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Thirty-first session

ORGANIZATION OF THE THIRTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND
ALLOCATION OF ITEMS

First report of the General Committee

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 1st meeting, on 23 September 1976, the General Committee considered a memorandum by the Secretary-General relating to the organization of the thirty-first regular session of the General Assembly, the adoption of the agenda and the allocation of items (A/BUR/31/1). A summary of the discussion will appear in the summary record of the meeting (A/BUR/31/SR.1).

II. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

Schedule of meetings

2. On the proposal of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, paras. 2 and 3), the General Committee recommends to the General Assembly the following arrangements relating to the schedule of meetings:

(a) Plenary and committee meetings should begin at 10.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.;

(b) A five-day working week should be established, on the understanding that meetings on Saturdays, as well as night meetings, may be scheduled if necessary.

3. In this connexion, the General Committee wishes to stress the need for punctuality in opening meetings and to draw the General Assembly's attention to the text of rules 67 and 108 of the rules of procedure (A/520/Rev.12), whereby the President of the General Assembly may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one third of the members are present, and the Chairman of a Main Committee may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one quarter of the members are present.

General debate

4. At the suggestion of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 4), the General Committee wishes to draw the General Assembly's attention to the following conclusions of the Special Committee on the Rationalization of the Procedures and Organization of the General Assembly which were approved by the Assembly at its twenty-sixth session:

(a) The length of the general debate should not normally exceed two and a half weeks (A/520/Rev.12, annex V, para. 45);

(b) The list of speakers wishing to take part in the general debate should be closed at the end of the third day after the opening of the debate (ibid., para. 46);

(c) Speakers should, as far as possible, avoid putting down their names to speak on a given item and at the same time indicating an alternative meeting if they are unable to keep to their original schedule (ibid., para. 70);

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(d) Representatives should speak in the order of their inscription on the list of speakers, on the understanding that those prevented from doing so should normally be moved to the end of the list, unless they have arranged to change places with other representatives (ibid., para. 71).

5. Taking into consideration the suggestions of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 5) and the increase in the number of speakers, the General Committee recommends that:

(a) The general debate should begin on Monday, 27 September and end on Thursday, 14 October 1976;

(b) The list of speakers wishing to take part in the general debate should be closed on Wednesday, 29 September, at 6 p.m.;

(c) Out of consideration for the other speakers and in order to preserve the dignity of the general debate, delegations should refrain from expressing their congratulations in the General Assembly Hall after a speech has been delivered.

Right of reply

6. At the suggestion of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 6), the General Committee wishes to draw the General Assembly's attention to the recommendation of the Special Committee, which was approved by the Assembly, whereby statements made in the exercise of the right of reply should be delivered, as a general rule, at the end of meetings (A/520/Rev.12, annex V, para. 78). Furthermore, the General Committee recommends that delegations should exercise their right of reply at the end of the day whenever two meetings have been scheduled for that day and whenever such meetings are devoted to the consideration of the same item.

7. Also at the suggestion of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 7), the General Committee recommends to the General Assembly that statements in the exercise of the right of reply should be limited to 10 minutes.

Closing date of the session

8. At the suggestion of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 8), the General Committee proposes to the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 2 of the rules of procedure, that the closing date of the thirty-first session should be Tuesday, 21 December 1976.

Records of the Main Committees

9. As pointed out by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 9), rule 58 of the rules of procedure stipulates that the First Committee shall be provided with verbatim records and that no organ of the General Assembly shall have both verbatim and summary records. The General Committee therefore recommends that the

verbatim records should be the official records of the First Committee and the summary records should remain the official records of all other Main Committees. In this connexion, the General Committee also recommends to the General Assembly that the option that has traditionally been approved for the Special Political Committee to obtain, on specific request, transcriptions of the debates of some of its meetings, or portions thereof, should be maintained for the thirty-first session. Furthermore, the General Committee wishes to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 10 (e) of its resolution 2538 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, which reads as follows:

"Speeches or statements by representatives, by the Secretary-General or his representative, or by persons presenting reports on behalf of committees or other bodies, may be reproduced in extenso in summary records or as official documents only if they serve as bases for discussion, provided that the relevant decision is taken by the body concerned after a statement of the financial implications has been submitted in accordance with regulation 13.1 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations."

Seating arrangements

10. The General Committee took note of the seating arrangements to be observed in the plenary and in the Main Committees (A/BUR/31/1, para. 10).

