

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

Official Records *



GENERAL COMMITTEE

3rd meeting

held on

Monday, 24 October 1977

at 2.30 p.m.

New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 3rd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MOJSOV (Yugoslavia)

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The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE THIRTY-SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued):

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM SUBMITTED BY ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, CANADA, CHILE, COLOMBIA, DENMARK, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, FIJI, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF, GREECE, GUATEMALA, INDIA, IRAN, IRELAND, ITALY, JAPAN, LESOTHO, LUXEMBOURG, THE NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, NICARAGUA, NIGERIA, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, PERU, THE PHILIPPINES, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, SURINAM, SWEDEN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, TURKEY, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND URUGUAY (A/32/245).

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request submitted by 42 States for the inclusion in the agenda of an additional item entitled "Safety of international civil aviation" (A/32/245). He said that the representative of Saudi Arabia had asked to participate in the discussion; if there was no objection, he would invite him to take a place at the Committee table.

2. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Baroody (Saudi Arabia) took a place at the Committee table.

3. Mr. JANKOWITSCH (Austria), speaking on behalf of the sponsors of the request contained in document A/32/245, thanked the Chairman for his prompt action in calling a meeting of the General Committee to consider the inclusion of the proposed new item in the agenda. Because of the urgency of the question, there had not been sufficient time to consult delegations other than those referred to by the Chairman, or to add to the original list of sponsors the names of other countries wishing to sponsor the request. He apologized to the delegations concerned, but explained that the procedure followed had been necessary in order to ensure that the matter was taken up as speedily as possible by the General Assembly.

4. Mr. BAROODY (Saudi Arabia) said that the title of the proposed item was too restrictive and should be amended by the General Assembly to read "Safety of national and international travel, whether by air or land". The General Assembly should not adopt a resolution in haste, under the existing title, simply because of recent dramatic events. Although airline pilots deserved some reassurance from the international community, it should be remembered that international civil aviation was only one form of transport.

5. Turning to the substance of the question, he said the General Assembly should not reach hasty conclusions. Among the various types of hijackers, there were those who, regardless of the legitimacy or acceptability of their cause, carried in them the seeds of martyrdom. Their numbers were multiplying and they must be taken into account. They seemed to be young and mostly well educated, and their frustration

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(Mr. Baroody, Saudi Arabia)

was a social problem stemming from the industrial and technological revolutions. Consequently, the question should be considered from all points of view, for the purpose of determining the underlying causes.

6. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be included in the agenda and allocated to the Special Political Committee, and that it should be accorded due priority in that Committee.

The meeting rose at 3.30 p.m.