



## General Assembly

PROVIS IONAL

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Forty-third session

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROVIS IONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Thursday, 16 February 1989, at 3 p.m.

President:

Mr. CAFUTO

(Argentina)

- Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: letter from the Secretary-General [120] (continued)
- Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission: report of the Fifth Committee [153] (continued)
- Organization of work
- Statement by the President
- Farewell to Mr. Joseph Verner Reed, Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs and Secretariat Services

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The meeting was called to order at 3.25 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 120 (continued)

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS:  
LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/43/995/Add.1)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Before proceeding to consider the item on our agenda, I should like to draw the Assembly's attention to document A/43/995/Add.1, which contains a letter addressed to me by the Secretary-General, pointing out that since 14 February 1989 the Congo and Sao Tomé and Principe have made the necessary payments to reduce their arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of this information?

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 153

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ANGOLA VERIFICATION MISSION: REPORT OF THE FIFTH  
COMMITTEE (A/43/996)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I call on Mrs. Flor Acconciamesa de Rodríguez of Venezuela, Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, to present the report.

Mrs. Acconciamesa de RODRIGUEZ (Venezuela), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee (interpretation from Spanish): It is my honour to present the report of the Fifth Committee under agenda item 153, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission". The report of the Fifth Committee appears in document A/43/996. As the Assembly will note from paragraph 4 of the report, the Fifth Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/43/L.23 without a vote, on the

(Mrs. Acconciamezza de Rodríguez,  
Rapporteur, Fifth Committee)

understanding that the assessment period for the United Nations Angola Verification Mission, given in operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, and for similar operations should not exceed 12 months, consistent with regulation 5.2 and rule 106.4 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, and should whenever possible be shorter.

In paragraph 6 of its report, the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of that draft resolution.

Before concluding, I should like to say that due to the short time available the technical corrections in the French, Spanish and Russian versions of the draft resolution have not been taken into account. These corrections will be included in the final version of the resolution.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure I shall consider that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the report of the Fifth Committee.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Statements will be limited to explanations of vote.

The positions of delegations regarding the various recommendations of the Fifth Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members that in paragraph 7 of its decision 34/401, the General Assembly decided that, 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.

(The President)

No delegation has asked to speak in explanation of vote before the voting or to explain its position. The Assembly will therefore now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended in paragraph 6 of the report of the Fifth Committee (A/43/996). The Fifth Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the Assembly the adoption of that draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly adopts the draft resolution?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 43/231).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 153.

I am sure that I speak for the entire General Assembly in wishing the Secretary-General every success in the important task entrusted to him by the Security Council.

#### ORGANIZATION OF WORK

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): As announced at our previous meeting the Second Committee will meet beginning Monday, 27 February, to consider its draft biennial programme of work and agenda item 82, entitled "Development and international economic co-operation".

As envisaged, I would hope that the Second Committee would conclude its work on 1 March. That would allow just enough time to process its report and the programme budget implications, if any, of its recommendations, so that the General Assembly could meet on Friday, 3 March, to consider the report of the Second Committee.

I should also like to inform members that, following the adoption today by the Security Council of resolution 632 (1989) on the question of Namibia, the Secretary-General has advised me that he will be requesting the inclusion of an additional item on the agenda of the forty-third session of the Assembly relating

(The President)

to the financing of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group. The document containing the request will be issued tomorrow morning and will be followed by the Secretary-General's report outlining his proposals for the United Nations Transition Assistance Group. The Assembly may therefore be required to meet early next week, at a date and time to be announced in the Journal.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I am sure that I speak for all members and, indeed, for the whole of the international community, when I express our deepest satisfaction at the adoption of Security Council resolution 632 (1989) and the setting in motion of the process leading to the speedy independence of Namibia. The unjust delay in the independence of Namibia has been one of the most serious problems facing the United Nations and has posed a specific and serious threat to international peace and security. We therefore welcome that step forward, which will help to consolidate the trend towards détente, dialogue and co-operation among States.

At the same time we cannot fail to express our admiration for the unflagging spirit of the valiant Namibian people which, under the leadership of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), has carried out an arduous and selfless struggle against the illegal rule of South Africa. We also wish to emphasize the role of Africa as a whole, in particular the front-line countries that have steadfastly and actively supported the cause of the Namibian people.

In addition, we must today particularly single out the tireless work of the Secretary-General and the contribution made by all of you and by all the States you represent - in short, the contribution made by the General Assembly, which, through its resolutions and the work of the United Nations Council for Namibia, has laid down the guidelines for the discharge of the Organization's direct responsibility for the Territory.

(The President)

Of course, our pleasure at this decisive forward step towards independence for Namibia has not caused us to lose sight of other pending objectives in southern Africa. Only the total and definitive eradication of the inhuman apartheid régime will make it possible to achieve lasting peace and justice in that part of the world. We must therefore renew our combined efforts to ensure the eradication of that anachronistic régime, and we must not relax our efforts until justice, equality and democracy have been secured in South Africa.

FAREWELL TO MR. JOSEPH VERNER REED, UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY AFFAIRS AND SECRETARIAT SERVICES

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Before adjourning this meeting I should like to express my most sincere congratulations and best wishes to Ambassador Joseph Verner Reed, Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs and Secretariat Services, on his new and challenging assignment.

I had the great pleasure of working with the Under-Secretary-General during the current session of the General Assembly, and I am most grateful for the co-operation Mr. Reed so generously extended to me and my associates at all times. Ambassador Reed has consistently brought his unique skills and special human qualities to the service of the international community.

Both in my personal capacity and on behalf of the members of the General Assembly, I am pleased to offer Under-Secretary-General Reed our best wishes for the future.

The meeting rose at 3.40 p.m.