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Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Summary record of the 28th meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 6 June 2024, at 4.25 p.m.

Chair: Ms. Joyini (Chair) (South Africa)

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The meeting was called to order at 4.25 p.m.

Agenda item 5: Election of the officers of the Main Committees

1. **The Chair** said that, in accordance with rule 99 (a) of the rules of procedure, the meeting had been convened for the purpose of electing the Chair and other members of the Bureau of the Committee for the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly.

2. The nomination of Ms. Pavļuta-Deslandes (Latvia) for the post of Chair had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States.

3. **Mr. Shulgin** (Russian Federation) said that his delegation doubted that the representative of Latvia could be an effective Chair of the Committee because the representatives of that country had, for years, promoted aggressive rhetoric and unjustified accusations against the Russian Federation, blocking the development of equal and mutually respectful dialogue. Latvia had also proposed many initiatives in direct opposition to the Charter of the United Nations and practised systemic discrimination against linguistic minorities, violating their civil and political rights. In the light of the complex political issues included under the Committee's mandate, the principles of impartiality and inclusivity must be upheld, or its work would be doomed to failure. Nevertheless, as his delegation wished the Bureau to begin its work in a timely fashion, it would not propose an alternative candidate.

4. **The Chair** said that, in the absence of further nominations, and in accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure, she would take it that the Committee wished to elect Ms. Pavļuta-Deslandes (Latvia) Chair.

5. *Ms. Pavļuta-Deslandes (Latvia) was elected Chair by acclamation.*

6. **Ms. Pavļuta-Deslandes** (Latvia) said that she would do her utmost as Chair for the benefit of the entire membership. She believed in a collaborative spirit and open communication within the Committee and looked forward to closely collaborating with the other Committees.

7. **The Chair** said that, in accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure, the nominations of Mr. Al-thani (Qatar), Ms. Rios (Plurinational State of Bolivia) and Mr. Hirji (Canada) had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Group of Western European and Other States, respectively, for the three posts of Vice-Chair, and that the nomination of Ms. Moloeli

(Lesotho) for the post of Rapporteur had been endorsed by the Group of African States.

8. *Mr. Al-thani (Qatar), Ms. Rios (Plurinational State of Bolivia) and Mr. Hirji (Canada) were elected Vice-Chairs, and Ms. Moloeli (Lesotho) was elected Rapporteur, by acclamation.*

The meeting rose at 4.40 p.m.