

11. *Requests* all organs other than those listed in paragraph 35 of the report of the Committee on Conferences to consider, in response to General Assembly resolution 2292 (XXII) of 8 December 1967, dispensing with summary records for their meetings and to report to their parent organs as appropriate, so as to enable them to make their decisions available to the Committee on Conferences in time for the latter to present its relevant conclusions to the Assembly at its twenty-fourth session;

12. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session, bearing in mind particularly the results of the reviews envisaged in paragraph 3 above, recommendations relating to the pattern of conferences for the years 1970, 1971 and 1972.

*1752nd plenary meeting,
21 December 1968.*

2479 (XXIII). Inclusion of Russian among the working languages of the General Assembly (amendment to rule 51 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly) and question of including Russian and Spanish among the working languages of the Security Council

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2359 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 on the use of the working languages, which pointed out that the use of several languages by the United Nations could constitute not a hindrance but rather an enrichment and a means of attaining the objectives of the Charter of the United Nations,

Having examined the relevant part of the report submitted by the Secretary-General,³⁰

1. *Decides* to include Russian among the working languages of the General Assembly and to amend accordingly rule 51 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly;

2. *Considers* it desirable to include Russian and Spanish among the working languages of the Security Council;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the President of the Security Council.

*1752nd plenary meeting,
21 December 1968.*

2480 (XXIII). Composition of the Secretariat

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2359 A (XXII) of 19 December 1967,

Reaffirming the need for an equitable distribution of the staff of the Secretariat among Member States as between regions, and within each region, in particular at the level of senior posts,

Reiterating its invitation to the Secretary-General to give preference to candidates from inadequately represented countries, keeping in mind paragraph 73 of the report of the Committee on the Reorganization of the Secretariat,³¹

1. *Notes with appreciation* the information in table 10, based on weighted geographical distribution, contained in the report of the Secretary-General;³²

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include in his future reports a table based on weighted geographical distribution;

3. *Renews* its request to the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to achieve a better geographical distribution of the staff of the Secretariat at all levels;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

*1752nd plenary meeting,
21 December 1968.*

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2241 B (XXI) of 20 December 1966 and 2359 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 relating to the use of the working languages and to the establishment of a language bonus, and in particular paragraph 3 (a) of resolution 2359 B (XXII) concerning the need to ensure a linguistic balance within the Secretariat,

Having considered the relevant part of the report submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 2359 B (XXII),³³

Having noted with satisfaction the measures recommended by the Secretary-General in his report with a view to bringing about a broad expansion of the language training programme already conducted by the Secretariat and ensuring its effectiveness by incentives in the matter of the promotion of staff in the Professional category subject to geographical distribution,³⁴

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with a view to ensuring a linguistic balance, to take the following steps:

(a) From 1 January 1970 the acceptable minimum requirement at the moment of recruitment will be:

(i) Ability to use one of the working languages of the Secretariat, or

(ii) Ability to use one of the working languages of a United Nations organ in the case of staff members recruited for one of the sections of the Secretariat working for that organ, it being understood that such staff members will not be appointed on a permanent basis, or that their fixed-term engagement will not be extended beyond two years, until they are able to work in one of the working languages of the Secretariat;

(b) From 1 January 1972:

(i) All promotions from one grade to another, from P-1 to D-2 inclusive, for staff subject to geographical distribution will be conditional upon adequate and confirmed knowledge of a second language; nevertheless, the Secretary-General may authorize the promotion of the staff members specified above who do not fulfil that condition if he deems it necessary for the proper functioning of the Secretariat; the Secretary-General shall indicate what action has been taken in this respect in his annual report to the General Assembly on personnel questions;

³⁰ *Ibid.*, Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 81, document A/7334.

³¹ *Ibid.*, addendum to agenda item 74 (A/7359), annex.

³² *Ibid.*, agenda item 81, document A/7334, annex III.

³³ *Ibid.*, document A/7334.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, paras. 52-60 and 88-95.