



President: Mr. Imre HOLLAI (Hungary).

*In the absence of the President, Mr. Cinéas (Haiti),
Vice-President, took the Chair.*

Organization of work

1. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Before we take up consideration of the agenda items scheduled for this afternoon, I should like to inform the Assembly that the President of the General Assembly has received a letter from the Chairman of the Second Committee requesting that the deadline for the draft resolutions with financial implications, which had been set at Wednesday, 8 December, be now postponed until Monday, 13 December. May I take it that the General Assembly consents to this request?

It was so decided.

2. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I am certain that all delegations share the hope of the President that this additional time will make it possible for the Second Committee to complete its work within the deadline it has set for itself.

AGENDA ITEM 60

Effects of atomic radiation: report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation

AGENDA ITEM 61

Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories

AGENDA ITEM 62

International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space:

- (a) Report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;
- (b) Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space:
 - (i) Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference;
 - (ii) Report of the Conference

AGENDA ITEM 63

Preparation of an international convention on principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

AGENDA ITEM 131

Question of the review of the Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects

AGENDA ITEM 64

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects

AGENDA ITEM 67

Questions relating to information:

- (a) Report of the Committee on Information;
- (b) Report of the Secretary-General;
- (c) Report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

AGENDA ITEM 69

Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India

AGENDA ITEM 70

Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations

3. Mr. LOĞOĞLU (Turkey), Rapporteur of the Special Political Committee: I have the honour to present to the General Assembly for its consideration this afternoon seven reports of the Special Political Committee.

4. The first report which is before the Assembly is contained in document A/37/573 and relates to agenda item 60. The Special Political Committee considered this item at two meetings and, after hearing 18 statements in the general debate, adopted a draft resolution without a vote. The draft resolution, which appears in paragraph 7 of the report, is recommended to the General Assembly for adoption.

5. The second report relates to agenda item 61 and is contained in document A/37/698. Ten meetings of the Special Political Committee were devoted to this item and 45 delegations took part in the discussion. Seven draft resolutions, all of which were adopted by recorded votes, appear in paragraph 24 of the report and are recommended to the General Assembly for adoption.

6. The third report, contained in document A/37/646, relates to agenda items 62, 63 and 131, which the Committee considered concurrently. Item 131 is a new item. The Special Political Committee devoted 10 meetings to consideration of these items, between 1 and 23 November, and heard 58 speakers in the general debate. Three draft resolutions were introduced by the representative of Austria, all of which were adopted

by the Special Political Committee without a vote. A fourth draft resolution, introduced by the representative of Brazil, was adopted by a recorded vote. The four draft resolutions, which are set out in paragraph 18 of the report before the Assembly, are entitled: "International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space"; "Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space"; "Question of the review of the Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects" and "Preparation of an international convention on principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting". They are recommended to the General Assembly for adoption.

7. With regard to agenda item 64, the report of the Committee is contained in document A/37/686. The Committee considered this item at four meetings and heard 19 statements in the general debate. The draft resolution that was presented to the Committee for consideration by its Chairman following informal consultations was adopted without a vote. The text of the draft resolution, which the Special Political Committee recommends to the General Assembly for adoption, appears in paragraph 6 of the report.

8. Turning to agenda item 67, the Committee's report is contained in document A/37/707. Eleven meetings were devoted to the consideration of this item, and 72 speakers participated in the general debate. Of the two draft resolutions, which appear in paragraph 15 of the report and are recommended to the General Assembly for adoption, one was adopted by the Committee without a vote, and the other was adopted by a recorded vote, after lengthy deliberations in the Committee's open-ended working group on questions relating to information.

9. The report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 69 is contained in document A/37/709. For the reasons set out in paragraph 3 of the report, the Special Political Committee recommends that the General Assembly include the item in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session.

10. With regard to agenda item 70, the Committee's report is contained in document A/37/703. For the reasons set out in paragraph 3 of the report, the Special Political Committee recommends that the General Assembly include this item in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session.

Pursuant to rule 66 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the reports of the Special Political Committee.

11. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Statements will be limited to explanations of vote. Delegations have stated their positions in the Special Political Committee on the various recommendations of that Committee and they have been recorded in the relevant official records.

12. May I remind members that, according to paragraph 7 of General Assembly decision 34/401, when the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once—that is, either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee.

