOG in the implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987).

12. The success of peace-keeping operations, however, must not obscure certain difficulties, which were essentially financial in nature. If they were to have a lasting effect on international peace and security, peace-keeping operations must continue to enjoy the unqualified support of the permanent members of the Security Council. Peace-keeping operations must also adhere to certain guiding principles, including equitable geographical participation by Member States. His delegation welcomed the Secretary-General's proposal, put forward in his report on the work of the Organization, to establish a special reserve fund for peace-keeping, supported by all Member States. In that connection, the assessments of permanent members of the Security Council would have to reflect their larger responsibility for peace-keeping.

13. Among the recommendations of the Special Committee (A/44/301, para. 32), his delegation supported, in particular, a study by the Secretary-General to identify tasks and services which could be performed by civilian personnel; the exchange of experiences in regional and international seminars on peace-keeping operations; the organization of national training programmes for military and civilian personnel for peace-keeping operations; and full and timely payment by Member States of their assessed contributions. In view of its excellent work, the mandate of the Special Committee should be renewed.

14. Togo, which had settled its own foreign-policy conflicts through negotiation, welcomed General Assembly resolution 43/51, entitled "Declaration on the Prevention and Removal of Disputes and Situations Which May Threaten International Peace and Security and on the Role of the United Nations in this Field". The resolution encouraged the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to use the Organization's capacity for preventive diplomacy. The Charter provided an appropriate legal framework for such diplomacy and the Declaration in resolution 43/51 provided the necessary recommendations to implement it.

15. Mr. EGBARA (Nigeria) said that Nigeria's support for peace-keeping operations was rooted in its commitment to Article 33 of the Charter, which urged Member States to settle disputes through peaceful means, and in its conviction that global co-operation was necessary in order to bring peace to areas of conflict. Global co-operation implied that States must be willing to contribute troops, logistical support and financing to peace-keeping operations. His delegation also believed that the resolution of conflicts would stimulate economic and social development.

16. The establishment of four new peace-keeping operations in the past 17 months reflected growing confidence in the role of the United Nations to help resolve regional conflicts. However, as peace-keeping operations grew in number, the burden of financing them became more acute. The question of cost-effectiveness was

(Mr. Egbara, Nigeria)

explored in General Assembly resolution 43/59 A and in the report of the Special Committee (A/44/301).

17. His delegation noted with satisfaction that China had become a member of the Special Committee, which thus comprised all five permanent members of the Security Council. The fact that the Committee had reached a consensus on a record number of proposals reflected the relaxation of tensions globally. His delegation welcomed, in particular, the proposal (A/44/301, annex) to establish a working capital fund to finance the initial costs of peace-keeping operations, which would make it unnecessary to wait for contributions by Member States. That recommendation must be accorded priority, for it would avoid delays in dispatching forces, which had at times been inevitable when funds were lacking. His delegation believed that the General Assembly, in issuing its mandate to the Special Committee, had acted within the scope of Article 33 of the Charter. For that reason, his delegation hoped that the Special Committee's report would be unanimously adopted and that its recommendations would be implemented at the earliest possible date.

18. Mr. CHOO (Malaysia) said that the use of military and civilian personnel under United Nations command to prevent fighting while peace-making efforts were pursued was one of the most constructive innovations of the Organization. Malaysia, which had taken part in peace-keeping operations in the Congo, was currently participating in UNIIMOG and had contributed a military battalion to UNTAG.

19. Peace-keeping operations in themselves could not ensure lasting peace, but could only pave the way for dialogue between the belligerents. Permanent peace could only be achieved by the political will of the parties in conflict. Peace-keeping must therefore be viewed as nothing more than a useful instrument in crisis management. His delegation was deeply concerned that some peace-keeping operations had been in existence for a number of years with no political settlement in sight. That not only imposed an intolerable burden on the troop-contributing countries but also unduly taxed the financial support provided by Member States.

