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President: Mr. Ismat T. KITTANI (Iraq).

AGENDA ITEM 5

Election of the officers of the Main Committees

1. The PRESIDENT: I should like to inform Members that the following representatives have been elected Chairmen of the seven Main Committees of the General Assembly and are accordingly members of the General Committee of the Assembly for the thirty-sixth session [decision 36/303]. I congratulate them on their election:

- First Committee:* Mr. Ignac Golob (Yugoslavia);
- Special Political Committee:* Mr. Nathan Irumba (Uganda);
- Second Committee:* Mr. Leandro I. Verceles (Philippines);
- Third Committee:* Mr. Declan O'Donovan (Ireland);
- Fourth Committee:* Mr. Jasim Youssif Jamal (Qatar);
- Fifth Committee:* Mr. Abdel-Rahman Abdalla (Sudan);
- Sixth Committee:* Mr. Juan José Calle (Peru).

2. May I, at this juncture, pay a tribute to my predecessor Mr. von Wechmar, who facilitated our task in the election of the Chairmen of the Main Committees. I know that he met regularly with the Chairmen of the regional groups to seek agreement among them, thus avoiding any difficulties and facilitating the work of the organization of this session. I thank him and all those who have made this possible.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly

3. The PRESIDENT: Pursuant to rule 31 of the rules of procedure, we shall now proceed to the election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly, who are to be chosen in such a manner as to ensure the representative character of the General Committee.

4. All Members of the General Assembly are eligible in this election except those already represented in the General Committee—namely, those countries whose representatives have been elected to the presidency of the General Assembly or to the chairmanships of the Main Committees.

5. In accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the annex to resolution 33/138 of 19 December 1978, the 21 Vice-Presidents shall be elected according to the following pattern: six representatives from African States, four representatives from Asian States, one representative from an Eastern European State, three representatives from Latin American States, two representatives from Western European or other States, and five representatives from the permanent members of the Security Council.

6. In accordance with paragraph 16 of General Assembly decision 34/401, the election of the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly by secret ballot will be dispensed with when the number of candidates corresponds to the number of seats to be filled. In other words, whenever the number of candidates in a given group corresponds to the number of seats to be filled in that group, those candidates will be declared elected. We shall proceed accordingly.

7. With the permission of the Assembly, I shall read the list of candidates nominated by four of the groups on which there is no controversy:

- African States: Benin, Botswana, Morocco, Rwanda, Seychelles and Togo;
- Asian States: Cyprus, Indonesia, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea;
- Eastern European State: Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic;
- Western European or other States: Australia and Sweden.

8. Since the number of candidates nominated by the African, Asian and Eastern European Groups and the Group of Western European or other States corresponds to the number of seats to be filled in each group, I declare those candidates elected in addition to the five permanent members of the Security Council Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly.

9. Regarding the Latin American Group of States, I call on the representative of Honduras, its Chairman.

10. Mr. CARÍAS ZAPATA (Honduras) (*interpretation from Spanish*): As Chairman of the Latin American Group of States, I should like to report to the members of the General Assembly that there are five countries from the Group that have submitted their candidacies for the three vice-presidencies of the General Assembly that correspond to our region. They are, in alphabetical order: Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama and Suriname.

11. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now hold a ballot for the one group which has more candidates than the seats to be filled—namely, the Latin American Group of States.

12. In accordance with existing practice, the required number of candidates which receives the largest number of votes and not less than the majority required will be declared elected. In the case of a tie vote for the last place there will be a restricted ballot limited to those candidates which have obtained an equal number of votes. May I take it that the General Assembly agrees to proceed in that manner?

It was so decided.

13. The PRESIDENT: The ballot papers will now be distributed. I request Members of the Assembly to use only those ballot papers and to write the names of the countries for which they wish to vote—names of countries, not names of persons. The ballot paper indicates the number of Members to be elected. Ballot papers containing more than that number will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mahoney (Gambia), Mr. Szeremeta (Poland) and Mr. Rodrigo (Sri Lanka) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

14. The PRESIDENT: I propose to suspend the meeting during the ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 7.35 p.m. and resumed at 8.05 p.m.

15. The PRESIDENT: The results of the voting are as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	150
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	150
<i>Abstentions:</i>	0
<i>Number of Members voting:</i>	150
<i>Required majority:</i>	76

Number of votes obtained:

Panama	114
Mexico	113
Cuba	89
Suriname	83
Guatemala	40
Nicaragua	1

Having obtained the required majority, Cuba, Mexico and Panama were elected Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly from Latin American States.

16. The PRESIDENT: With the election of the candidates from the Group of Latin American States, which completes the list shown above [para. 7], I declare the elections to the seats of Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly concluded. I declare these candidates elected, in addition to the five permanent members of the Security Council.

The representatives of the following Member States were elected Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly: Australia, Benin, Botswana, Cuba, Cyprus, France, Ghana, Indonesia, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sweden, Togo, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America (decision 36/304).

17. The PRESIDENT: I wish to express my thanks to the tellers for their assistance and I congratulate the countries whose representatives have been elected Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly.

18. The General Committee has now been fully constituted.

The meeting rose at 8.10 p.m.