13. I now invite members to turn their attention to the seven reports of the Special Political Committee. We shall consider first the report on agenda item 60 [A/37/573]. The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 7 of its report. The Committee adopted that draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly also wishes to adopt it?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 37/87).

14. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We turn now to the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 61 [A/37/698]. After we have heard representatives who wish to explain their votes on draft resolutions A to G, I shall put those draft resolutions to the Assembly one by one. After all the votes have been taken, representatives will again be given an opportunity to explain their votes.

15. I call on the representative of Israel for an explanation of vote before the vote.

16. Mr. LEVIN (Israel): In connection with draft resolution A in document A/37/698, this draft resolution is focused on the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949. I dwelt at length on this subject in the course of my statement at the 40th meeting of the Special Political Committee, on 30 November 1982. I explained on that occasion, as indeed my delegation has pointed out time and again, that although we do not acknowledge the applicability of this Convention to the areas administered by Israel, we in fact apply its principles to the inhabitants in those areas. We even go further than the requirements of the Convention.

17. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I call on the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to speak on a point of order.

18. Mr. EL-FATTAL (Syrian Arab Republic) (*interpretation from Arabic*): I believe that the representative of the Zionist entity explained his vote in the Special Political Committee and that according to our rules of procedure he has no right to explain his vote a second time. May we have a ruling on this matter, Mr. President?

19. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): According to the rules, "as far as possible" delegations which have had an opportunity to explain their vote in a Main Committee should not do so in plenary meeting.

20. The representative of Israel is authorized to continue his explanation of vote before the vote.

21. Mr. LEVIN (Israel): We even go further than the requirements of the Convention and grant the population privileges not laid down in it. I enumerated several of these privileges in the debate.

22. Whether the Convention is applicable or not in the case in question is a matter for legal interpretation. Israel's position in the matter is supported by acknowledged authorities in the field of international law. The important thing is that the population has in practice the benefits of the Convention. Under these circumstances, draft resolution A is not acceptable to us, and we shall vote against it.

23. In draft resolution C we have before us a draft resolution indeed worthy of the biased report of the

Special Committee in document A/37/485. This draft resolution adopts various false allegations put forward by that Committee and at the same time completely disregards the actual circumstances prevailing in the areas administered by Israel. The draft resolution ignores the principle of international law that, in addition to ensuring the welfare of the local population, the authorities have a clear duty to protect that population, together with their own, against the dangers of disorder and terrorism.

24. In my statement to the Special Political Committee on 30 November, I dealt at length with the biased methods used by the Special Committee. Typical of these methods is the fact that the false information and conclusions presented to us by that Committee rely heavily on such unreliable pieces of evidence as the testimony of criminals and terrorists.

25. Relying on evidence of this sort, draft resolution C in fact repeats the major false allegations of the Special Committee, as has been done in previous years. Faithful to the tradition of similar resolutions in the past, it also renews the mandate of the Special Committee, which has become a sinecure for its members. Needless to say, we reject this draft resolution and we shall vote against it.

26. I come to draft resolution D. On 2 May 1980, an attack on Jewish worshippers took place outside the Hadassah House in Hebron, leaving six worshippers dead and 16 wounded. The Israel authorities had to take a number of steps to prevent the recurrence of this kind of outrage. These steps included the expulsion of the then Mayors of Hebron and Halhul and the Sharia Judge of Hebron. These three individuals had been actively and systematically engaged over the preceding months in inciting the local Arab population to acts of violence and subversion against Israel and Israelis alike.

27. Following their expulsion, these men have had full recourse to the Israel judicial system. The orders against them were upheld by the Supreme Court. The declarations and conduct of the individuals concerned since their expulsion have only added support to Israel's position, which is guided by a concern for the welfare of its population and that of the areas under its administration. The situation facing Israel, which is one of open threats of war and terror, requires my Government to attach the utmost importance to its duty to safeguard public order and security. Draft resolution D, therefore, is unacceptable to us and we shall vote against it.

28. Draft resolution E, apparently initiated by Syria, is yet another manifestation of that country's continual campaign of hostile and vicious propaganda against the State of Israel, a campaign waged by Syria both in the United Nations and elsewhere. The draft resolution furnishes further evidence of Syria's stubborn refusal even to contemplate, let alone enter into, negotiations with Israel on the basis of Security Council resolution 242 (1967), which, as is well known, was rejected by Syria.

