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2166th MEETING: 12 SEPTEMBER 1979

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CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Provisional agenda (S/Agenda/2166)	1
Tribute to the memory of His Excellency Mr. Agostinho Neto, President of the People's Republic of Angola	1
Expression of thanks to the retiring President	1
Expression of welcome to the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1
Adoption of the agenda	1
Admission of new Members:	
Application of Saint Lucia for admission to membership in the United Nations (S/13530)	1

NOTE

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2166th MEETING

Held in New York on Wednesday, 12 September 1979, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. Paul J. F. LUSAKA (Zambia).

Present: The representatives of the following States: Bangladesh, Bolivia, China, Czechoslovakia, France, Gabon, Jamaica, Kuwait, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zambia.

Provisional agenda (S/Agenda/2166)

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Admission of new Members:
Application of Saint Lucia for admission to membership in the United Nations (S/13530)

The meeting was called to order at 11.05 a.m.

Tribute to the memory of His Excellency Mr. Agostinho Neto, President of the People's Republic of Angola

1. The PRESIDENT: Before we deal with the business of the day, I wish to make some brief statements.
2. This meeting of the Security Council takes place at a most sorrowful moment, when the world is mourning the death of His Excellency Mr. Agostinho Neto, President of the People's Republic of Angola. As members of the Council have heard, President Neto died two days ago in Moscow. The news of the untimely death of President Neto has been received with profound shock and sadness by the entire international community.
3. I deem it necessary that we should begin our meeting today by paying a tribute to the late President of Angola, a statesman whose death is a loss not only to the people of Angola and of Africa, but to humanity as a whole. The late President Neto was a man of rare qualities and capabilities. He made an invaluable contribution to the cause of peace and justice in the world. He was truly a champion of down-trodden and oppressed people, particularly in southern Africa.
4. On behalf of the Council, I wish to convey to the Party, Government and people of Angola, and to the family of the late President Neto, our deepest condolences. May his soul rest in peace.

On the proposal of the President, the members of the Council, standing, observed a minute of silence.

Expression of thanks to the retiring President

5. The PRESIDENT: As President of the Security Council for the month of September, I wish to first of all, on behalf of the members of the Council and indeed on my own behalf, to pay a special tribute to my predecessor, Ambassador Andrew Young of the United States, for the diligent and effective manner in which he conducted the Council's business during the month of August. Pressing, complex and vitally important matters were considered by the Council during Ambassador Young's term. An atmosphere of controversy and anxiety surrounded our debates; indeed, the Council found itself in a rare international spotlight with mass media and public attention focused on its deliberations. I believe that we can all agree that, in those difficult times, Ambassador Young splendidly preserved and enhanced the honour and prestige of the Security Council by his conduct. We witnessed in him remarkable qualities of statesmanship, intellectual sobriety and diplomatic skill.

6. I wish to take this opportunity once again to express my personal regret—and, I am sure, that of all members of the Council—at the departure of Ambassador Young from the United Nations. He will truly be missed by all of us.

7. On behalf of all the members, I request the representative of the United States to convey to Ambassador Young our gratitude and appreciation for his invaluable contribution to the work of the Security Council. We wish him success in his future undertakings.

Expression of welcome to the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

8. The PRESIDENT: I should also like to take this opportunity to welcome Sir Anthony Parsons, the new Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom. We look forward to a co-operative and productive working relationship with him.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Admission of new Members:

Application of Saint Lucia for admission to membership in the United Nations (S/13530)

9. The PRESIDENT: On 6 September 1979, the Secretary-General, acting in accordance with rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, circulated

in document S/13530 the application of Saint Lucia for admission to membership in the United Nations.

10. Under the further provisions of rule 59, unless the Council decides otherwise, such application shall be referred by the President of the Council to the Committee on the Admission of New Members. Accordingly, unless I hear a proposal to the contrary, I shall refer the application of Saint Lucia to the Committee on the Admission of New Members for examination and report.

11. The last sentence of rule 59 provides that the Committee shall report its conclusions to the Council not less than 35 days in advance of a regular session of the General Assembly. In accordance with past practice in the case of applications which are submitted during a General Assembly session, I propose that the Council should waive that rule.

12. Since there has been no other proposal, I take it that the Council agrees to follow the procedure I have just outlined.

It was so decided.

13. The PRESIDENT: I would suggest that the members of the Committee on the Admission of New Members should meet immediately following the adjournment of this meeting in order to examine the application of Saint Lucia and prepare the Committee's report to the Council.

14. As I hear no objection, the Committee will meet in 10 minutes in Conference Room 5. I would further request the Committee to be ready to submit its report to the Council at a meeting to be held this afternoon at 3.30 p.m..

The meeting rose at 11.15 a.m.