20. His Government fully supported the Special Committee's recommendation for the establishment of a registry of potential contributions by Member States of personnel and physical resources. Such a registry would expedite the Secretary-General's task when new operations were launched. His delegation also welcomed the recommendation to hold seminars for the exchange of information and experiences. Malaysia stood ready to share its experience with other Member States and was planning to establish in its own country a training programme for military and civilian personnel. In that context, the availability of United Nations training manuals would be useful to ensure consistency in national training programmes.

21. His delegation fully shared the concern that the financing of those operations must be put on a solid basis. It was imperative for Member States to contribute financial support in a timely manner. The increased demand by the international community for the deployment of United Nations peace-keeping missions made a stable financial foundation more imperative than ever. The cost of peace-keeping was certainly less than the cost of war.

(Mr. Choo, Malaysia)

22. In order to enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations peace-keeping verification machinery, it was essential to make use of modern technology for surveillance and detection, which could also reduce costs and manpower requirements.

23. In any serious consideration of new suggestions, it was important to take into account the principles on which peace-keeping had always been based: a workable and clear mandate, the consistent support of the Security Council, the co-operation of the parties in conflict, a geographically balanced and representative force and adequate financial and logistical support. In view of the growing demand for peace-keeping operations, it was essential to make the peace-keeping mechanisms more responsive to the needs of the day.

24. The essential factor for the success of United Nations peace-keeping was political. Lacking enforcement power, a United Nations peace-keeping force could function effectively only if it had the full co-operation of the parties concerned and the backing of the Security Council.

25. Mr. SAMMON (Ireland) said that his country's commitment to United Nations peace-keeping remained undiminished. Support for that activity was one of the cornerstones of Irish foreign policy. In proportion to its population, Ireland was one of the largest troop-contributing countries, sending almost 1,000 of the overall total of about 15,000 peace-keepers. Irish men and women were currently serving in the Middle East, Lebanon, Cyprus, Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq, on the India-Pakistan border and, most recently, in Namibia.

26. A continuing problem for United Nations peace-keeping was the unsatisfactory financial situation. The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was a particularly acute example. Failure of Member States to pay the assessed contributions called into question their commitment to the peace-keeping role of the United Nations. The mounting of efficient peace-keeping forces required prompt provision of adequate resources. Troop-contributing States should not be expected to carry a disproportionate share of the burden as well.

27. His Government stressed the need to ensure the safety of the United Nations peace-keeping personnel at all times. All parties to a conflict where United Nations peace-keeping forces were serving had a fundamental responsibility to see to it at all times that their actions did not in any way endanger those forces.

28. His delegation drew attention to paragraph 6 of draft resolution A/SPC/44/L.6, on training of personnel for peace-keeping operations. That was a matter of vital importance if the United Nations and its Member States were to be adequately prepared to launch peace-keeping operations on short notice. Member States should ensure that the Organization had the necessary resources to take immediate action when so requested.

29. If peace-keeping was to work, the political will of all Member States, individually and collectively, was crucial. That was especially true of those Member States that had peace-keeping troops on their territories.

30. Mr. PIBULSONGGRAM (Thailand), referring to the recent activities initiated by the United Nations in the cause of peace, said that the Organization continued to be a most effective international peace-keeping instrument. Thailand intended to participate in UNTAG in Namibia by sending personnel to help supervise the elections. His delegation also urged the United Nations to play an active role in Kampuchea, where the Organization's presence should have both a military and a civilian component. The main task should be to supervise and monitor the full implementation of a comprehensive agreement, when such an agreement was reached.

31. Despite recent accomplishments, United Nations peace-keepers could be even more effective. To that end, peace-keeping performance must be under constant review. Exchanges of views on ways to improve effectiveness should be encouraged.

32. The first priority should be to identify the resources available. As recommended by the Special Committee, that task could be accomplished by establishing a registry of potential contributions by Member States of personnel and physical resources. The Secretary-General should also take a leading role in identifying which peace-keeping operations might be performed by civilians. Non-military operations would be of increasing usefulness as the United Nations ventured into the area of election supervision.