29. For long years, Syria repeatedly used the Golan Heights to launch attacks against Israel by regular and irregular forces. For long years, Syrian gun emplacements on those strategic hills rained death and destruction on Israeli civilians going about their day-to-day

business in the towns and villages in the north of Israel. Syrian forces stationed on the Heights gave cover and support to terrorist infiltrators *en route* to attack civilian targets and disrupt normal life in Israel.

30. Since draft resolution E constitutes a weapon in the ongoing Syrian warfare against my country and since it ignores the causes of Israel's presence in the Golan, my delegation will vote against it. I should like to add only that the Syrian position—

31. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I call on the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to speak on a point of order.

32. Mr. EL-FATTAL (Syrian Arab Republic): My understanding is, Mr. President, that you ruled that the representative of Israel could continue his explanation of vote on a resolution that was adopted by the Spécial Political Committee. To my knowledge, representatives of delegations—here I am not speaking only of Israel—that have explained their votes in Committees cannot explain them again in the General Assembly and open a debate. Is my understanding correct or incorrect? I want only to know what the rule is.

33. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): In its decision 34/401 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the General Assembly, the Assembly decided in section E, "Explanations of vote", in paragraph 6:

"Explanations of vote should be limited to 10 minutes."

and in paragraph 7:

"When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

The wording is "as far as possible". That is why I authorized the representative of Israel to continue his explanation of vote before the vote.

34. I call on the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to speak on a point of order.

35. Mr. EL-FATTAL (Syrian Arab Republic) (*interpretation from French*): Can you explain to us, Mr. President, what is meant by "as far as possible" and who interprets that phrase?

36. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): There are precedents on this matter in the Assembly. If the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic is not satisfied with my explanation, we shall have to consult the Legal Counsel. The representative of Israel is authorized to continue his explanation of vote before the vote.

37. Mr. LEVIN (Israel): The Syrian position of sustained enmity notwithstanding, Israel calls again on Syria to forsake the path of belligerence and to opt for peace and negotiations between our two countries, without any pre-conditions.

38. With regard to draft resolution F, I should only like to say that, in the course of my statement on 30 November, I also explained at length the policy of the Israeli authorities aimed at the enhancement of educational institutions in the areas under Israel's

administration. Draft resolution F is yet another example of distortions of the facts and wild accusations against my country. We shall therefore vote against that draft resolution.

39. In conclusion, I should like to ease the confusion of the Syrian representative. My delegation did not make any statement in explanation of its vote on this item in the Special Political Committee. We did make use of our right to explain our vote in the Committee on another item on the agenda.

40. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The Assembly will now take a decision on the seven draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 24 of its report on agenda item 61 [A/37/698].

41. The Assembly will now vote on draft resolution A. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Israel.

Abstaining: United States of America.

Draft resolution A was adopted by 134 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (resolution 37/88 A).

42. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The Assembly will now vote on draft resolution B. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Social-

ist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Israel.

Abstaining: United States of America.

Draft resolution B was adopted by 134 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (resolution 37/88 B).

43. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We turn now to draft resolution C. The administrative and financial implications of that draft resolution are to be found in the report of the Fifth Committee [A/37/725]. Separate, recorded votes have been requested on operative paragraphs 6 and 16 of the draft resolution.

44. As I hear no objection, the Assembly will vote first on operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal,¹ Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United

Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Solomon Islands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Austria, Barbados, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Gabon, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Liberia, Malawi, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Zaire.

Operative paragraph 6 of draft resolution C was adopted by 93 votes to 20, with 20 abstentions.

45. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The Assembly will now vote on operative paragraph 16 of draft resolution C. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Austria, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Greece, Haiti, Portugal, Solomon Islands, Spain, Zaire.

Operative paragraph 16 of draft resolution C was adopted by 107 votes to 19, with 9 abstentions.

46. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I shall now put to the vote draft resolution C as a whole. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Draft resolution C, as a whole, was adopted by 112 votes to 2, with 21 abstentions (resolution 37/88 C).

47. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now turn to draft resolution D. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand,

Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Israel.

Abstaining: United States of America.

Draft resolution D was adopted by 133 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (resolution 37/88 D).²

48. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We now turn to draft resolution E. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Israel.

