



Security Council

UN LIRPADV

JAN 11 1989

UN/SA COLLECTION

PROVISIONAL

S/PV.2838

9 January 1989

ENGLISH

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE TWO THOUSAND
EIGHT HUNDRED AND THIRTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 9 January 1989, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. RAZALI

(Malaysia)

Members:

Algeria
Brazil
Canada
China
Colombia
Ethiopia
Finland
France
Nepal
Senegal
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland
United States of America
Yugoslavia

Mr. DJOUDI
Mr. ALENCAR
Mr. FORTIER
Mr. LI Luye
Mr. PEÑALOSA
Mr. TADESSE
Mr. TORNUDD
Mr. BROCHAND
Mr. JOSSE
Mr. BA
Mr. BELONOGOV

Sir Crispin TICKELL
Mr. WALTERS
Mr. PEJIC

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The meeting was called to order at 10.50 a.m.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF HIS MAJESTY EMPEROR HIROHITO OF JAPAN

The PRESIDENT: The members of the Security Council have learned with immense sorrow of the passing of His Majesty Emperor Hirohito of Japan. I wish to express, on behalf of the Council, profound condolences to His Majesty Emperor Akihito, to the Government and people of Japan and to the bereaved family. I now invite members to stand and observe a minute of silence.

The representatives, standing, observed a minute's silence.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

DATE OF AN ELECTION TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE
(S/20340)

The PRESIDENT: Members of the Security Council will have had an opportunity to study document S/20340, which explains the need for this item on our agenda. The recent death of Judge Nagendra Singh on 11 December 1988 at The Hague has created a vacancy in the International Court of Justice that has to be filled.

Judge Nagendra Singh, a member and former President of the International Court of Justice, was a distinguished diplomat and jurist. He represented the Government of India at many important meetings of the General Assembly and conferences held under the auspices of the United Nations. Judge Nagendra Singh was also a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague as well as a member and Vice-Chairman of the United Nations International Law Commission.

Nagendra Singh was indeed a most distinguished international lawyer and scholar, and an eminent judge. His loss has been deeply felt by the Government and people of India, by the International Court of Justice and by the international community as a whole. I am sure that I am expressing the sentiments of all the members of the Council in extending sincere condolences to the President of the

(The President)

Court, to the Government of India and to the bereaved family of Judge Nagendra Singh.

Judge Singh was elected as a member of the International Court of Justice for a term of nine years from 6 February 1973. He was re-elected as of 6 February 1982 for a further period of nine years. He was Vice-President of the Court from 1976 to 1979 and was its President from 1985 to 1988. His term of office would have expired on 5 February 1991.

Under Article 14 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice the Security Council is to fix the date for the election to fill the vacancy in the Court. As I reported to members during our previous consultations on this matter, the election could take place on 18 April 1989 at a meeting of the Security Council and at a meeting of the forty-third session of the General Assembly. Members of the Council have before them in document S/20374 the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's consultations. May I take it that the Council is ready to proceed to a decision on the draft resolution?

There being no objection, it is so decided.

After consultation, it is my understanding that the Council is ready to adopt the draft resolution contained in document S/20374 unanimously.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 627 (1989). The Security Council has thus concluded its business for the meeting.

Before adjourning the meeting, I should like to announce that the Security Council will reconvene in five minutes, that is, at 11.05 a.m., to continue its consideration of the requests by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Bahrain.

The meeting rose at 11 a.m.