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REPORTS OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE (A/3088) AND THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3089)

1. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): At this morning's meeting, section I of the draft resolution of the Fourth Committee [A/3088] was approved by 42 votes to 7, with 11 abstentions, and section II by 45 votes to 6, with 9 abstentions. No vote was taken on the draft resolution as a whole, and some delegations would like this procedure to be carried out.

2. I therefore put the draft resolution as a whole to the vote.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 42 votes to 7, with 10 abstentions.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Appointment of a Credentials Committee

SECOND REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE (A/3091)

3. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): Before considering the Committee's report, may I suggest that, in accordance with the established practice in connexion with credentials, the Assembly should provisionally admit the representatives of the new Members with the same rights as other representatives.

4. It is expected that the Secretary-General will shortly receive the credentials required by rule 27 of the General Assembly's rules of procedure. As representatives are aware, as soon as the voting was completed yesterday [555th meeting], each country was informed by cable of its admission.

5. If there is no objection to the procedure I have suggested, it will be so decided.

It was so decided.

6. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): If there is no objection, we shall dispense with the formal presentation of the second report of the Credentials Committee [A/3091].

It was so decided.

7. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): If there is no request for a vote on the draft resolution recommended by the Credentials Committee [A/3091], I shall regard it as adopted.

The draft resolution was adopted.

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AGENDA ITEM 32

Consideration of communications relating to the cessation of the transmission of information under Article 73 e of the Charter**REPORT OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE (A/3087)**

Mr. Massonet (Belgium), Rapporteur of the Fourth Committee, presented the report of that Committee.

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the report of the Fourth Committee.

8. Miss BROOKS (Liberia): With respect to the cessation of the transmission of information under Article 73 e of the Charter, the delegation of Liberia has consistently held that any alteration in the status of a dependent or Non-Self-Governing Territory must be made in consultation with the United Nations.

9. Representatives of the Netherlands Government and of Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles, in asserting their position on the question, have denied the competence of the United Nations in this respect. Their position, therefore, is diametrically opposed to that of Liberia.

10. After a very careful study of the Charter creating the Kingdom of the Netherlands,¹ my delegation regrets to note that this instrument does not guarantee full equality to the three parts of the Kingdom, for the powers vested in the Executive do, to a certain extent, contain a veto power with respect to certain fundamental rights of Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles, should they desire to exercise such rights.

11. In view of the foregoing, the delegation of Liberia finds it difficult to change its position on this question.

12. However, my delegation takes note of the fact that the Charter for the Kingdom does to a large extent provide for self-government in these two territories.

13. Mr. PEREZ PEREZ (Venezuela) (*translated from Spanish*): The Venezuelan delegation considers it necessary to restate the considerations which determined its vote in the Fourth Committee on the draft resolution [A/3087] submitted to the Assembly.

14. As we said in the Committee, the Assembly is dealing here with a situation arrived at by negotiation and, internationally speaking, such situations are worthy of respect. Nevertheless, as we also said on that occasion, the problem facing the United Nations in relation to the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam is, in my delegation's opinion, simply that of determining whether the new form of association between these two territories and the former metropolitan country is such as to terminate the obligations which both the Netherlands and the United Nations have under the Charter in respect of the destiny of these peoples.

15. The General Assembly therefore has the responsibility of deciding whether the Charter for the Kingdom of the Netherlands really confers on Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles a full measure of self-government and, hence, whether the respective obligations of the administering Power and the United Nations under Chapter XI of the United Nations Charter have thereby lapsed with regard to those territories.

16. As we also pointed out, Article 73 e of the Charter obviously authorizes the United Nations periodically to receive information about the economic, social and edu-

cational conditions prevailing in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and the cessation of the transmission of information on these matters is subject to the attainment by those territories of a full measure of self-government. My delegation therefore considered, and still considers, that the degree of self-government should be assessed in this case in the light of the provisions of the Charter and the relevant General Assembly resolutions.

17. As we said in the Fourth Committee, the Venezuelan delegation has carefully studied the Charter for the Kingdom of the Netherlands, transmitted to the United Nations by the Netherlands Government, as well as the other documents relating to this item, in the light of the provisions of the United Nations Charter and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly. It has also studied this problem in the light of the principles by which Venezuela has traditionally been guided in connexion with matters relating to Chapter XI of the Charter, and the stand taken by the American republics at the Inter-American conferences.

18. We stated in the Fourth Committee that our position on the matters discussed in that body was well known, and that it was based on the principle that Venezuela sympathized with the advancement of the non-self-governing peoples and considered that their political, social and economic progress should lead them to assume full responsibility for their own destinies, in accordance with the spirit and the letter of the United Nations Charter. The calm but firm manner in which our delegation has maintained its point of view at successive sessions of the General Assembly arises from our conviction that the objectives sought for these territories can be achieved within the framework of the Charter.