Abstaining: Malawi, United States of America.

Draft resolution E was adopted by 133 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions (resolution 37/88 E).

49. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I shall now put to the vote draft resolution F. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic,

Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Burma, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Zaire.

Draft resolution F was adopted by 110 votes to 2, with 24 abstentions (resolution 37/88 F).

50. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Finally, we come to draft resolution G. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia,

Against: Israel.

Abstaining: United States of America.

Draft resolution G was adopted by 134 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (resolution 37/88 G).

51. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I call upon the representative of Jamaica who wishes to speak in explanation of vote.

52. Mr. SMITH (Jamaica): I wish to make a brief statement concerning my delegation's vote on two of the resolutions just adopted by the Assembly. Jamaica voted in favour of draft resolution C. We did so because the resolution reflects our concern that the civil and human rights of the civilian population in the territories occupied since 1967 should be safeguarded. However, Jamaica regards the language of operative paragraph 7 (i) as excessive. We also supported draft resolution F, on policies and practices in respect of schools, universities and other educational institutions, but we wish to state for the record that the language of operative paragraph 2 was not acceptable in its entirety to my delegation.

53. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now invite representatives to turn their attention to the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda items 62, 63 and 131 [A/37/646]. The Assembly will now take a decision on the four draft resolutions recommended by the Committee in paragraph 18 of its report.

54. The Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space", without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 37/89).

55. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution II, entitled "Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space". The report of the Fifth Committee on the administrative and financial implications of that draft resolution appears in document A/37/726. The Special Political Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 37/90).

56. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The Committee also adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Question of the review of the Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects", without a vote. May I consider that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 37/91).

57. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now invite members to turn their attention to draft resolution IV, entitled "Principles Governing the Use by States of Artificial Earth Satellites for International Direct Television Broadcasting". A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo,

Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Canada, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Lebanon, Malawi, Morocco, New Zealand, Portugal, Sweden.

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 107 votes to 13, with 13 abstentions (resolution 37/92).³

58. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I shall now call upon those representatives who wish to explain their votes.

59. Mr. CHEN CHARPENTIER (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*): In approving the principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting, Mexico wishes to state for the record the position we have adopted throughout the negotiations on those principles in the Legal Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, namely that it is essential, before establishing any international television broadcasts by satellite, not only to consult receiving States, but also to obtain their prior agreement by an appropriate agreement or arrangement. Fortunately, nothing in the principles we have approved today is contrary to that interpretation. Consequently Mexico's vote is to be regarded as being strictly subject to that interpretation.

60. Mr. ADELMAN (United States of America): My delegation joined in the consensus on draft resolution II, on the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, because we place great store in the consensus principle on matters relating to outer space. That principle has served the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space very well during the 25 years of its existence, and that has also been the case when outer space questions have come before the General Assembly. That is why my delegation made a lengthy statement of regret last month, when the sponsors of a draft resolution on direct television broadcasting by satellite insisted that their draft resolution be put to the vote in the Special Political Committee. That decision caused my delegation to

consider whether our reservations concerning the draft resolution on the Conference warranted a recorded vote today. The conclusion reached was that the advantages we all derive from working on the basis of consensus, and the positive action of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in reducing unwarranted financial costs permitted us, though reluctantly, to join the consensus.

61. My delegation has always considered and considers now that the report of the Conference [*A/CONF.101/10 and Corr.1 and 2*] does not call for United Nations budget expenditures over and above regular United Nations budget allocations for outer space activities. That budget allocation is already sizeable.

62. It is the belief of my delegation that the practice of financial austerity that has been begun this year must be pursued and rendered more effective in coming years. According to the report of the Conference, any increase in personnel costs next year should be absorbed by rearranging priorities within the resources available in the 1984-1985 budget. We believe that any increase in costs can be and should be absorbed by rearranging priorities within the resources available in the 1984-1985 budget.

63. Mr. ALBORNOZ (Ecuador) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Ecuador voted in favour of draft resolution IV and joined in the consensus on the other draft resolutions. We had hoped that there would be no vote on draft resolution IV and that the constructive approach of consensus would be used in that case also, since it concerns the principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting. My delegation hopes that in future questions in this area will continue to be decided on with the consensus of all participants.