33. The sharing of experiences through regional and international seminars and training programmes would also enhance the overall effectiveness of the peace-keepers. His delegation encouraged Member States to consider holding such seminars in the near future.

34. Peace-keeping should have a sound financial basis. Operations should be financed by assessed contributions, and Member States should pay in full and without delay. Voluntary contributions should be encouraged. The proposal to establish a working capital fund should be further discussed. At the same time, the United Nations must ensure the cost-effectiveness of such activities. The prompt reimbursement of countries contributing personnel was essential.

35. Advanced technology, including surveillance satellites, radar, automatic sensors and night-vision equipment, should be utilized in order to enhance the effectiveness of peace-keeping operations and to reduce their cost in the long run.

36. Suggestions had been made to broaden the definition of self-defence to include "necessary" offensive measures. It was important to proceed with extreme caution on that matter. His delegation considered that United Nations peace-keepers should use force only in self-defence as narrowly defined.

37. It was vital for the United Nations to have timely, objective and accurate information on situations of concern around the world. To that end, Thailand had proposed in 1986 the creation of an early-warning system for the prevention of regional conflicts by monitoring global developments that might develop into a crisis.

(Mr. Pibulsonggram, Thailand)

38. Thailand welcomed the creation in 1987 of the United Nations Office for Research and the Collection of Information, which could enhance the effectiveness of United Nations peace-keepers. His Government would like to see an expanded use of the United Nations peace-keepers as an instrument of peace, effectively serving the international community with the consent of the parties concerned.

39. Mr. BOUKADOUM (Algeria) said that never had so many peace-keeping operations been launched in such a short period as during the past two years, demonstrating the growing interest of the international community in United Nations potential for solving regional conflicts. The almost universal recognition of the role peace-keeping operations could play should encourage full use of their potential. Since the main reason for existence of the United Nations was its ability to maintain peace, it was the collective responsibility of Member States to ensure the best possible conditions for peace-keeping operations.

40. After a long period of inactivity, the Special Committee had achieved an unprecedented consensus regarding the role of peace-keeping operations in the settlement of conflicts. On the basis of that consensus, the remaining obstacles to establishing the system of collective security provided for under the Charter must be overcome. The mandate of the Special Committee included drawing up a normative framework for peace-keeping. That was a very important task, since some wished to extend peace-keeping to situations not meeting the definition of a breach of or a threat to international peace and security.

41. In addition to defining the concept of peace-keeping, the Special Committee's mandate included defining the role and areas of competence of all the parties involved in a peace-keeping operation. The experience of UNTAG clearly showed the importance of that task. Although envisaged for over 10 years, UNTAG had needed to mobilize the close attention of the international community, the Security Council and the Secretary-General in order to overcome the innumerable obstacles to the execution of its mandate.

42. In defining the concept of peace-keeping, it was necessary to retain some flexibility in order to take into account the requirements of each operation. Some standardization of procedure was possible, however.

43. Regarding finance, his delegation believed that the permanent members of the Security Council should assume the full consequences of their role in the maintenance of international peace and security. It should also be taken into account that developed countries were more able to contribute to the financing of peace-keeping operations than were developing countries.

44. The revival of the Special Committee was proof that United Nations peace-keeping operations were perceived as a real instrument for the settlement of regional conflicts. New ideas and proposals were being put forward to extend the application of such operations beyond the concept of maintenance of international peace and security as expressed in the Charter. While such proposals deserved consideration, present achievements should first be consolidated. Political



(Mr. Boukadoum, Algeria)

settlements must be sought, as peace-keeping operations were essentially temporary and should only aim to facilitate political settlement. To ignore that truth would be to confuse ends with means, risking a return to the same impasse regarding peace-keeping that had existed since the founding of the United Nations.

45. Mr. JALAL (Bangladesh) said that his country had played an active and supportive role over the past 15 years in United Nations activities for conflict resolution and international peace and security. Bangladesh had contributed personnel to both UNIIMOG and UNTAG. It stood ready to continue providing support to peace-keeping operations despite limited resources, and had always promptly met its financial obligations in that regard.

