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Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 7 November 1997, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Chowdhury (Bangladesh)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions: Mr. Mselle

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Agenda item 17: Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

1. The Chairman drew attention to rule 92 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly concerning elections by secret ballot and to paragraph 16 of decision 34/401 on the same subject.

(a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/52/101/Rev.1; A/C.5/52/5)

2. The Chairman drew attention to rules 155 and 156 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and said that the Assembly needed to appoint five persons for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1998 to fill the vacancies that would arise in the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on 31 December 1997. According to the Secretary-General's note (A/C.5/52/5), seven persons had been nominated by their Governments. Since the number of candidates endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Group of Eastern European States, respectively, was equal to the number of vacancies for each group, he took it that the Committee wished to take its decision by acclamation.

3. It was so decided.

4. The Committee decided to recommend the appointment of Mr. Maycock (Barbados) and Mr. Barac (Romania) to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

5. The Chairman said that, since the Group of African States had endorsed one candidate for one of the two vacancies for that Group, he took it that the Committee wished to take a decision on that candidate by acclamation. A vote would be taken by secret ballot in the case of the other vacancy for the Group of African States and for the one vacancy for the Group of Asian States.

6. Mr. Ould Deddach (Mauritania) said that the Group of African States had not in fact made a recommendation with respect to either of the two vacancies. A vote should therefore be taken by secret ballot for both of them.

7. Mr. Mochochoko (Lesotho), speaking as Chairman of the Group of African States, said that the Group had indeed endorsed a candidate for one of the two vacancies; it had taken no decision with respect to the other vacancy.

8. Mr. Ould Deddach (Mauritania) said that he was surprised by the statement made by the representative of

Lesotho. No such decision had been taken by the Group of African States. Its Candidatures Committee had in fact recommended the endorsement of the candidates from Mauritania and the United Republic of Tanzania; the representative of Lesotho had not mentioned that fact. His delegation was sure that the Committee would not accept such a situation and would take a vote by secret ballot to decide on both vacancies. If necessary, the Chairman of the Group of African States should arrange for the matter to be reconsidered by the Group.

9. Mr. Ouane (Mali), Mr. Darwish (Egypt), Mr. Agona (Uganda), Mr. Yussuf (United Republic of Tanzania), Mr. Jonah (Sierra Leone), Mr. Tessema (Ethiopia), Mr. Erwa (Sudan) and Mr. Kasanda (Zambia) endorsed the statement made by the representative of Lesotho.

10. The Chairman suggested that a vote should be taken by secret ballot for both vacancies for the Group of African States.

11. Mr. Mochochoko (Lesotho) said that, as Chairman of the Group of African States, he could not accept the Chairman's suggestion.

12. The Chairman said that he therefore took it that the Committee wished to suspend its consideration of item 17(a) until later in the meeting.

13. It was so decided.

(c) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors (A/52/103; A/C.5/52/7)

14. The Chairman drew attention to document A/C.5/52/7, in which the Secretary-General informed the Committee that the Government of the United Kingdom had nominated the Comptroller and Auditor-General of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for reappointment to the Board of Auditors for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 July 1998. Since there was only one candidate for the vacant post, he took it that the Committee wished to take its decision by acclamation.

15. It was so decided.

16. The Committee decided to recommend that the Comptroller and Auditor-General of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland should be appointed to the Board of Auditors.

- (d) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee (A/52/104; A/C.5/52/8)

17. The Chairman drew attention to document A/C.5/52/8, in which the Secretary-General submitted for confirmation by the General Assembly the appointment or reappointment of three members of the Investments Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1998. He took it that the Committee wished to take its decision by acclamation.

18. It was so decided.

19. The Committee decided to recommend the reappointment of Mr. Abdullatif (Saudi Arabia) and Mr. Chico Pardo (Mexico) and the appointment of Mr. Pillay (Singapore) to the Investments Committee.

- (e) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal (A/52/105; A/C.5/52/9)

20. The Chairman drew attention to document A/C.5/52/9, in which the Secretary-General communicated to the General Assembly the names of two persons nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment to the United Nations Administrative Tribunal for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1998. Since the number of candidates was equal to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Committee wished to take its decision by acclamation.

21. It was so decided.

22. The Committee decided to recommend the reappointment of Mr. Thierry (France) and Mr. Balanda (Democratic Republic of the Congo) and the appointment of Mr. Amerasinghe (Sri Lanka) to the United Nations Administrative Tribunal.