Use of the General Assembly Hall by the Main Committees

11. The General Committee took note of the fact that, in addition to the General Assembly Hall, only five conference rooms (Conference Rooms 1 to 4 and the Trusteeship Council Chamber) can accommodate the membership of the Organization, making it possible to hold no more than six meetings simultaneously; at the suggestion of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 11), the General Committee therefore proposes that all the Main Committees should make full use of the General Assembly Hall when no plenary meeting is being held.

Mechanical means of voting

12. At the suggestion of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 12), the General Committee proposes that the Main Committees make full use, on a rotating basis, of the mechanical means of voting available in both the General Assembly Hall and Conference Room 3.

Financial implications of draft resolutions

13. At the suggestion of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 13), the General Committee would like to draw the attention of the General Assembly to rule 153 of the rules of procedure which reads as follows:

"No resolution involving expenditure shall be recommended by a committee for approval by the General Assembly unless it is accompanied by an estimate of expenditures prepared by the Secretary-General. No resolution in respect of which expenditures are anticipated by the Secretary-General shall be voted by the General Assembly until the Administrative and Budgetary Committee (Fifth Committee) has had an opportunity of stating the effect of the proposal upon the budget estimates of the United Nations."

In this connexion, the General Committee recommends that the General Assembly should draw the attention of the Main Committees to the imperative need for allowing sufficient time for the preparation of the estimate of expenditures by the Secretariat and for its consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and by the Fifth Committee and to the advisability of taking this requirement into account when they adopt their programme of work, so that items for which financial implications are expected may be considered as early as possible.

Reports of the Main Committees

14. At the suggestion of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 14), the General Committee recommends that the General Assembly should draw the attention of the Main Committees to Assembly resolution 2292 (XXII), which was reaffirmed by the Special Committee on the Rationalization of the Procedures and Organization of the General Assembly (A/520/Rev.12, annex V, para. 43), whereby the reports of the Main Committees should be as concise as possible and, save in exceptional cases, should not contain a summary of the debates.

15. Furthermore, taking into account the relevant conclusion of the Special Committee which was approved by the Assembly at its twenty-sixth session (*ibid.*, para. 76), the General Committee recommends to the General Assembly that, during the consideration of the report of a Main Committee in plenary meeting, delegations should refrain from repeating reservations which they have already expressed in the Committee and which are included in the Committee's report.

Balloting procedure

16. At the suggestion of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 15), the General Committee wishes to recommend that the General Assembly should, whenever it deems it appropriate, dispense with the time-consuming balloting procedure in the case of uncontested elections to subsidiary organs.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

17. The General Committee considered the draft agenda of the thirty-first session submitted by the Secretary-General in his memorandum (A/BUR/31/1, para. 20). All the items contained in the draft agenda formed part of the following documents:

- (a) Provisional agenda of the thirty-first session (A/31/150);
- (b) Supplementary list of items (A/31/200/Rev.1);
- (c) Request for the inclusion of an additional item (A/31/241).

18. In connexion with item 12 of the draft agenda (Report of the Economic and Social Council), the General Committee noted (A/BUR/31/1, para. 17) that:

(a) A number of reports, which the General Assembly had specifically requested or which the Economic and Social Council had decided to transmit to the Assembly, would be considered under this item;

(b) In paragraph 3 of resolution 1924 (LVIII) of 6 May 1975, the Economic and Social Council had invited the General Assembly to postpone, until its thirty-second session, consideration of the report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on the methods and ways likely to be most effective in preventing crime and improving the treatment of offenders, including recommendations on the measures most appropriate in such areas as law enforcement, judicial procedures and correctional practices.

19. At the suggestion of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 18), the General Committee decided to recommend the deletion of item 116 of the draft agenda (Amendment to Article 22 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice (Seat of the Court) and consequential amendments to Articles 23 and 28).

20. The General Committee took note of the fact that the requests for the inclusion of item 121 of the draft agenda (Removal of the danger of war and maintenance and consolidation of peace in Korea and acceleration of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea) and item 123 of the draft agenda (Need for constructive dialogue and negotiation towards a peaceful settlement of the Korean problem and the reunification of Korea) had been withdrawn by their sponsors.

21. The General Committee decided, by 18 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions, to recommend the inclusion of item 125 of the draft agenda (Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte).