19. In the same calm but firm manner, we would now reiterate that, after considering the position of the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam as outlined in the draft resolution before the Assembly, and in accordance with the principles I have just mentioned, my delegation has reached the conclusion that the Charter for the Kingdom of the Netherlands marks a step forward for the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam, and that their new status augurs well for the future of the inhabitants. Furthermore, the Netherlands Government deserves our praise and gratitude for providing the General Assembly with ample information on which to base an objective opinion on the new status of Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles.

20. Nevertheless, my delegation is bound to repeat that the restrictions which the Charter for the Kingdom of the Netherlands places on certain aspects of the political autonomy of the territories is not in keeping with certain essential elements of the list of factors adopted by the United Nations General Assembly [resolution 742 (VIII), annex] as a guide for determining whether a Non-Self-Governing Territory has achieved a full measure of self-government or not. My delegation believes that the absence of such essential elements, which I need not enumerate as they were discussed in detail in the Fourth Committee, should determine our attitude to the proposal embodied in the draft resolution before us.

21. In these circumstances, it is obvious that, were the Venezuelan delegation to vote in favour of the proposed solution, its action would not only be at complete variance with its interpretation of the letter and the

¹ See document A/AC.35/L.206.

spirit of the Charter and of General Assembly resolution 742 (VIII), but also quite inconsistent with its stated position on the advancement of the non-self-governing peoples. That position faithfully reflects the ideals which the people of Venezuela have for centuries supported and which are shared by all the other American peoples.

22. In view of the foregoing, the Venezuelan delegation regrets that it is unable to support any proposal based on conclusions such as those set out in the draft resolution. Nevertheless, since the new status has been accepted by distinguished bodies in the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam, it will abstain from voting, although it disagrees with the proposed solution.

23. Mr. MACKAY (Canada): The Canadian delegation will vote in favour of the draft resolution proposed by the Fourth Committee [A/3087].

24. This decision has not been taken lightly. The Canadian delegation has always held that the decision to cease transmitting information under Article 73 e of the Charter is one for the administering Powers alone to take. All that remains thereafter is for the Assembly to take note of that decision. For this reason, the Canadian delegation voted against the fifth paragraph of the preamble and abstained on the draft resolution as a whole when it was put to a vote in the Committee.

25. The Canadian delegation stands firm in its interpretation of these passages of the Charter. Indeed, it is precisely on the basis of this attitude that it welcomed in 1951 the announcement by the Government of the Netherlands [A/C.4/200] that, pursuant to the coming into force of the interim orders in Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles, those countries had obtained complete autonomy in the management of their domestic affairs, including the promotion of their economic, social and educational interests.

26. It would therefore be inconceivable for the Canadian delegation now to be less gratified with the developments which have taken place during the intervening period, as a result of which Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles have emerged, of their own free will, as co-equal partners with the metropolitan country to which they had formerly been attached in the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

27. On 30 November, at the close of the general debate on this item in the Fourth Committee [526th meeting], the representative of the Netherlands made a statement which was summarized in part as follows:

"Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations stated that the interests of the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories were paramount, and that due account should be taken of their political aspirations. Within the Kingdom of the Netherlands that had been done, and the peoples of Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles had told the members of the Committee, through their freely elected representatives, that their choice had been made and their aspirations fulfilled. Any denial of their right so to choose and so to act, and to have their chosen status recognized, was a denial of their dignity as free and equal members of the community of nations."

28. It is in recognition of these facts, as well as of the justice of the Netherlands position, that the Canadian delegation — without prejudice, of course, to the reservations earlier expressed — will vote in favour of the draft resolution before this Assembly.

29. To the peoples of Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles, the Canadian delegation extends its heartiest congratulations and its best wishes for their welfare within the Kingdom in which they are now co-equal partners.

30. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): If no one else wishes to speak, we shall proceed to vote on the draft resolution proposed by the Fourth Committee [A/3087].

31. The representative of France has asked for separate votes on the first and fifth paragraphs of the preamble. The representative of Argentina has requested a roll-call vote on the fifth paragraph of the preamble and on paragraph 2 of the operative part.

32. We shall now vote on the first paragraph of the preamble.

The paragraph was adopted by 48 votes to 1, with 9 abstentions.

33. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): There will now be a roll-call vote on the fifth paragraph of the preamble.

A vote was taken by roll call.

Hungary, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Mexico, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Argentina, Bolivia, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti.

Against: Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, France.

Abstaining: Iceland, Israel, Jordan, Liberia, Peru, Turkey, Ceylon, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Honduras.

The paragraph was adopted by 33 votes to 16, with 12 abstentions.

34. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): I shall now put to the vote paragraph 2 of the operative part. At the request of the representative of France, I shall put to the vote separately the first part of that paragraph, up to and including the words "as may be relevant".

That part of the paragraph was adopted by 28 votes to 7, with 25 abstentions.

35. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): There will now be a roll-call vote on paragraph 2 as a whole.

A vote was taken by roll call.

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: United States of America, Brazil, China, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Iceland, Israel, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey.

Against: Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Afghanistan, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic,

Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Liberia, Poland, Romania, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Abstaining: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Burma, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Syria.

The paragraph was adopted by 19 votes to 9, with 35 abstentions.

36. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): The Assembly will now vote on the draft resolution as a whole.

A vote was taken by roll call.

Bulgaria, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, France, Iceland, Israel, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, United States of America, Brazil.

Against: Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Liberia, Poland, Romania, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Afghanistan, Belgium.

Abstaining: Burma, Ceylon, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Syria, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 21 votes to 10, with 33 abstentions.

37. Mr. CALLE Y CALLE (Peru) (*translated from Spanish*): My delegation's explanation of its vote does not refer to the draft resolution as a whole. We made it clear in the Fourth Committee why we had to abstain in the voting. At the same time, we explained that our abstention did not in any way prejudice the right of the territories concerned to choose the constitutional status most suitable to them, nor did it prejudice the success and harmony of any relations agreed upon by those territories.

38. Our explanation of vote refers to the fifth paragraph of the preamble of the resolution which has just been approved, and which speaks of the competence of the General Assembly to decide whether or not a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government.

39. My delegation abstained when this paragraph was put to the vote in the Fourth Committee and also did so when the Uruguayan delegation's amendment was voted upon. Nevertheless, the Fourth Committee's report erroneously states in paragraph 10 (1) that my delegation was among those which voted in favour of that amendment, and it is for that reason that I felt that I should refer to the matter here. Far from being inconsistent, our vote followed logically from the position taken by my country, namely, that it is unnecessary to affirm the General Assembly's competence in a resolution when such competence has not been formally challenged, and, secondly, that the General

Assembly's competence should in such cases be restricted simply to considering whether the degree of internal self-government achieved by a territory does or does not justify the cessation of the transmission of information, without deciding whether that territory has or has not become an entity enjoying complete self-government in the sense of Chapter XI of the Charter.

AGENDA ITEM 13

Report of the Trusteeship Council

REPORT OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE (A/3092)

Mr. Massonet (Belgium), Rapporteur of the Fourth Committee, presented the report of that Committee.

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the report of the Fourth Committee.

40. Mr. DERESSA (Ethiopia): This is not really an explanation of vote, since we gave notice that we had a statement to make just before the vote. With the President's permission, I shall proceed.

41. I intervene on the part of the report of the Fourth Committee which concerns the delimitation of the frontier between Ethiopia and the Trust Territory of Somaliland, in order to make the position of my Government clear on this matter which is of the greatest importance to Ethiopia.

42. As delegations will recall, the Ethiopian delegation was obliged to oppose in the Fourth Committee the draft resolution that is now before us as draft resolution II. My delegation had stated that it would not oppose the draft as presented to the Committee, but the adoption of an amendment to operative paragraph 1, looking to a completed result of the bilateral negotiations within nine months, left my delegation with no alternative but to vote against it.

43. In urging the delegations to reconsider that vote, I have to restate briefly the objection of my Government to language with the effect of a time limit. We have repeatedly urged — and we are pleased to note that a number of well-informed delegations appreciate the point — that language of this kind does not accelerate or facilitate negotiations. On the contrary, it may — and particularly in the circumstances of these delicate bilateral negotiations — have the opposite effect of encouraging either party to the negotiations to rely upon such language as a formula for release from the task of pressing the negotiations to a conclusion. So anxious is my Government to press forward the negotiations upon which it has entered that I again urge that delegations should not decide to place over the negotiations language which, in the judgement of my delegation, is not a contribution to the end we all seek. It should be noted, as a matter of fact, that such language in earlier resolutions has not served to advance the direct negotiations.

44. I have to request a separate vote on the final phrase in operative paragraph 1, which reads: "preferably before the eleventh session of the Assembly".

45. As I stated in the Fourth Committee, if it were decided to remove this reference to a time limit, my delegation would offer no objection to the draft resolution.

46. I have to speak on one further matter referred to in this draft resolution to which my delegation attaches considerable importance. The fourth paragraph of the preamble states that the Assembly has heard certain statements of the representative of the Somali Youth

League, Mr. Hussen. Those statements included an open attack upon the basis of the Assembly's resolution on this matter, that is, the international agreements fixing the frontier. The attempted repudiation of treaty obligations is not a light matter, and we have objected to the reference in the draft to statements revealing such manoeuvres.