46. Bangladesh appreciated the report of the Special Committee (A/44/301) and believed that its recommendations would be helpful in establishing peace-keeping operations on a firmer footing and in enhancing the prestige of the United Nations.

47. Mr. HLOPHE (Swaziland) thanked the representative of Canada for his introductory remarks on the item. His delegation fully supported the proposals contained in the Special Committee's report, especially in the annex.

48. Above all, his delegation was heartened by the encouraging signs of progress and the spirit of co-operation and realism in the management of global affairs, and welcomed the announcement of a super-Power conference scheduled for December 1989. The chronic conflicts in the Middle East deserved sustained attention, as did the question of Namibia. He looked forward to Namibia joining the Committee the following year.

49. Peace-keeping operations remained pivotal to the objectives of the Charter. As long as many people continued to cry for freedom, justice and democracy, the world would certainly remain unsafe. Swaziland hoped that nation-States and groupings would refrain from the use of force as an instrument of foreign policy, and that both big and small States would exercise maximum restraint in their conduct of international relations.

50. Mr. SENE (Senegal) said that the United Nations had achieved undeniable success in recent years in peace-keeping operations, as witnessed by the award of the 1988 Nobel Peace Prize to its peace-keeping forces. In 1988 and 1989, a major expansion of peace-keeping activities had taken place, and the role of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes had gained increasing acceptance. Senegal was committed to the support of peace-keeping operations, as demonstrated by its earlier participation in UNIFIL and the presence of a Senegalese contingent in UNIIMOG.

51. His delegation welcomed the reactivation of the Special Committee: first, because the challenges facing the United Nations required serious reflection on enhancing efficiency; secondly, as a sign of the improved political climate that had allowed the Special Committee to achieve tangible results.

(Mr. Sene, Senegal)

52. Regarding the report of the Special Committee (A/44/301), his delegation supported the recommendation for establishing a registry of potential contributions of personnel and equipment. The establishment of an equipment stockpile at the Secretariat level also deserved consideration. The distressing events which had occurred at the start of the UNTAG mission in Namibia demonstrated that a peace-keeping force must be operational from the first day of its deployment.

53. Senegal welcomed the Secretary-General's efforts to broaden participation in peace-keeping operations; in Namibia, over 100 States were participating, which embodied their universal nature. His delegation encouraged the Secretariat to find solutions to certain practical problems, particularly those relating to language, which could limit participation by some States.

54. A lack of financial resources rather than of personnel and equipment was jeopardizing the future of peace-keeping operations. Not only was there the Organization's continuing financial crisis, but prospective operations would soon create an additional burden. For an underdeveloped country, Senegal had had to allocate substantial funds to maintaining its contingent in UNIFIL; hence its interest in the question. Developing countries unable to assume the financial burden of sending or maintaining contingents might have no choice but to forgo participation, which would hardly be desirable, given the Secretary-General's current effort to broaden the base of participation in peace-keeping operations. It was also troubling that budgetary considerations were coming to loom so large in decisions to establish peace-keeping operations, for such considerations should not prevent the Organization from fulfilling its responsibilities. Senegal hailed the Secretary-General's idea of setting up a special reserve fund from voluntary contributions to facilitate the launching of new operations.

55. His delegation concurred fully with the Special Committee's recommendations concerning exchanges of experience, seminars, training programmes and the elaboration of a status-of-forces agreement. The various suggestions for possible future uses of peace-keeping operations in paragraphs 51 to 59 of the annex to the Special Committee's report were very interesting, although one must not lose sight of the fact that the legal basis of any such operation was to maintain international peace and security.

56. Conflict prevention was a fundamental aspect of maintaining international peace and security, and the possibilities offered by the Charter, particularly under Articles 34, 35 and 99, had not yet been fully utilized. All future thinking on peace-keeping operations should include that dimension.

57. As an observer in the Special Committee, Senegal had been encouraged by the pragmatism and open-mindedness of its discussions, which boded well for the future.