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22. The General Committee took note of paragraph 19 of the memorandum of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1) in which the Secretary-General drew attention to a number of recommendations of the Special Committee on the Rationalization of the Procedures and Organization of the General Assembly aimed at reducing the number of agenda items.

23. Taking into account paragraphs 18 to 22 above, the General Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following agenda: 1/

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Luxembourg (P.1).
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation (P.2).
3. Credentials of representatives to the thirty-first session of the General Assembly (P.3):
 - (a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee;
 - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President (P.4).
5. Constitution of the Main Committees and election of officers (P.5).
6. Election of the Vice-Presidents (P.6).
7. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations (P.7).
8. Adoption of the agenda (P.8).
9. General debate (P.9).
10. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (P.10).
11. Report of the Security Council (P.11).
12. Report of the Economic and Social Council (P.12). 2/

1/ Abbreviations used in the present document:

- (P.): item on the provisional agenda (A/31/150);
(S.): item on the supplementary list (A/31/200/Rev.1);
(A.): additional items (A/31/241-A/31/).

2/ See para. 18 above.

13. Report of the International Court of Justice (P.13).
14. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (P.14).
15. Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council (P.15).
16. Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council (P.16).
17. Appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (P.17).
18. Election of fifteen members of the Industrial Development Board (P.18).
19. Election of nineteen members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (P.19).
20. Election of twelve members of the World Food Council (P.20).
21. Election of twelve members of the Board of Governors of the United Nations Special Fund (P.21).
22. Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (P.22).
23. Election of the members of the International Law Commission (P.23).
24. Election of seventeen members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (P.24).
25. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (P.25).
26. Admission of new Members to the United Nations (P.26).
27. Question of Palestine (P.27):
 - (a) Report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People;
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General.
28. Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity: report of the Secretary-General (P.28).
29. The situation in the Middle East (P.29).
30. Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (P.30).

31. International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (P.31).
32. Preparation of an international convention on principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (P.32).
33. Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security: report of the Secretary-General (P.33).
34. Reduction of military budgets: report of the Secretary-General (P.34).
35. Incendiary and other specific conventional weapons which may be the subject of prohibitions or restrictions of use for humanitarian reasons: report of the Secretary-General (P.35).
36. Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (P.36).
37. Urgent need for cessation of nuclear and thermonuclear tests and conclusion of a treaty designed to achieve a comprehensive test ban: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (P.37).
38. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 3467 (XXX) concerning the signature and ratification of Additional Protocol II of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (P.38).
39. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace: report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean (P.39).
40. World Disarmament Conference: report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference (P.40).
41. Effective measures to implement the purposes and objectives of the Disarmament Decade (P.41).
42. Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa (P.42).
43. Comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects: report of the Secretary-General (P.43).
44. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (P.44).
45. Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (P.45).
46. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia (P.46).

47. Conclusion of a treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests (P.47).
48. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (P.48).
49. General and complete disarmament (P.49):
 - (a) Report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament;
 - (b) Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;
 - (c) Report of the Secretary-General.
50. Strengthening of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament: report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Review of the Role of the United Nations in the Field of Disarmament (P.50).
51. Effects of atomic radiation: report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (P.51).
52. Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa (P.52):
 - (a) Report of the Special Committee against Apartheid;
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General.
53. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (P.53):
 - (a) Report of the Commissioner-General;
 - (b) Report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;
 - (c) Report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine;
 - (d) Report of the Secretary-General.
54. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects: report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations (P.54).
55. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories (P.55).

56. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (P.56):
 - (a) Report of the Conference on its fourth session;
 - (b) Report of the Trade and Development Board;
 - (c) Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;
 - (d) Confirmation of the appointment of the Secretary-General.
57. United Nations Industrial Development Organization: report of the Industrial Development Board (P.57).
58. United Nations Institute for Training and Research: report of the Executive Director (P.58).
59. Operational activities for development (P.59):
 - (a) United Nations Development Programme;
 - (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund;
 - (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General;
 - (d) United Nations Volunteers programme;
 - (e) United Nations Fund for Population Activities;
 - (f) United Nations Children's Fund;
 - (g) World Food Programme.
60. United Nations Environment Programme (P.60):
 - (a) Report of the Governing Council;
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General;
 - (c) Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements: report of the Secretary-General;
 - (d) Election of the Executive Director.
61. Food problems: report of the World Food Council (P.61).
62. United Nations Special Fund (P.62):
 - (a) Report of the Board of Governors;
 - (b) Confirmation of the appointment of the Executive Director.

