



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

*Tribute to the memory of
Mr. Constantin Stavropoulos*

1. The PRESIDENT: I have to inform the Assembly of the death last Monday of Mr. Constantin Stavropoulos in his native country, Greece.

2. Mr. Constantin Stavropoulos was Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs, Legal Counsel of the Organization, Acting United Nations Commissioner for Namibia from 1967 to 1969 and the first Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea. Mr. Stavropoulos's association with the activities of the United Nations was one of extraordinary distinction and spanned a period of almost 40 years. A member of his country's delegation to the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations in the 1940s, he was in the service of the United Nations from 1946 to 1974. He returned in 1974 to his country, Greece, and served as a distinguished Ambassador and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. His association with the United Nations, however, was to continue in many ways, in particular through his participation in the Conference on the Law of the Sea and as a member of the International Law Commission.

3. Belonging to the generation that saw the demise of the League of Nations and the collapse of the rule of law, Mr. Stavropoulos was given the unique opportunity to witness and participate in the rebuilding of the rule of law, in the birth of the United Nations and in the great conferences on the codification and progressive development of international law that were to follow. His dedication and devotion to the rule of law in international relations, to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the important role of international organizations will never be forgotten. All who had the privilege and joy of knowing Mr. Stavropoulos will remember his warm human qualities, his commanding knowledge of the United Nations and, above all, his wisdom and integrity.

4. On behalf of the General Assembly, I should like to request the representative of Greece to transmit to the Government of Greece and to the family of Mr. Stavropoulos our expressions of profound sympathy.

5. May I now ask representatives to stand and observe a minute of silence in tribute to the memory of Mr. Constantin Stavropoulos.

The members of the General Assembly observed a minute of silence.

6. Mr. ATHANASSIOU (Greece): Allow me, on behalf of my delegation, to express my deep gratitude to you, Mr. President, for your very kind words on the announcement of the death of Mr. Stavropoulos. I should also like, through you, Sir, to express my thanks to the Assembly for observing a minute of silence in tribute to the deceased. I shall certainly convey the condolences of the Assembly to my Government and to the family of Mr. Stavropoulos. I am sure they will be very deeply appreciated.

AGENDA ITEM 15

**Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs
(continued)*:**

**(c) Election of five members of the International
Court of Justice**

7. The PRESIDENT: The General Assembly will now proceed to the election of five members of the International Court of Justice for a nine-year term commencing on 6 February 1985. The terms of office of the following judges expire on the previous day: Mr. Taslim Olawale Elias, Mr. Manfred Lachs, Mr. Hermann Mosler, Mr. Shigeru Oda and Mr. Abdallah Fikri El-Khani.

8. In connection with the election, I should like to bring the following matters to the attention of the members of the General Assembly.

9. First, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 264 (III), a State which is a party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice but not a Member of the United Nations may participate in the election in the General Assembly in the same manner as the States Members of the United Nations. On this occasion, I am happy to welcome here the representatives of Liechtenstein, San Marino and Switzerland.

10. Secondly, I should like to confirm that at this time, but independently of the General Assembly, the Security Council is proceeding to elect five members of the Court. This procedure is in accordance with Article 8 of the Statute of the Court which provides that:

“The General Assembly and the Security Council shall proceed independently of one another to elect the members of the Court.”

Accordingly, the results of the voting in each of these organs will not be communicated to the other organ until the voting in both organs is completed.

11. Finally, I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Assembly to the documents relating to the election. The list of candidates who

*Resumed from the 34th meeting.

have been nominated by national groups is to be found in document A/39/357/Rev.1-S/16680/Rev.1 and Add.1.

12. The curricula vitae of the candidates are to be found in document A/39/358 and Add.1-S/16681 and Add.1. The Assembly also has before it document A/39/354-S/16676 containing a memorandum by the Secretary-General on the present composition of the Court and the procedure to be followed in the Assembly and in the Security Council with regard to the election. Since the issuance of that document, a new Member State has been admitted. Thus 82 votes constitute an absolute majority in the General Assembly.

13. In accordance with Article 10, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court, those candidates who obtain an absolute majority of votes in the General Assembly and in the Security Council shall be considered elected.

14. The General Assembly will now proceed to a secret ballot. If on the first ballot five candidates do not obtain the required majority, it will be necessary to proceed to other ballots until all vacancies are filled. The General Assembly has decided that these ballots shall be unrestricted.

15. Representatives are requested to use only the ballot papers now being distributed and to place a cross at the left of the names of the five candidates for whom they wish to vote. Ballot papers on which more than five names are marked will be considered invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Boukrif (Algeria), Mr. Halinen (Finland), Mr. Meltke (German Democratic Republic), Mr. Ruiz Cabañas (Mexico) and Mr. Fernandez (Philippines) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

16. The PRESIDENT: The result of the voting is as follows:

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	159
<i>Number of invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	159
<i>Abstentions:</i>	0
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	159
<i>Required majority:</i>	82
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Mr. Jens Evensen (Norway)	133
Mr. Taslim Olawale Elias (Nigeria) ..	118

Mr. Shigeru Oda (Japan)	114
Mr. Ni Zhengyu (China)	107
Mr. Manfred Lachs (Poland)	99
Mr. Abdallah Fikri EL-Khani (Syrian Arab Republic)	55
Mr. Sompong Sucharitkul (Thailand)	36
Mr. Kaderi Muhammad Abdul Fazle Munim (Bangladesh)	14
Mr. Christopher Gregory Weeramantry (Sri Lanka)	12
Mr. Shabtai Rosenne (Israel)	11
Mr. Antoine Fattal (Lebanon)	9
Mr. Leoncio-Mitogo Edjang Avoro (Equatorial Guinea)	7

17. The PRESIDENT: The following five candidates have obtained the necessary absolute majority in the General Assembly: Mr. Taslim Olawale Elias, Mr. Jens Evensen, Mr. Manfred Lachs, Mr. Ni Zhengyu and Mr. Shigeru Oda.

18. I have communicated the result of the vote to the President of the Security Council and I have received the following letter from the President of the Security Council:

“I have the honour to inform you that at the 2561st meeting of the Security Council, held on 7 November 1984, for the purpose of electing members of the International Court of Justice to fill the five vacancies which will occur on 5 February 1985, the following candidates obtained an absolute majority of votes: Mr. Taslim Olawale Elias, Mr. Jens Evensen, Mr. Manfred Lachs, Mr. Ni Zhengyu and Mr. Shigeru Oda.”

Having obtained the required absolute majority in elections held independently in the General Assembly and the Security Council, Mr. Taslim Olawale Elias (Nigeria), Mr. Jens Evensen (Norway), Mr. Manfred Lachs (Poland), Mr. Ni Zhengyu (China) and Mr. Shigeru Oda (Japan) were elected members of the International Court of Justice for a nine-year term beginning on 6 February 1985 (decision 39/307).

19. The PRESIDENT: I therefore declare those candidates duly elected members of the International Court of Justice and I take this opportunity to extend to them the congratulations of the Assembly. I should like also to thank the tellers for their assistance.

The meeting rose at 12.20 p.m.