64. As regards the text of the principles themselves, it has been necessary to mention more than the outer space Treaty, which, as we all know, has several shortcomings that warrant a review. That is why, in addition to a reference to the outer space Treaty, there are references, in paragraph 4 of the annex to the draft resolution, to the Charter of the United Nations, the relevant provisions of the International Telecommunication Convention and its Radio Regulations, and the international instruments relating to friendly relations and co-operation among States and to human rights.

65. My delegation considers that the principle of prior consultation is essential in the field of broadcasting by satellites because it guarantees the effectiveness and real application of the principle of freedom of information. The fact is that the principle of freedom of information must include the possibility of making choices, which would not exist for a captive audience subject to saturation by programmes transmitted by satellite.

66. We are keenly interested in the progress of remote sensing, but we insist on the right of the observed State to be consulted before such action is taken and we should have liked to have seen the duty of prior consultation expressed more clearly in draft resolution IV as taking place not only at the request of a broadcasting or receiving State, but simply as a customary, complete and mandatory practice.

67. I repeat, the exercise of freedom implies the existence of the options of participation and consultation. It cannot be understood as a right to saturate from satellites a captive subjacent population, whose only option is that of turning off the television set. Out of mutual respect for the sovereignty of countries and for the means of social communication existing in each country, a system of equitable standards has to be the response of an international community based on principles of law. Of course, it is gratifying to note that the draft resolution refers to the principle of the peaceful settlement of disputes, which is fundamental to Ecuador and a basis of the Charter of the United Nations.

68. Mr. ROCHEREAU de La SABLIERE (France) (*interpretation from French*): The French delegation would like to explain its vote on draft resolution IV, in connection with which France's vote was different from its vote in the Special Political Committee.

69. During the negotiations that have been going on in recent weeks on the principles that should govern the use by States of satellites for direct television broadcasting, the French delegation has constantly displayed a conciliatory attitude. It could have accepted the text of the draft resolution submitted to us today, while at the same time formulating certain reservations on the section concerning the responsibility of States. Indeed, the principle invoked in this respect can be applied only to the extent that existing international law recognized by France allows this. It cannot be invoked to question the content of international direct television broadcasts by satellite. It cannot have greater scope than that envisaged in article VI of the outer space Treaty of 1967.

70. Having said this, the French delegation did not go along with the majority because it cannot accept a procedure that has led the General Assembly to resort to a vote on this question.

71. The French delegation has already had occasion to indicate the very great importance it attaches, for the future work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, to making sure that the draft resolution submitted to the Assembly on the question of direct television broadcasting by satellite should be approved by all the members of the Committee. Moreover, it considers that, in the absence of such a consensus, Governments will pay less attention to the resolution and it will have less authority.

72. That is why the French delegation unfortunately had to abstain on this draft resolution.

73. Mr. RODRÍGUEZ-MEDINA (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Over a period of 10 years, my country and some 15 others, in a working group—the Legal Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space—negotiated a draft set of principles to govern the use by States of satellites for direct television broadcasting. Throughout that time, we vainly sought to reach agreement by consensus, so as to have common criteria on such an important subject. The great Powers, alleging so-called violations of the principle of the free flow of information, objected to the consensus.

74. The true reason for this is that apparently they do not wish to have any barriers to their technological development. Our belief is contrary to theirs. We be-

lieve that legal principles should regulate technological development, particularly in the case of new means of communication based primarily on that technological capacity, because direct television broadcasting by satellite is a new means of communication that implies the greatest danger of the export of culture that could possibly be imagined.

75. There is talk about freedom of information, but those that advocate it forget that such freedom applies not only to the broadcasting but also to the reception and the content of the message. Our countries believe that they should be consulted and that their authorization should be requested for broadcasting directed to their peoples. Our countries also believe that all States must be responsible for programmes produced under their jurisdiction and that international co-operation in direct broadcasting by satellite should be the subject of agreements between States.

76. We were and are the first to regret that there was no consensus in these negotiations. We showed as much flexibility as possible, but we cannot conceive of that practice of consensus becoming in fact an instrument of veto, nor can we allow it to do so. That is why Colombia and 106 other countries voted in favour of draft resolution IV.

77. We also believe that, contrary to the opinion of some Powers, the resolution we have approved here should become a guideline for the International Telecommunication Union in the future planning of orbital uses and positions. This is most important and we cannot but be pleased that the General Assembly has taken a stand in the face of a process of accelerated commercialization.

