



Economic and Social Council

PROVISIONAL

For participants only

E/1997/SR.4
17 March 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Resumed organizational session for 1997

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 4th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 1 May 1997, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. KOVANDA (Czech Republic)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

The PRESIDENT said that the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council stipulated that delegations should submit the names of their representatives and alternate representatives to the Secretariat. Regrettably, only 24 out of 54 members of the Council had done so. He urged delegations to submit their credentials as soon as possible as a matter of good courtesy and good housekeeping.

ELECTIONS, NOMINATIONS, CONFIRMATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS (continued)
(E/1997/2/Add.1; E/1997/L.9, L.11, L.13, L.14, L.16 and L.17)

Committee for Programme and Coordination

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to nominate seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination for election by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1998.

Uganda was an unendorsed candidate for one of the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of African States; the Russian Federation was the endorsed candidate for the one vacancy to be filled by the Group of Eastern European States; Bahamas and Mexico were the endorsed candidates for the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and France and the United States were the endorsed candidates for the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of Western European and Other States.

Mr. LUKABU (Observer for Zaire), supported by Mr. KAMANDO (Observer for the United Republic of Tanzania), said that Uganda and Zambia were now the endorsed candidates of the Group of African States.

The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates endorsed by the Groups was equal to the number of vacancies for each Group, he took it that the Council wished to nominate those candidates by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Bahamas, France, Mexico, Russian Federation, Uganda, United States of America and Zambia were nominated for election by the General Assembly as members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination.

The PRESIDENT said that he would take it that, in the absence of any candidates from the Group of Western European and Other States, the Council wished to postpone to a future session nomination of the two members due for election from that Group by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session.

It was so decided.

Commission on Human Settlements

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect four members of the Commission on Human Settlements: one member from the Group of African States for a term expiring on 31 December 1999; two members from the Group of Asian States, the first for a term expiring on 31 December 2000 and the second for a term expiring on 31 December 1999; and one member from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States for a term expiring on 31 December 2000. Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates were the endorsed candidates of the Group of Asian States and Venezuela was the endorsed candidate of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

Mr. DANGUE REWAKA (Gabon), speaking as Chairman of the Group of African States, said that Benin was that Group's endorsed candidate.

The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates endorsed by the Groups was equal to the number of vacancies for each Group, he took it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Benin, Indonesia, United Arab Emirates and Venezuela were elected members of the Commission on Human Settlements.

Committee on Natural Resources

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect five experts to the Committee on Natural Resources for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot. Mr. Hungspreug (Thailand) was an endorsed candidate for one of the two vacancies to be filled by experts from the Group of Asian States. No candidates had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States or the Group of Western European and Other States. Since the number of candidates endorsed by the Group of Asian States was less than the number of vacancies to be filled by the Group, he took it that the Council wished to elect its candidate by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Mr. Hungspreug (Thailand) was elected a member of the Committee on Natural Resources.

The PRESIDENT said that the drawing of lots to determine terms of office would be postponed, since there was not a full slate of candidates.
Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect nine experts to the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot. An expert from Qatar was the endorsed candidate of the Group of Asian States. No candidates had been endorsed by the Group of African States or the Group of Eastern European States. Since the number of candidates endorsed by the Group of Asian States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by the Group, he took it that the Council wished to elect its candidate by acclamation.

It was so decided.

An expert from Qatar was elected a member of the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development.

The PRESIDENT said that the drawing of lots would be postponed.
Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 14 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1998. Uganda was an unendorsed candidate for one of the five vacancies to be filled by the Group of African States; China, Lebanon, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea were unendorsed candidates for the three vacancies to be filled by the Group of Asian States; Bulgaria had withdrawn its unendorsed candidacy, leaving Azerbaijan and the Czech Republic as unendorsed candidates for the one vacancy to be filled by the Group of Eastern European States; Jamaica was the endorsed candidate for the one vacancy to be filled by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Denmark, France, Ireland and Spain were unendorsed candidates for the four vacancies to be filled by the Group of Western European and Other States.

Mr. KOTROKOIS (Observer for Greece), speaking as Chairman of the Group of Western European and Other States, said that Denmark, Ireland, France and

Spain had now been endorsed by the Group. Furthermore, as of 1 January 1998 Canada would take over the seat vacated by Switzerland.