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63. United Nations University (P.63):
 - (a) Report of the Council of the United Nations University;
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General.
64. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator: reports of the Secretary-General (P.64).
65. Revision of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade (P.65).
66. Development and international economic co-operation: implementation of the decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its seventh special session (P.66):
 - (a) Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System;
 - (b) Reports of the Secretary-General.
67. Economic co-operation among developing countries: report of the Secretary-General (P.67).
68. Technical co-operation among developing countries (P.68).
69. Elimination of all forms of racial discrimination (P.69):
 - (a) Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination: report of the Secretary-General;
 - (b) Reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;
 - (c) Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination: report of the Secretary-General;
 - (d) Status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.
70. Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to colonial and racist régimes in southern Africa (P.70).
71. Human rights and scientific and technological developments (P.71).
72. World social situation: report of the Secretary-General (P.72).
73. Policies and programmes relating to youth: reports of the Secretary-General (P.73).

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74. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (P.74).
75. United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace: report of the Secretary-General (P.75).
76. Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights: report of the Secretary-General (P.76).
77. Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance (P.77).
78. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: report of the High Commissioner (P.78).
79. National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress: report of the Secretary-General (P.79).
80. Freedom of information (P.80):
 - (a) Draft Declaration on Freedom of Information;
 - (b) Draft Convention on Freedom of Information.
81. Status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: report of the Secretary-General (P.81).
82. United Nations conference for an international convention on adoption law (P.82).
83. Preservation and further development of cultural values (P.83).
84. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations (P.84):
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General;
 - (b) Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.
85. Question of Namibia (P.85):
 - (a) Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;
 - (b) Report of the United Nations Council for Namibia;

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- (c) United Nations Fund for Namibia: report of the Secretary-General;
 - (d) Appointment of the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia.
86. Question of Southern Rhodesia: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (P.86).
87. Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Southern Rhodesia and Namibia and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (P.87).
88. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (P.88):
- (a) Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;
 - (b) Reports of the Secretary-General.
89. United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa: report of the Secretary-General (P.89).
90. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Secretary-General (P.90).
91. Financial reports and accounts, and reports of the Board of Auditors (P.91):
- (a) United Nations;
 - (b) United Nations Development Programme;
 - (c) United Nations Children's Fund;
 - (d) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;
 - (e) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;
 - (f) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

- (g) Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;
 - (h) United Nations Fund for Population Activities.
92. Programme budget for the biennium 1976-1977 (P.92).
93. Medium-term plan (P.93):
- (a) Medium-term plan for the period 1978-1981 and revised plan for 1977;
 - (b) Implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit: report of the Secretary-General.
94. Financial emergency of the United Nations: report of the Negotiating Committee on the Financial Emergency of the United Nations (P.94).
95. Review of the intergovernmental and expert machinery dealing with the formulation, review and approval of programmes and budgets (P.95).
96. Administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency: report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (P.96).
97. Joint Inspection Unit (P.97):
- (a) Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit;
 - (b) Question of the continuation of the Joint Inspection Unit.
98. Pattern of conferences: report of the Committee on Conferences (P.98).
99. United Nations accommodation (P.99):
- (a) Utilization of office accommodation in the United Nations system;
 - (b) Utilization of office accommodation and conference facilities at the Donaupark Centre in Vienna: report of the Secretary-General.
100. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: report of the Committee on Contributions (P.100).
101. Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary organs of the General Assembly (P.101):
- (a) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
 - (b) Committee on Contributions;
 - (c) Board of Auditors;

- (d) Investments Committee: confirmation of the appointments made by the Secretary-General;
- (e) United Nations Administrative Tribunal;
- (f) International Civil Service Commission;
- (g) United Nations Staff Pension Committee.

102. Personnel questions (P.102):

- (a) Composition of the Secretariat: report of the Secretary-General;
- (b) Other personnel questions: report of the Secretary-General.

103. Report of the International Civil Service Commission (P.103).

104. United Nations pension system: report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (P.104).

105. Financing of the United Nations Emergency Force and of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force: report of the Secretary-General (P.105).

106. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its twenty-eighth session (P.106).

107. Conference of plenipotentiaries on succession of States in respect of treaties: report of the Secretary-General (P.107).

108. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its ninth session (P.108).

109. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (P.109).

110. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (P.110).

111. Respect for human rights in armed conflicts: report of the Secretary-General (P.111).

112. Implementation by States of the provisions of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961: report of the Secretary-General (P.112).

113. Measures to prevent international terrorism which endangers or takes innocent human lives or jeopardizes fundamental freedoms, and study of the underlying causes of those forms of terrorism and acts of violence which lie in misery, frustration, grievance and despair and which cause some people to sacrifice human lives, including their own, in an attempt to effect radical changes: report of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism (P.113).

114. Resolutions adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Representation of States in their Relations with International Organizations (P.114):
- (a) Resolution relating to the observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States;
 - (b) Resolution relating to the application of the Convention in future activities of international organizations.
115. Consolidation and progressive evolution of the norms and principles of international economic development law (P.115).
116. Implementation of the conclusions of the first Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (P.117).
117. One hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Amphictyonic Congress of Panama (P.118).
118. Question of Cyprus (P.119).
119. Observer status for the Commonwealth Secretariat at the United Nations (S.1).
120. Co-operation and assistance in the application and improvement of mass communications for social progress and development (S.3).
121. Situation arising out of unilateral withdrawal of Ganges waters at Farakka (S.5).
122. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte (A.1). 3/

IV. ALLOCATION OF ITEMS

24. Taking into account the recommendations in section III above regarding the inclusion of items in the agenda, the General Committee approved the proposed allocation of items contained in paragraph 29 of the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/31/1) with the following modifications:

(a) Plenary meetings

- (i) Item 25 of the draft agenda (Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples)

The General Committee decided, on the proposal of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 24), to recommend referral to the Fourth Committee of all the chapters of the report of the Special Committee (A/31/23 and Add.1-10) relating to specific Territories so that the General Assembly might deal in plenary meetings with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.

3/ See para. 21 above.

- (ii) Item 118 (One hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Amphictyonic Congress of Panama)

The General Committee decided to recommend that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

- (iii) Item 119 of the draft agenda (Question of Cyprus)

The General Committee decided, by 12 votes to 1, with 9 abstentions, to recommend that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting on the understanding that the General Assembly would, when considering the item, invite the Special Political Committee to meet for the purpose of affording representatives of the Cypriot communities an opportunity to take the floor in the Committee in order to express their views, and that the Assembly would then resume its consideration of the item, taking into account the report of the Special Political Committee.

- (iv) Item 120 of the draft agenda (Observer status for the Commonwealth Secretariat at the United Nations)

The General Committee decided to recommend that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting as a matter of priority.

- (v) Item 125 of the draft agenda (Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte)

The General Committee decided to recommend that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

(b) First Committee

Item 49 of the draft agenda (General and complete disarmament)

The General Committee decided, on the proposal of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 25), to recommend that the relevant paragraphs of the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (A/31/171), which is to be considered directly in plenary meeting under item 14, should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connexion with its consideration of item 49.

(c) Special Political Committee

- (i) Item 52 of the draft agenda (Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa)

The General Committee decided to recommend that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

- (ii) Item 12⁴ of the draft agenda (Situation arising out of unilateral withdrawal of Ganges waters at Farakka)

The General Committee decided to recommend that the item should be allocated to the Special Political Committee.

(d) Second Committee

- (i) Item 12 of the draft agenda (Report of the Economic and Social Council)

The General Committee decided, on the proposal of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 23), to recommend that the General Assembly should express the view that:

- (a) Chapter II (General discussion of international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments) might be of interest to the First, Special Political and Fourth Committees;
 - (b) Chapter III, section A (Assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Ethiopia), section B (Review of the situation in Guatemala in consequence of the earthquake of 4 February 1976) and section C (Measures to be taken following the cyclones in Madagascar), might be of interest to the Third Committee.
- (ii) Item 56 of the draft agenda (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

The General Committee decided, on the proposal of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 26), to recommend that the Second Committee should consider the question of the enlargement of the Trade and Development Board and report thereon to the General Assembly as a matter of priority.

(e) Third Committee

- (i) Item 12 of the draft agenda (Report of the Economic and Social Council)

The General Committee decided, on the proposal of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1, para. 23), to recommend that the General Assembly should express the view that chapter II (General discussion of international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments) might be of interest to the First, Special Political and Fourth Committees.