78. Mr. GONZÁLEZ (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): The delegation of Chile voted in favour of the draft resolution on the use of satellites for direct television broadcasting, since, in general, it takes into account the desires of developing countries with regard to the subject.

79. We believe that during the numerous—indeed, innumerable—negotiations, formal and informal and of every kind, that were held on this subject, we were close to achieving and preserving the desired consensus. Nevertheless, it was not possible to establish an adequate balance between the principle of the free flow of information, in which we fervently believe, and the responsibility of States. Nor did we succeed in these negotiations, in clearly establishing the principle of the prior consent of the receiving country, although the least and most essential element for any sovereign nation is to be consulted on facts or deeds which may decisively influence and negatively affect its cultural and political identity.

80. Our country, like the other sponsors of the draft resolution, only wished to maintain on this specific item, suitable consistency with the principles and rules which govern outer space activities and to ensure that international co-operation should take into account the legal status of the heritage of mankind in outer space.

81. Chile believes that the resolution just adopted should encourage all States Members to work towards the drafting at a later date of an international convention that will adequately legislate and contain in a balanced manner all the principles I have mentioned earlier, so as to establish real consistency with the

legal doctrine mentioned, which was the result of genuinely universal conviction.

82. Mr. URBINA ORTEGA (Costa Rica) (*interpretation from Spanish*): In the general debate on information, Costa Rica set out the difficulties created by the consideration of the principle of absolute freedom of information, and how defending an unrestricted freedom not set in a framework of regulations governing its exercise had in the past given rise to the economic inequalities which exist today among countries. Not only is such management irresponsible on the part of those most interested in not regulating that unrestricted freedom of direct television broadcasting by satellite, but it is also a concept whereby technological developments constitute a private resource for the country which develops them and not a general advance for mankind. This has led to the consensus which had prevailed in regard to decisions taken in this field being broken.

83. My country deeply regrets that break. We profoundly regret the attitude of those countries with the highest level of technological development, which seem to be convinced that that greater technological development gives them the authority to impose their own products on the rest of mankind, especially their ideological products. We trust that in the future it will be possible to restore the consensus so that the developments in these fields which are so sensitive and important for the future of all mankind may be carried out on the basis of legal principles and may be marked by harmony among all the nations taking part in the decision-making.

84. Mr. LOĞOĞLU (Turkey): The delegation of Turkey voted in favour of draft resolution IV, on direct television broadcasting. The Government of Turkey is committed to the principle of the free flow of information. It is our understanding, therefore, that the application of the principles enunciated in the resolution just adopted must be consistent with freedom of information.

85. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now consider the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 64 [A/37/686].

86. The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The Committee adopted that draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 37/93).

87. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now turn to the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 67 [A/37/707]. I call on the representative of Ecuador, who wishes to explain his vote before the vote.

88. Mr. ALBORNOZ (Ecuador) (*interpretation from Spanish*): For the delegation of Ecuador, it is a source of special satisfaction that we have reached the stage of voting on draft resolutions A and B, contained in document A/37/707, concerning questions relating to information.

89. With reference to draft resolution B in particular, this text reflects the consensus already achieved in July of this year on the 43 recommendations on the subject made by the Committee on Information, over which

I have the honour to preside. This text reflects the desire to reach an understanding of the parties that took part in the working group of the Special Political Committee.

90. It is enlightening and reassuring for some who are not always well informed that we begin by recalling the fundamental articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights regarding freedom of opinion and expression and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations; and that reference is made to covenants, declarations, resolutions, principles, conferences, programmes and reports which constitute the legislation and the fundamental basis that at present exist for this subject.

91. There are two fundamental appeals in the operative part of draft resolution B. One is an appeal to the information and communication media, both public and private, as well as to non-governmental organizations, to disseminate information about the activities of the United Nations and about the efforts of the developing countries to achieve economic, social and cultural progress. There is also an appeal, which is of great political depth and is very timely in the era of the United Nations, to all the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to develop coherent public information programmes to promote understanding of and support for the activities of the United Nations, particularly in the economic, social, cultural and development fields.