Mr. NOVRUZOV (Observer for Azerbaijan) said that, in order to expedite the work of the Council, his Government was withdrawing its unendorsed candidacy.

Mr. DANGUE REWAKA (Gabon), speaking as Chairman of the Group of African States, said that the Group had endorsed the candidacies of Botswana, Ghana, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire.

Mr. SEMAKULA KIWANUKA (Uganda) said that his delegation endorsed the candidacies put forward by the Group of African States.

The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates either endorsed or unendorsed by the African Group, the Eastern European Group, the Latin American and Caribbean Group, and the Western European and Other States Group was equal to the number of vacancies for each Group, he took it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Botswana, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Ghana, Ireland, Jamaica, South Africa, Spain, United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot three members from the Group of Asian States.

At the invitation of the President, Ms. Cornette (Guyana) and Mr. Campbell (United Kingdom) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Number of valid ballots: 54

Number of members voting: 54

Required majority: 28

Number of votes obtained:

Lebanon 45

Republic of Korea 45

China 41

Philippines 28

Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes, China, Lebanon and Republic of Korea were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund. Executive Board of the World Food Programme

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect six members of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1998. Sierra Leone was the endorsed candidate for the one vacancy to be filled by the Group of African States; Indonesia and Pakistan were the endorsed candidates for the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of Asian States; Finland and Norway were the endorsed candidates for the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of Western European and Other States; and Hungary and the Russian Federation were unendorsed candidates for the one vacancy to be filled by the Group of Eastern European States.

Mr. KOTROKOIS (Observer for Greece), speaking as Chairman of the Group of Western European and Other States, said that Sweden would take over the United Kingdom's seat on the Executive Board on 1 January 1998.

The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates endorsed by the African States, the Asian States and the Western European and Other States was equal to the number of vacancies for each Group, he took it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Finland, Indonesia, Norway, Pakistan and Sierra Leone were elected members of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot one member from the Group of Eastern European States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Prendergast (Jamaica) and Mr. Dunlavey (United States of America) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	54
<u>Invalid ballots:</u>	1
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	53
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	53
<u>Required majority:</u>	27

Number of votes obtained:

Russian Federation 41
Hungary 12

Having obtained the required majority, Russian Federation was elected a member of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme.

Commission on Science and Technology for Development

The PRESIDENT reminded the Council that it had earlier elected 24 members of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development. In accordance with Council decision 1995/312, there would be a drawing of lots to establish those members' terms of office. Of the 13 African members elected, seven would serve for a term of four years and six for a period of two years.

The Council decided by the drawing of lots that Angola, Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Tunisia, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania would serve for a four-year term, and that Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Malawi, Namibia and Zaire would serve for a two-year term.

Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to appoint five members of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) for a three-year term beginning on 1 July 1997. In that connection, he drew attention to document E/1997/L.16 containing the list of candidates. Ms. Shakuntala Hawoldat was an additional, unendorsed candidate for the one vacancy to be filled by the Group of African States.

Mr. DANGUE REWAKA (Gabon), speaking as Chairman of the Group of African States, said that Ms. Bouaziz (Tunisia) had now been endorsed by the Group.

The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates either endorsed or unendorsed by the Group of African States, the Group of Asian States, the Group of Eastern European States, and the Group of Western European and Other States was equal to the number of vacancies for each Group, he took it that the Council wished to appoint those candidates.

It was so decided.

Ms. Acuner (Turkey), Ms. Bouaziz (Tunisia), Ms. Nicolai (Romania) and Ms. Torres (Philippines) were appointed to the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot one member for appointment from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

At the invitation of the President, Ms. Kalnina (Latvia) and Mr. Campbell (United Kingdom) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	54
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	54
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	54
<u>Required majority:</u>	28
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Ms. Simms (Jamaica)	42
Ms. Castro de Barish (Costa Rica) .	12

Having obtained the required majority, Ms. Simms (Jamaica) was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

Committee for the United Nations Population Award

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to continue the elections to the Committee for the United Nations Population Award. In addition to the candidates elected at the previous meeting, Guatemala and El Salvador were unendorsed candidates from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1998. Since the number of candidates from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States was less than the number of vacancies to be filled by the Group, he took it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Guatemala and El Salvador were elected members of the Committee for the United Nations Population Award.