- (f) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission (A/52/106 and A/C.5/52/10)

23. The Chairman drew attention to document A/C.5/52/10, in which the Secretary-General communicated to the General Assembly the names of five persons nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment to the International Civil Service Commission for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1998. Since the number of candidates corresponded to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Committee wished to take its decision by acclamation.

24. It was so decided.

25. The Committee decided to recommend the reappointment of Mr. Bettati (France), Ms. Myers (United States of America), Mr. Stephanou (Greece) and Mr. Tashiro (Japan) and the appointment of Mr. de Médicis (Brazil) to the International Civil Service Commission.

26. The Chairman said that, as noted in document A/C.5/52/10, the Secretary-General had been informed of the resignation of Mr. Chepourin (Russian Federation) as a member of the Commission and of the nomination of a candidate from the Group of Eastern European States to fill the unexpired portion of the term of office of Mr. Chepourin.

27. The Committee decided to recommend the appointment of Mr. Fedotov (Russian Federation) to the International Civil Service Commission for a term of office beginning on the date of confirmation of the election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

- (g) Appointment of members and alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee (A/52/107 and A/C.5/52/11 and Add.1)

28. The Chairman drew attention to documents A/C.5/52/11 and Add.1, in which the Secretary-General communicated to the General Assembly the names of six persons nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment to the United Nations Staff Pension Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1998. Since no nominations had been received for the remaining two vacancies, he suggested that the Committee should postpone to a later date its decision on the candidates to fill those vacancies. He took it that the Committee wished to take its decision by acclamation on the six candidates nominated.

29. It was so decided.

30. The Committee decided to recommend the reappointment of Mr. Inomata (Japan), Mr. Kuznetsov (Russian Federation), Mr. Okanda Owade (Kenya), Mr. Riva (Argentina) and Ms. Shearouse (United States of America) and the appointment of Mr. Küntzle (Germany) to the United Nations Staff Pension Committee.

- (b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions (A/52/102/Rev.1 and A/C.5/52/6)

31. The Chairman drew attention to document A/C.5/52/6, in which the Secretary-General communicated to the General Assembly the names of eight persons nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment to the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1998. Since the number of

candidates endorsed by the Group of African States, the Group of Asian States and the Group of Western European and Other States, respectively, corresponded to the number of vacancies for each group, he took it that the Committee wished to take its decision by acclamation on the four candidates from those three groups.

32. It was so decided.

33. The Committee decided to recommend the reappointment of Mr. Etuket (Uganda) and Mr. Leis (United States of America) and the appointment of Mr. Shah (India) and Mr. Watanabe (Japan) to the Committee on Contributions.

34. The Chairman invited the Committee to elect by secret ballot two candidates from the Group of Eastern European States. The Government of Bulgaria had decided to withdraw the candidate it had nominated.

35. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Hanson-Hall (Ghana), Mr. Sial (Pakistan) and Mrs. Emerson (Portugal) acted as tellers.

36. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	171
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	170
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	169
Required majority:	85
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Blukis (Latvia)	128
Mr. Humenny (Ukraine)	127
Mr. Kinst (Czech Republic)	79

37. Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Blukis (Latvia) and Mr. Humenny (Ukraine) were recommended for reappointment to the Committee on Contributions.

- (a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (continued) (A/52/101/Rev.1 and A/C.5/52/5)

38. Mr. Mochochoko (Lesotho), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, said he could confirm that the Group endorsed the candidate nominated by the United Republic of Tanzania. In the interest of saving time, however, the Group was willing to participate in a vote by secret ballot to determine which candidates from the Group should be recommended for appointment.

39. The Chair man, after recalling the provisions of rule 94 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, invited

the Committee to elect by secret ballot two candidates from the Group of African States.

40. At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. González-Posse (Argentina), Mr. Monayair (Kuwait) and Mrs. Emerson (Portugal) acted as tellers.

41. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	172
Number of valid ballots:	172
Number of members voting:	172
Required majority:	87
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Mselle (United Republic of Tanzania)	147
Mr. Maïga (Mali)	129
Mr. Ould El Cheikh Ghaouth (Mauritania)	55

42. Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Maïga (Mali) and Mr. Mselle (United Republic of Tanzania) were recommended for reappointment to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

43. The Chairman invited the Committee to elect by secret ballot one candidate from the Group of Asian States.

44. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Van de Velde (Belgium), Mrs. Emerson (Portugal) and Ms. Achouri (Tunisia) acted as tellers.

45. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	172
Number of valid ballots:	172
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	171
Required majority:	86
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Jawarneh (Jordan)	113
Mr. Al-Masri (Syrian Arab Republic)	58

46. Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Jawarneh (Jordan) was recommended for appointment to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.