92. These two appeals are appeals in the first place to the responsibility of the information media, whose great strength in the contemporary world is recognized, that they should not remain indifferent to the tragedy of the scarcities, poverty, ignorance and disease in the world, nor maintain a blanket of silence about the existence of the developing world and its efforts for its own economic, social and cultural betterment.

93. The other appeal exhorts the international organizations of the system to co-operate to serve in a consistent manner the purposes for which they were created, within the framework of the philosophy of the world Organization, bearing in mind that the Member States empower, finance and organize them to provide a common and consistent service. We therefore hope that these two draft resolutions in the report will prove to have the same great historic importance as the consensus this year on the report of the Committee on Information and that they will also be adopted by consensus this afternoon.

94. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 15 of its report [A/37/707]. Draft resolution A was adopted by the Committee without a vote. I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise.

Draft resolution A was adopted (resolution 37/94 A).

95. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We turn now to draft resolution B. The administrative and financial implications of this draft resolution are to be found in the report of the Fifth Committee [A/37/711]. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Israel.

Draft resolution B was adopted by 131 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (resolution 37/94 B).

96. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I call on the representative of Denmark, on behalf of the European Economic Community, for an explanation of vote.

97. Mr. HANSEN (Denmark): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the 10 member States of the European Community. The resolutions which we have just adopted are the product of long and difficult negotiations, held with a view to achieving compromise and co-operation. A tribute is due to the Chairman of the Committee on Information, to the Chairman of the Working Group and to the members of all groups. The Ten have always emphasized that freedom of communication and the free flow of information are indispensable to economic and social progress. At the same time, one should not ignore the right of every community to express and preserve its own personality. Its culture, its language and its ways of thinking assure the diversity of the means of information and are an element of enrichment of the universal heritage. We should see to it that, to the largest possible extent, facts, ideas and opinions everywhere are considered and reflected upon by the mass media in a more balanced manner. The Ten have been happy to support these two resolutions, despite the fact that neither of them entirely reflects their views. However, it is in the nature of compromise that agreements reached are generally not totally satisfactory to everybody. On this particular occasion, we greatly regret

that consensus has not proved possible on the omnibus resolution, despite efforts on all sides. The importance of the work of the Department of Public Information is such that support for it should be universal. Meanwhile, the Ten strongly hope that consensus will prove possible next year.

98. On the financial implications, the Ten wish to reiterate their position that a particular effort will be needed to identify activities which are obsolete, redundant, ineffective or of marginal usefulness, and to achieve what is proposed in the omnibus resolution within the existing resources.

99. The member States of the European Community are ready to consider further practical steps to correct the imbalance in international communication resources. At the same time, we insist on freedom of thought, opinion and expression, as well as the free flow of information and ideas, as basic human rights. We interpret accordingly the references to a new world information and communication order in the resolutions we have just adopted.

100. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now consider the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 69 [A/37/709]. The Assembly will now take a decision on the recommendation of the Committee contained in paragraph 4 of its report. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly should include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India". As I hear no objection, I shall take it that the General Assembly adopts that recommendation.

It was so decided (decision 37/424).

101. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We turn now to the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 70 [A/37/703]. In paragraph 5 of its report, the Committee recommends that the General Assembly should include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "Question of

the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations". As I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Assembly adopts that recommendation.

It was so decided (decision 37/425).

102. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I call on the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, who has asked to speak on a point of order.

103. Mr. ABOUCHAER (Syrian Arab Republic) (*interpretation from Arabic*): In the course of his explanation of vote, the representative of Israel stated that he had not explained his vote when agenda item 61, on the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories, was debated in the Special Political Committee. This is not true. It is categorically refuted in the report of the Special Political Committee on this item, which states:

"Before the voting at the 44th meeting, on 3 December, the representatives of Israel and the United States of America spoke in connection with the draft resolutions." [A/37/698, para. 23.]

104. I wish to place on record here that the representative of Israel attempted to deceive the General Assembly, as is his custom. As regards the allegations of Israel regarding peace, this question was debated at length by the Committee when it considered this agenda item and there is no need for me to repeat the content of the debate here.

The meeting rose at 5.05 p.m.

NOTES

¹ The delegation of Nepal subsequently informed the Secretariat that it had intended to abstain in the vote on the draft resolution.

² The delegation of Colombia subsequently informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

³ The delegation of Costa Rica subsequently informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.