47. Consequently I also request a separate vote on the fourth paragraph of the preamble.

48. In closing these remarks, I wish to express the satisfaction it has given me to report to the delegations the progress which has been made in the direct negotiations presently being pressed in Addis Ababa. Detailed discussions will be opened with the Italian delegation, which will include Somali experts, as soon as it arrives in Addis Ababa. My delegation expects that substantial results will be achieved, and it earnestly hopes that no difficulty will be placed in the way of bilateral negotiations for the delimitation of the frontier.

49. Mr. VERGARA (Chile) (*translated from Spanish*): The delegation of Chile supports draft resolution II submitted by the Fourth Committee [A/3092], because it feels that so long as there is a procedure available for negotiating a direct understanding it is not for the General Assembly to intervene. In view of the explanations given by the representative of Ethiopia and of the fact that yesterday Italy became a Member of this Organization, my delegation, which abstained in the Fourth Committee in the vote on paragraph 1 of the operative part of the draft resolution in order not to interfere, as I said, with the direct negotiations, will now vote against its inclusion; on the other hand, we shall continue to abstain in the vote on the fourth paragraph of the preamble.

50. Mr. ASHA (Syria): In the course of the discussion of the problem of the frontier between the Trust Territory of Somaliland and Ethiopia, my delegation showed the utmost consideration not only for the Government of Ethiopia, but also for the people of Somaliland and the Administering Authority.

51. I should like to remind the General Assembly that a number of resolutions are outstanding on this particular issue. In a spirit of compromise and understanding, and with the hope that the negotiations which had now started in Addis Ababa would succeed, my delegation proposed a very minor, and indeed a very simple, amendment to the draft resolution before the Fourth Committee. All it said was that the words "preferably before the eleventh session of the General Assembly" should be inserted at the end of operative paragraph 1. We did not put in any fixed time limit. We used the word "preferably", which is only qualifying in that sense.

52. The hope of my delegation is that the problem will be solved as soon as possible. We do not wish to leave any outstanding problems of this magnitude to the future State of Somaliland. We are very confident that the Governments of Ethiopia and Italy will do their utmost to expedite these negotiations and come to a reasonable and just solution.

53. In this spirit, my delegation is prepared to propose altering one word in operative paragraph 1: the word "before" to be replaced by the word "by". The word "by", here, does not make it imperative that the negotiations must be settled and that the solution must be before us. It is only an expression of hope that by that time we shall have some kind of progress. I trust

that the members of the Assembly — and I particularly appeal to the representative of Ethiopia — will accept this amendment.

54. Mr. DERESSA (Ethiopia): I appreciate the efforts made by the representative of Syria to understand Ethiopia's point of view. I regret to say, however, that the small amendment which my colleague has now made makes a difference of three months, and we all know that when one is engaged in bilateral negotiations of this kind, three months is not a very, very long time.

55. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): I shall take the liberty of asking the representative of Syria whether, in view of what the representative of Ethiopia has just said, he wishes to maintain his amendment.

56. Mr. ASHA (Syria): I apologize to the Assembly for speaking again, but I want to assure the representative of Ethiopia that it is not my delegation's intention to argue with a brother delegation. We are all brothers, we belong to the same group; we understand their problems. But we are not bargaining about months, years or days. We are expressing the hope that the matter could be started on its way to settlement and that we should know something about these negotiations and their progress by the eleventh session. This is how I interpret this amendment and this operative paragraph. I do hope that the viewpoint of my delegation has been clearly stated and understood not only by my friends from Ethiopia, but by all members of the General Assembly.

57. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): The proposal is not withdrawn.

58. Mr. SAAB (Lebanon): I do not know whether there is still time to call upon the representative of Ethiopia to reconsider his attitude. We would certainly be grateful to him if he would do so, because my delegation supported the Syrian amendment in its previous form. If it is acceptable in its new form, my delegation would be very happy to accept it and to vote for it. The representative of Ethiopia has expressed his regret at not being able to accept it even in its new form, which is very mild. I would ask the President's permission to call upon him again to reconsider, if possible, his attitude.

59. There is not in the Syrian amendment, nor in our support of that amendment, the slightest attempt to bring any pressure upon two friendly States, which are conducting very important negotiations with regard to the future of a Trust Territory. Were it not for the fact that a Trust Territory is involved that should become independent by 1960, and that is the subject of this negotiation, I am sure that the delegation of Syria would not have suggested such an amendment and that the delegation of Lebanon would not have supported it.