Programme Coordination Board of the Joint and Co-sponsored Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to continue the elections to the Programme Coordination Board of the Joint and Co-sponsored Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1998. Barbados was an unendorsed candidate for the one vacancy to be filled by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

Mr. DANGUE REWAKA (Gabon), speaking as Chairman of the Group of African States, said that the Group had endorsed South Africa for one of the two vacancies it was to fill. The Group would inform the Council of the name of its candidate for the second seat at a later time.

The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates endorsed or unendorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Group of African States was equal to or less than the number of vacancies to be filled by those Groups, he took it that the Council wished to elect those candidates. The election of the second candidate from the Group of African States would be postponed.

It was so decided.

Barbados and South Africa were elected to the Programme Coordination Board of the Joint and Co-sponsored Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS).

Commission on Population and Development

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to document E/1997/L.17, containing the names of representatives of functional commissions which had been submitted to the Council for confirmation since the suspension of the organizational session for 1997. According to that document, three members had been nominated to the Commission on Population and Development, and one member had been nominated to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. He took it that the Council wished to confirm those nominations.

It was so decided.

Committee for Development Planning

The PRESIDENT said that, as indicated in the provisional agenda for the session, it was proposed that the nominations to the Committee for Development Planning should be postponed until the Committee had held its substantive meeting in May. He would take it that the Council agreed to the proposal.

It was so decided.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS (continued) (E/1997/2 and Add.1)

The PRESIDENT said that by its decision 1997/204 of 7 February the Council had decided that the high-level segment of its 1997 substantive session should be held from 30 June to 2 July 1997. In the interim, due to unforeseen circumstances, those dates had had to be changed. The Bureau wished to suggest that the high-level segment should be moved to 2-4 July, with the one-day policy dialogue to take place on 2 July. The Council would begin its substantive session on 30 June with the dialogue with the Heads of Agencies, and on 1 July with the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment. The high-level meeting on operational activities would thus be just one day prior to the opening of the high-level segment of the Council.

Mr. NEBENZYA (Russian Federation) proposed that the start of the substantive session itself should be moved to 2 July in order to allow adequate time between the conclusion of the special session of the General Assembly and the substantive session of the Council. He hoped that a way could be found to avoid interrupting the operational activities segment.

Mr. WINNICK (United States of America) supported the proposal of the Russian Federation to move the opening of the substantive session to 2 July, but, in view of the fact that the schedule for the session had already been considerably shortened, it would be unrealistic to simply cut out two days' meeting time. He therefore proposed that the end of the session should be extended by the same amount of time in order to maintain an overall schedule of four weeks' duration and also to avoid splitting the operational activities segment into two blocks.

Mr. KAMANDO (Observer for the United Republic of Tanzania) supported the United States proposal. It would be helpful if documentation for the high-level segment could be distributed in May.

The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat had informed him that the documentation would be available by mid-May.

Mr. HYNES (Canada) agreed that the early distribution of documents was crucial to the success of the high-level segment. His delegation had not participated in the consultations on the Bureau's proposal and would require more time to consider it.

The PRESIDENT said that informal consultations would be held in order to resolve the question by the Council's next meeting.

He drew the Council's attention to decision 1993/226, by which the Council had decided to accept the offer of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to act as host to the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. The Secretariat had subsequently been informed by the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran that its Government was no longer in a position to act as host for the Conference. He therefore proposed the following draft decision:

"The Council recommends that the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names be held at United Nations Headquarters in January 1998."

The draft decision was adopted.

The PRESIDENT said that in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/227, the Bureau had discussed the preparation of the agreed conclusions of the high-level segment, and wished to suggest that the Council should conduct informal consultations prior to the opening of the session on possible elements to be included in the agreed conclusions. It was anticipated that the consultations would be held in early June.

Mr. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh) proposed that, in future, irrelevant documentation for elections should be replaced by a chart along the lines of the very useful informal chart provided for that meeting.

Mr. FERNANDEZ (Spain) enquired whether informal consultations would also be held on the preparation of the agreed conclusions of the coordination segment. Informal consultations were necessary in order to discuss, in particular, the report on mainstreaming the gender perspective.

Mr. KHAN (Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development) noted that, earlier in the year, the Secretariat had briefed Council members on the outline of the report, and that another briefing on both the coordination and high-level segments was scheduled for the following week. Traditionally the agreed conclusions of the coordination segment were prepared during the segment itself, in informal consultations conducted by a Vice-President of the Council.

The meeting rose at 4.55 p.m.