- (ii) Item 122 of the draft agenda (Co-operation and assistance in the application and improvement of mass communications for social progress and development)

The General Committee decided to recommend that the item should be allocated to the Third Committee.

(f) Sixth Committee

Item 115 of the draft agenda (Consolidation and progressive evolution of the norms and principles of international economic development law)

The General Committee decided to recommend, taking into account the hope expressed by the General Assembly at its thirtieth session (see A/BUR/31/1, para. 27), that the item should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.

25. In addition, the General Committee took note of paragraph 28 of the memorandum of the Secretary-General (A/BUR/31/1) concerning the agenda of the Special Political Committee.

26. Taking into account paragraphs 24 and 25 above, the General Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following allocation of items: 4/

4/ For the abbreviations used in the allocation of items, see foot-note 1.

Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Luxembourg (P.1).
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation (P.2).
3. Credentials of representatives to the thirty-first session of the General Assembly (P.3):
 - (a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee;
 - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President (P.4).
5. Constitution of the Main Committees and election of officers (P.5).
6. Election of the Vice-Presidents (P.6).
7. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations (P.7).
8. Adoption of the agenda (P.8).
9. General debate (P.9).
10. Report of the Secretary-General of the work of the Organization (P.10).
11. Report of the Security Council (P.11).
12. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I and VIII (sections A to F)] (P.12).
13. Report of the International Court of Justice (P.13).
14. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (P.14).
15. Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council (P.15).
16. Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council (P.16).
17. Appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (P.17).
18. Election of fifteen members of the Industrial Development Board (P.18).
19. Election of nineteen members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (P.19).
20. Election of twelve members of the World Food Council (P.20).

21. Election of twelve members of the Board of Governors of the United Nations Special Fund (P.21).
22. Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (P.22).
23. Election of the members of the International Law Commission (P.23).
24. Election of seventeen members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (P.24).
25. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (P.25). 5/
26. Admission of new Members to the United Nations (P.26).
27. Question of Palestine (P.27):
 - (a) Report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People;
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General.
28. Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity: report of the Secretary-General (P.28).
29. The situation in the Middle East (P.29).
30. Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (P.30).
31. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (P.56): 6/
 - (d) Confirmation of the appointment of the Secretary-General.
32. United Nations Environment Programme (P.60): 7/
 - (d) Election of the Executive Director.
33. United Nations Special Fund (P.62): 8/
 - (b) Confirmation of the appointment of the Executive Director.

5/ See para. 24 (a) (i) above.

6/ For subitems (a) to (c), see below "Second Committee", item 2.

7/ For subitems (a) to (c), see below "Second Committee", item 6.

8/ For subitem (a), see below "Second Committee", item 8.

34. Questions of Namibia (P.85): 9/
 (d) Appointment of the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia.
35. One hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Amphictyonic Congress of Panama (P.118).
36. Question of Cyprus (P.119). 10/
37. Observer status for the Commonwealth Secretariat at the United Nations (S.1). 11/
38. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte (A.1).
39. Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa (P.52):
 (a) Report of the Special Committee against Apartheid;
 (b) Report of the Secretary-General.

9/ For subitems (a) to (c), see below "Fourth Committee", item 2.

10/ See para. 24 (a) (iii) above.

11/ See para. 24 (a) (iv) above.

First Committee

1. International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (P.31).
2. Preparation of an international convention on principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (P.32).
3. Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security: report of the Secretary-General (P.33).
4. Reduction of military budgets: report of the Secretary-General (P.34).
5. Incendiary and other specific conventional weapons which may be the subject of prohibitions or restrictions of use for humanitarian reasons: report of the Secretary-General (P.35).
6. Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (P.36).
7. Urgent need for cessation of nuclear and thermonuclear tests and conclusion of a treaty designed to achieve a comprehensive test ban: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (P.37).
8. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 3467 (XXX) concerning the signature and ratification of Additional Protocol II of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (P.38).
9. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace: report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean (P.39).
10. World Disarmament Conference: report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference (P.40).
11. Effective measures to implement the purposes and objectives of the Disarmament Decade (P.41).
12. Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa (P.42).
13. Comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects: report of the Secretary-General (P.43).
14. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (P.44).
15. Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (P.45).

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16. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia (P.46).
17. Conclusion of a treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests (P.47).
18. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (P.48).
19. General and complete disarmament (P.49): 12/
 - (a) Report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament;
 - (b) Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;
 - (c) Report of the Secretary-General.
20. Strengthening of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament: report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Review of the Role of the United Nations in the Field of Disarmament (P.50).
21. Implementation of the conclusions of the first Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (P.117).