60. I should like to state briefly our reason for supporting the Syrian amendment in particular, and the draft resolution in general. All those who followed the work of the Fourth Committee this year might have noticed that this session of the Committee could have been called an African session, as most of the Committee's discussion and most of its decisions concerned African affairs. This may be taken as another significant expression of common concern about the African continent and about the progress in freedom of its peoples.

61. We voted this morning, as members know, on a draft resolution regarding Togoland which will help to promote the emergence of an African Non-Self-Governing Territory and of an African Trust Territory as self-governing and independent. Somaliland is also an African Trust Territory, as members know, on its way to full independence. Italy, the Administering Authority, is doing its utmost to have the Territory achieve its independence by 1960, the time limit set by the Trusteeship Agreement.

62. It is therefore very normal that the delimitation of the frontiers of a Trust Territory should be a matter of great importance, and that this frontier should be well known and well defined a considerable time before Somaliland achieves its independence. As members well know, an independent State whose frontiers are not well known and well defined can only suffer from such a defect. We are anxious to see a Trust Territory that is gaining its independence in a position which will allow its people to exercise fully all the prerogatives of that independence.

63. We were therefore very gratified to hear, both in the Assembly and in the Fourth Committee, the assurances of the Italian and Ethiopian representatives that their Governments were proceeding with negotiations concerning the frontiers with the greatest possible speed.

64. We believe in the wisdom and usefulness of having these negotiations concluded as soon as possible, and we shall vote for the Syrian amendment and for draft resolution II. In so doing, I repeat, we are not trying to force anything on anyone. We are simply expressing a preference which we feel sure is the preference of all those who are present here, including the representative of Ethiopia.

65. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): We shall now proceed to the vote on the three draft resolutions proposed by the Fourth Committee [A/3092].

66. We shall vote first on draft resolution I.

A vote was taken by roll-call.

Australia, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Argentina.

Against: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Bolivia, Colombia, Denmark, Iceland, Jordan, Nicaragua, Norway, Spain, Turkey.

The draft resolution was approved by 43 votes to 11, with 9 abstentions.

67. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): We shall now vote on draft resolution II.

68. At the request of the representative of Ethiopia, a separate, roll-call vote will be taken on the fourth paragraph of the preamble.

A vote was taken by roll-call.

China, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Argentina, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Against: Ethiopia, France.

Abstaining: China, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Iceland, India, Jordan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Ceylon, Chile.

The paragraph was adopted by 36 votes to 2, with 26 abstentions.

69. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): The representative of Ethiopia has proposed the deletion of the words "preferably before the eleventh session of the General Assembly", in paragraph 1 of the operative part; the representative of Syria has proposed that the word "before" be replaced by the word "by".

70. It would be best to vote first on the Ethiopian proposal. If that proposal is rejected, I shall put the Syrian proposal to the vote.

71. I call upon the representative of Syria on a point of order.

72. Mr. ASHA (Syria): I think it would be preferable if the President put my amendment to the Ethiopian amendment first, because some delegations might vote in favour of replacing the word "before" by the word "by".

73. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): We shall proceed as requested by the representative of Syria, because that is in accordance with the rules of procedure. I proposed a different procedure because I wished to avoid a vote, which will now be necessary.

74. We shall now vote on the Syrian amendment to paragraph 1 of the operative part.

The amendment was adopted by 17 votes to 6, with 38 abstentions.

75. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): We shall now proceed to vote on the deletion of the phrase "preferably before the eleventh session of the General Assembly", in paragraph 1 of the operative part.

76. I call upon the representative of Ethiopia on a point of order.

77. Mr. DERESSA (Ethiopia): I only want to say that it is not on the deletion of this phrase that we need to take a vote. The Ethiopian delegation will accept the paragraph without that phrase.

78. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): I call upon the representative of France on a point of order.

79. Mr. BARGUES (France) (*translated from French*): I feel we should know exactly what we are voting upon and how the vote is to be taken. If I am not mistaken, the Ethiopian delegation would like these

words deleted from the text of the draft resolution. Representatives should therefore be requested to vote for or against the deletion of these words. It seems logical that those replying "Yes" would be voting for deletion, while those saying "No" would favour retention.

80. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): I call upon the representative of Denmark on a point of order.

81. Mr. ESKELUND (Denmark): May I submit that there is a very great difference. If we vote as has just been suggested by the representative of France, there will have to be a two-thirds majority to delete the phrase, whereas if we vote in favour of or against the phrase the paragraph as it stands must have the two-thirds majority. That makes a lot of difference.

82. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): I wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to the fact that there is only one request before me, that of Ethiopia for a separate vote on the phrase.

83. Mr. DERESSA (Ethiopia): What the representative of Denmark has just said is quite correct. We are asking for a separate vote on the part of the sentence to which I have already referred.

84. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): We shall vote on the phrase "preferably by the eleventh session of the General Assembly" in paragraph 1 of the operative part. Those who are in favour of retaining the phrase will vote in the affirmative; those who are against retaining it, in the negative.

A vote was taken by roll call.

Australia, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Egypt, El Salvador, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Iraq, Lebanon, Mexico, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Yemen.

Against: Belgium, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Israel, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Sweden, Turkey, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Bolivia, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Liberia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Spain, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Argentina.

The phrase was deleted by 20 votes to 12, with 32 abstentions.

85. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): We shall now vote on draft resolution II, as a whole, as amended.

The draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 45 votes to 1, with 13 abstentions.

86. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): We shall now vote on draft resolution III.

The draft resolution was adopted by 57 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

AGENDA ITEM 39

Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly:

(c) Board of Auditors;

(f) United Nations Staff Pension Committee

REPORTS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3060 AND A/3063)

AGENDA ITEM 41

Headquarters of the United Nations

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3097)

AGENDA ITEM 42

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3095)

AGENDA ITEM 43

Review of audit procedures of the United Nations and the specialized agencies

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3100)

AGENDA ITEM 45

Administrative and budgetary co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3098)

AGENDA ITEM 48

Use of income derived from the Staff Assessment Plan

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3104)

AGENDA ITEM 56

Personnel questions

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3102)

AGENDA ITEM 60

Establishment and maintenance of a United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Korea

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3096)

AGENDA ITEM 12

Report of the Economic and Social Council (concluded)

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3094)

87. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): If there are no objections, and providing this procedure is agreeable to the Rapporteur, I suggest that Mr. Méndez, Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, should present all the reports of that Committee simultaneously.

It was so decided.

88. Mr. MENDEZ (Philippines), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee: I have the honour to submit for the consideration of the General Assembly the reports of the Fifth Committee relating to agenda items 39, 41, 42, 43, 45, 48, 56, 60 and 12.

89. Regarding an appointment to fill a vacancy on the Board of Auditors [item 39 (c)], the Committee decided to recommend that the Auditor-General of the

Netherlands should be appointed for a three-year term; it is the confident hope of the Committee that this recommendation [A/3060] will receive the unanimous support of the General Assembly.

90. At this point I believe the General Assembly would wish to be mindful of the benefits it has received in the past from the work of the present Chairman of the Board of Auditors, the Auditor-General of Canada, who will retire from the Board during the coming year. The Fifth Committee wishes to place on record a sincere tribute of appreciation for everything that it owes to the unremitting and conscientious labours of Mr. Watson Sellar. When the Organization was in its early years he brought to it, in a field which is vital to Member States and to public opinion generally, the wisdom and expert knowledge which comes from the authority of one holding a high office in the service of his Government and whose qualities and person have earned a universal respect. The Organization owes a further debt of gratitude to the Government of Canada for having accepted over a number of years the burden of providing a large portion of the audit staff which has been required to perform the work under the direction of the Board of Auditors, and for the highly efficient and satisfactory manner in which that work has been carried out.

91. The Committee has also made recommendations [A/3063] for the appointment of members and alternate members to the United Nations Staff Pension Committee [item 39 (f)] for a period of three years.

92. In its report [A/3097] on item 41, the Fifth Committee recommends that the date 31 August 1956 should be regarded as the completion date for the construction of the Headquarters buildings. It would be appropriate, I believe, for me to recall again at this stage, as a number have done in the past, the remarkable achievement of establishing this magnificent Headquarters, which has become one of the best-known buildings in the world.

93. I will turn now to the Committee's recommendations [A/3095] concerning the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations [item 42].

94. As in past years, the Committee's consideration of this question was greatly facilitated by the previous expert examination of a very difficult problem which had been undertaken on behalf of the General Assembly by the Committee on Contributions. The General Assembly has good reason to be appreciative of the work of this body, and particularly of its Chairman, Mr. Arthur S. Lall of India, whose authority in this field and whose readiness to assist the Fifth Committee in the examination of the intricacies of this whole question were of the utmost benefit.

95. Based on the findings of the Committee on Contributions, the Fifth Committee's recommendations to the General Assembly constitute the achievement of another aim towards which members of the Fifth Committee have been striving for some years, namely, the establishment of a more permanent scale of contributions. Those recommendations provide for a scale of contributions which might obtain for the period 1956 to 1958, subject, of course, to such modifications as it might be necessary to make subsequently, in the light of the General Assembly's action on the admission of new Members.

96. Regarding item 43, relating to the review of audit procedures of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, the Committee discussed many of the factors involved in meeting the audit needs of the Organization in the best possible way. During the discussion of the ways and means of giving practical effect to the principles embodied in the report of the Secretary-General on this subject [A/2974], it became evident that there was a substantial feeling among members of the Committee that the time was not ripe to make definitive recommendations upon this question to the General Assembly.