58. Mr. HOSSEINI (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that he wished to clarify certain remarks made earlier at the meeting by a delegation regarding UNIIMOG. Iran had fully co-operated with that peace-keeping operation, which had been given two mandates: to observe the cease-fire along the internationally recognized borders of the parties involved; and to supervise the withdrawal of forces to those boundaries. Since the second part of paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 598 (1988) had not yet been implemented, UNIIMOG had not yet been able to fulfil its mandate. Iran was always ready to continue direct talks, under the auspices of the Secretary-General, on the implementation of that Council resolution as expeditiously as possible.

59. Mr. HUSSEN (Iraq), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, reaffirmed that Iraq considered UNIIMOG to be a temporary presence, and that of itself the presence of United Nations observers would not bring about peace unless there was political will and good will on the part of the parties involved. That would be manifested by the implementation of all the paragraphs of Security Council resolution 598 (1988), without singling out any one paragraph. Iraq, of course, welcomed any statement by the Iranian side that it would respect and implement that resolution in order to bring about a just, honourable and durable settlement of the conflict between Iraq and Iran.

60. Mr. HOSSEINI (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that his Government stood ready to continue direct talks as soon as possible, even though the other party had not co-operated in that regard. It should be noted that the Secretary-General's eight-point plan of August 1988 and four-point plan of October 1988 had been accepted by Iran but that Iraq had not clearly responded to the Secretary-General by outlining its position.

61. Mr. HUSSEN (Iraq), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, pointed out that an Iraqi representative had been shuttling between New York and Geneva in an attempt to revive negotiations between the two sides, and that the eight-point plan was one of the matters being discussed in Geneva. The Committee was not the appropriate forum for providing details on the matter.

62. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to draft resolution A/SPC/44/L.6 and Corr.1, on peace-keeping operations and to the Secretary-General's statement of its programme budget implications in document A/SPC/44/L.7.

63. Mr. KIRSCH (Canada), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors, said that it followed past resolutions on the question, except for the paragraphs welcoming the progress made by the Special Committee and taking note of the Secretary-General's report on the work of the Organization, and those reflecting the conclusions and recommendations in the Special Committee's report.

64. After extensive consultations, the sponsors had agreed to a small revision: in paragraph 14, the words "possible new fields" had been changed to "the possible fields".

(Mr. Kirsch, Canada)

65. The sponsors hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

66. Draft resolution A/SPC/44/L.6 and Corr.1, as orally revised, was adopted without a vote.

67. Mr. ACET (Turkey), speaking in explanation of position on the draft resolution said that he had joined the consensus because of the importance Turkey attached to United Nations peace-keeping operations. It felt, however, that paragraph 17 of the draft resolution was restrictive, in the sense that non-member States would be unable to submit observations and suggestions on peace-keeping operations. If such States happened to be directly involved in a peace-keeping situation, their experience might well assist the Special Committee in producing more balanced and comprehensive results.

68. The CHAIRMAN, referring to paragraph 18 of the draft resolution just adopted and its mention of the 1990 session of the Special Committee, said that after consultations with delegations and inquiries with the Department of Conference Services about the availability of staff and facilities, the dates of 16 April to 4 May 1990 were being tentatively suggested. Such an arrangement would not exclude the possibility that the Special Committee might hold other meetings as required, with the authorization of the General Assembly, and with a provision to that effect included in the Committee's report to the Assembly.

69. Mr. GUPTA (India) agreed that it would certainly not be useful for the Special Committee to meet until the second half of April because the Secretariat would need time to circulate the observations and suggestions which, pursuant to paragraph 17 of the draft resolution, were to be submitted by Member States by 1 March 1990. Also, the Special Committee would need time before meeting again to follow up on all its recommendations, particularly the one relating to the establishment of a registry.

70. The CHAIRMAN said that, since meetings had to be scheduled well in advance, he hoped to conclude the consultations as soon as possible and that he would report back to the Committee at a subsequent meeting to secure its approval of the dates.

The meeting rose at 12.25 p.m.