12/ See para. 24 (b) above.

Special Political Committee 13/

1. Effects of atomic radiation: report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (P.51).
2. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (P.53):
 - (a) Report of the Commissioner-General;
 - (b) Report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;
 - (c) Report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine;
 - (d) Report of the Secretary-General.
3. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects: report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations (P.54).
4. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories (P.55).
5. Situation arising out of unilateral withdrawal of Ganges waters at Farakka (S.5).

13/ See para. 25 above.

Second Committee

1. Report of the Economic and Social Council /chapters II, III (sections A to E, H to K and M), IV, V, VI (section A) and VII (sections B to D and F)/ (P.12). 14/
2. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (P.56): 15/
 - (a) Report of the Conference on its fourth session;
 - (b) Report of the Trade and Development Board;
 - (c) Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.
3. United Nations Industrial Development Organization: report of the Industrial Development Board (P.57).
4. United Nations Institute for Training and Research: report of the Executive Director (P.58).
5. Operational activities for development (P.59):
 - (a) United Nations Development Programme;
 - (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund;
 - (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General;
 - (d) United Nations Volunteers programme;
 - (e) United Nations Fund for Population Activities;
 - (f) United Nations Children's Fund;
 - (g) World Food Programme.

14/ The parts of the report listed below would be referred also to the Third and Fifth Committees as follows:

Chapters II, IV (section A) and V	Third Committee
Chapters III (sections D, E and H to J), IV (section F)	
and VII (sections C and F)	Fifth Committee
Chapter VII (section D)	Third and Fifth Committees

For further details, see para. 24 (d) (i) above.

15/ See para. 24 (d) (ii) above. For subitem (d), see above "Plenary meetings", item 31.

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6. United Nations Environment Programme (P.60): 16/
 - (a) Report of the Governing Council;
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General;
 - (c) Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements: report of the Secretary-General.
7. Food problems: report of the World Food Council (P.61).
8. United Nations Special Fund (P.62): 17/
 - (a) Report of the Board of Governors.
9. United Nations University (P.63):
 - (a) Report of the Council of the United Nations University;
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General.
10. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator: reports of the Secretary-General (P.64).
11. Revision of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade (P.65).
12. Development and international economic co-operation: implementation of the decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its seventh special session (P.66):
 - (a) Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System;
 - (b) Reports of the Secretary-General.
13. Economic co-operation among developing countries: report of the Secretary-General (P.67).
14. Technical co-operation among developing countries (P.68).

16/ For subitem (d), see above "Plenary meetings", item 32.

17/ For subitem (b), see above "Plenary meetings", item 33.

Third Committee

1. Report of the Economic and Social Council /chapters II, III (sections F, G and L), IV (section A), V, VI (sections B to D) and VII (section D)/ (P.12). 18/
2. Elimination of all forms of racial discrimination (P.69):
 - (a) Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination: report of the Secretary-General;
 - (b) Reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;
 - (c) Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination: report of the Secretary-General;
 - (d) Status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.
3. Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to colonial and racist régimes in southern Africa (P.70).
4. Human rights and scientific and technological developments (P.71).
5. World social situation: report of the Secretary-General (P.72).
6. Policies and programmes relating to youth: reports of the Secretary-General (P.73).
7. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (P.74).
8. United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace: report of the Secretary-General (P.75).

18/ The parts of the report listed below would be referred also to the Second and Fifth Committees as follows:

Chapters II, IV (section A) and V	Second Committee
Chapters III (sections F and G) and VI (sections B to D)	Fifth Committee
Chapter VII (section D)	Second and Fifth Committees

For further details, see para. 24 (e) (i) above.

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9. Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights: report of the Secretary-General (P.76).
10. Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance (P.77).
11. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: report of the High Commissioner (P.78).
12. National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress: report of the Secretary-General (P.79).
13. Freedom of information (P.80):
 - (a) Draft Declaration on Freedom of Information;
 - (b) Draft Convention on Freedom of Information.
14. Status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: report of the Secretary-General (P.81).
15. United Nations conference for an international convention on adoption law (P.82).
16. Preservation and further development of cultural values (P.83).
17. Co-operation and assistance in the application and improvement of mass communications for social progress and development (S.3).