97. The Fifth Committee therefore recommends [A/3100] that the Secretary-General should consult with the Board of Auditors, and with the heads of the specialized agencies in conjunction with their external auditors, on the possibility of developing a common system of audit which would meet the requirements of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies, and in which the agencies would be willing to participate.

98. To allow the necessary time for the desired consultations and the full exploration of the matter, the Committee also recommends that a report on the outcome of the consultations to which I have referred should be made available to Member States well in advance of the opening of the twelfth session of the General Assembly; and that on the provisional agenda of that session there should be included an item entitled "Review of audit procedures of the United Nations and the specialized agencies".

99. The Fifth Committee discussed item 45, relating to administrative and budgetary co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, on the basis of a detailed and comprehensive report [A/3023] provided by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The considerations arising from these annual reviews are of great concern and interest to Member States, as is evidenced by the frequent references to the item in a number of reports which the Fifth Committee has presented for the General Assembly's consideration this year, as in the past.

100. There is no denying that the attainment of the strongest possible support for the work of the United Nations and all its related organizations, in the wide fields of their various activities, is a principal aim among all Member States. The Fifth Committee believes that a careful examination of the administrative aspects of co-ordination directly contributes to the attainment of the desired objectives. Consequently it reiterates the wishes it expressed at its ninth session [A/2861, para. 10], that the Advisory Committee should, on the invitation of the specialized agencies, continue its study of administrative and budgetary co-ordination at the headquarters of the specialized agencies and that the agencies should co-operate in making that possible. The Fifth Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained in its report [A/3098] on this item.

101. The Committee's recommendations on the use of income from the Staff Assessment Plan [item 48] mark the completion of another difficult question which has been long outstanding. The Committee believes that its recommendations for the establishment of a Tax Equalization Fund, as set out in draft resolution A in its report [A/3104], represent a practical administrative solution of a question which over a period of ten years

has engaged the continuous attention of the General Assembly. The provisions of draft resolutions B and C in the same report would follow from the establishment of the Tax Equalization Fund. The Committee accordingly recommends these three draft resolutions for the consideration of the General Assembly.

102. In the report [A/3102] on item 56, relating to personnel questions, the Committee presents several important considerations which affect the conditions of service of the Secretariat staff.

103. Before arriving at the conclusions which are presented for the consideration of the General Assembly, the Committee examined a report on the education grant [A/2996, annex I] submitted by the International Civil Service Advisory Board in accordance with the wishes expressed by the General Assembly at its ninth session [resolution 883 (IX)], and a report [A/C.5/632] of a group of experts appointed by the Secretary-General during 1955 to study certain questions affecting salary and allowance arrangements.

104. The Fifth Committee reached the conclusion that there was need for a comprehensive review of the salary, allowance and benefits system of the United Nations and it believed that the best way of undertaking such a review would be through a small committee of experts nominated by Governments. Draft resolution II contained in the Committee's report [A/3102] accordingly proposes that the General Assembly should request the Governments of the nine Member States whose names are set out therein each to nominate an expert to serve on the review committee, and further requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the heads of specialized agencies, to invite the Governments of two States which are members of the specialized agencies co-operating but not of the United Nations, to nominate experts to become members of the review committee. The Committee thus constituted would be convened in the course of 1956, and its report would be considered by the General Assembly at its eleventh session.

105. In draft resolution I, the Committee recommends a revision of the Staff Regulations governing the education grant to permit a liberalizing of the present arrangements both as to principles and administration. In reaching this recommendation, the work of the Committee was facilitated by its study of all aspects of the matter which had been undertaken by the International Civil Service Advisory Board. The Fifth Committee desires to add a further note of tribute to the work of this body, for yet another contribution towards a solution of one of the most difficult aspects of international administration, but one which has such obvious and far-reaching consequences for staff members and their families.

106. While in draft resolution II the Committee recommends that a review be made of the existing salary, allowance and benefits system, it further recommends, in draft resolution III, that, as an interim measure, the existing cost-of-living adjustment applying to the gross salaries of staff members at Headquarters should be increased, and that the dependency credit which was liberalized as a result of the General Assembly's action last year [resolution 894 (IX)] should continue to be given during the year 1956.

107. While the Committee's recommendations on the establishment of the review committee were reached unanimously, the decisions on the other two questions were reached by majority vote.

108. The last report to which I wish to refer is that relating to the establishment and maintenance of a United Nations memorial cemetery in Korea [item 60].

109. There was no dissenting voice in the Committee that the United Nations should ensure the permanent and proper care of the cemetery at Tanggok. The decision of the Government of the Republic of Korea to offer to the United Nations for this purpose the ground of Tanggok cemetery was sincerely appreciated by members of the Fifth Committee, who believed that it would be fitting for arrangements to be made on that spot, to mark in a suitable and dignified manner the resting place of the men of the United Nations who had given their lives in the cause of peace and freedom. The Fifth Committee therefore has the honour to recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution [A/3096] relating to this item.

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee.

110. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): The Assembly will now deal with the draft resolutions submitted by the Fifth Committee.

111. If there is no request for a vote on the draft resolutions pertaining to sub-paragraphs (c) and (f) of agenda item 39 [A/3060 and A/3063], I shall regard them as adopted.

The draft resolutions were adopted.

112. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): The Assembly will now vote on the draft resolution pertaining to agenda item 41 [A/3097].

The draft resolution was adopted by 58 votes to none.

113. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I put to the vote the draft resolution pertaining to agenda item 42 [A/3095].

The draft resolution was adopted by 57 votes to 1.

114. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): If there is no request for a vote on the draft resolution pertaining to agenda item 43 [A/3100], I shall regard it as adopted.

The draft resolution was adopted.

115. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): If there is no request for a vote on the draft resolution pertaining to agenda item 45 [A/3098], I shall regard it as adopted.

The draft resolution was adopted.

116. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): If there is no request for a vote on the draft resolutions pertaining to agenda item 48 [A/3104], I shall regard them as adopted.

The draft resolutions were adopted.

117. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): We shall now vote on the draft resolutions pertaining to agenda item 56 [A/3102]. Separate votes have been requested on the texts of draft resolution I and the annex attached thereto.

The draft resolution was adopted by 40 votes to 7, with 10 abstentions.

The annex was adopted by 51 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

118. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I put to the vote draft resolution I as a whole.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 46 votes to 7, with 7 abstentions.

119. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): I put to the vote draft resolution II.

The draft resolution was adopted by 53 votes to 7.

120. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): I put to the vote draft resolution III.

The draft resolution was adopted by 45 votes to 7, with 6 abstentions.

121. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): The Assembly will now vote on the draft resolution pertaining to agenda item 60 [A/3096].

The draft resolution was adopted by 50 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

122. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): I give the floor to the representatives who wish to explain their votes.

123. Mr. CLOUGH (United Kingdom): By the resolution we have just adopted — a resolution which the United Kingdom delegation, in company with many other delegations, was proud to sponsor — we have paid a tribute to those who, answering the call of the United Nations, gave their lives in resisting aggression in Korea and upholding the cause of peace and freedom. My delegation would like to feel that at the same time we have all reaffirmed, as it were, our faith in those ideals which are the very foundation of the United Nations. This is a small honour that we pay to those who gave their lives, but we believe that it is a fitting tribute to their memory and we are glad to note that it has commended itself to such wide support.

124. Mr. MERROW (United States of America): The United States delegation voted with special satisfaction for the resolution providing for the establishment and maintenance of a United Nations memorial cemetery in Korea. There still lie buried in Korea more than 2,000 gallant men who were members of the forces which, under the aegis of this great international Organization, resisted aggression in Korea. While none of the members of the United States forces who died in the Korean action are among those who remain buried there, the establishment of the cemetery will nevertheless be a memorial to them as well as to those whose

remains have not been returned to their home countries. The establishment of this memorial gives recognition in a small way to an action which was historic in its implications for the future of the world.

125. The adoption of this resolution is linked with another action, which we took earlier today, in approving the report of the Secretary-General on the Headquarters of the United Nations. By that action we approved his proposal — and I sincerely congratulate him for his initiative in this matter — to establish at the Headquarters commemorative plaques for all those who have died in the service of the United Nations. It is well for us to be reminded constantly, in our efforts here to make this Organization work, that many individuals have already given not only their time and energy, but their lives, to uphold the principles of the Charter. Whether they were members of missions attempting to arrive at peaceful solutions of political problems or were engaged in the task of resisting aggression, they have set an example which will be kept constantly before us as a result of the installation of the commemorative plaques.

126. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): In connexion with agenda item 12, the General Assembly has before it a report submitted by the Fifth Committee [A/3094] on chapter X of the report of the Economic and Social Council [A/2943]. If there is no objection, I shall assume that the Assembly takes note of the report of the Fifth Committee.

It was so decided.

127. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): The representatives will recall, again in connexion with agenda item 12, that it was decided [530th meeting] to refer chapters I, VII, VIII and IX of the report of the Economic and Social Council directly to the plenary meetings of the General Assembly. Since those chapters do not require any special decision on the part of the Assembly, I suggest that we should decide that the Assembly has taken note of them, and that it has thereby completed its consideration of the report of the Economic and Social Council.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.