Fourth Committee

1. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations (P.84):
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General;
 - (b) Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.
2. Question of Namibia (P.85): 19/
 - (a) Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

19/ For subitem (d), see above "Plenary meetings", item 34.

- (b) Report of the United Nations Council for Namibia;
 - (c) United Nations Fund for Namibia: report of the Secretary-General.
3. Question of Southern Rhodesia: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (P.86).
 4. Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Southern Rhodesia and Namibia and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (P.87).
 5. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (P.88):
 - (a) Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;
 - (b) Reports of the Secretary-General.
 6. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter VII (section E)] (P.12).
 7. United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa: report of the Secretary-General (P.89).
 8. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Secretary-General (P.90).
 9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [chapters relating to specific Territories] (P.25). 20/

20/ See para. 24 (a) (i) above.

Fifth Committee

1. Financial reports and accounts, and reports of the Board of Auditors (P.91):
 - (a) United Nations;
 - (b) United Nations Development Programme;
 - (c) United Nations Children's Fund;
 - (d) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;
 - (e) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;
 - (f) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
 - (g) Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;
 - (h) United Nations Fund for Population Activities.
2. Programme budget for the biennium 1976-1977 (P.92).
3. Medium-term plan (P.93):
 - (a) Medium-term plan for the period 1978-1981 and revised plan for 1977;
 - (b) Implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit: report of the Secretary-General.
4. Financial emergency of the United Nations: report of the Negotiating Committee on the Financial Emergency of the United Nations (P.94).
5. Review of the intergovernmental and expert machinery dealing with the formulation, review and approval of programmes and budgets (P.95).
6. Administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency: report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (P.96).
7. Joint Inspection Unit (P.97):
 - (a) Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit;
 - (b) Question of the continuation of the Joint Inspection Unit.
8. Pattern of conferences: report of the Committee on Conferences (P.98).

9. United Nations accommodation (P.99):
 - (a) Utilization of office accommodation in the United Nations system;
 - (b) Utilization of office accommodation and conference facilities at the Donaupark Centre in Vienna: report of the Secretary-General.
10. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: report of the Committee on Contributions (P.100).
11. Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary organs of the General Assembly (P.101):
 - (a) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
 - (b) Committee on Contributions;
 - (c) Board of Auditors;
 - (d) Investments Committee: confirmation of the appointments made by the Secretary-General;
 - (e) United Nations Administrative Tribunal;
 - (f) International Civil Service Commission;
 - (g) United Nations Staff Pension Committee.
12. Personnel questions (P.102):
 - (a) Composition of the Secretariat: report of the Secretary-General;
 - (b) Other personnel questions: report of the Secretary-General.
13. Report of the International Civil Service Commission (P.103).
14. United Nations pension system: report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (P.104).
15. Financing of the United Nations Emergency Force and of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force: report of the Secretary-General (P.105).
16. Report of the Economic and Social Council /chapters III (sections D to J), IV (section F), VI (sections B to D), VII (sections A, C, D and F) and VIII (sections G and H)/ (P.12). 21/

21/ The parts of the report listed below would be referred also to the Second and Third Committees as follows:

Chapters III (sections D, E and H to J), IV (section F)	
and VII (sections C and F)	Second Committee
Chapters III (sections F and G) and VI (sections B to D) .	Third Committee
Chapter VII (section D)	Second and Third
	Committees

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Sixth Committee

1. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its twenty-eight session (P.106).
2. Conference of plenipotentiaries on succession of States in respect of treaties: report of the Secretary-General (P.107).
3. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its ninth session (P.108).
4. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (P.109).
5. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (P.110).
6. Respect for human rights in armed conflicts: report of the Secretary-General (P.111).
7. Implementation by States of the provisions of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961: report of the Secretary-General (P.112).
8. Measures to prevent international terrorism which endangers or takes innocent human lives or jeopardizes fundamental freedoms, and study of the underlying causes of those forms of terrorism and acts of violence which lie in misery, frustration, grievance and despair and which cause some people to sacrifice human lives, including their own, in an attempt to effect radical changes: report of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism (P.113).
9. Resolutions adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations (P.114):
 - (a) Resolution relating to the observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States;
 - (b) Resolution relating to the application of the Convention in future activities of international organizations.
10. Consolidation and progressive evolution of the norms and principles of international economic development law (P.115). 22/

22/ See para. 24 (f) above.