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MEETING**

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Chairman: Mr. Carlos SOSA RODRIGUEZ  
(Venezuela).

Consideration of the agenda of the eighteenth session and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/159 and Add.1) (continued)

1. The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of the Committee to the items appearing in paragraph 1 (b) and (c) of the addendum to the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159/Add.1).

2. Mr. FEDORENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had no objection to the inclusion of those items in the agenda of the eighteenth session of the General Assembly, it being understood that the USSR would maintain the position stated in its letter of 5 September 1963 to the Chairman of the Committee on arrangements for a conference for the purpose of reviewing the Charter.

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items appearing in paragraph 1 (b) and (c) of the addendum to the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159/Add.1).*

ALLOCATION OF ITEMS

3. The CHAIRMAN asked the Committee to consider the allocation of items as proposed in paragraphs 8 to 10 of the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159).

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council should be allocated to the Main Committees in the manner indicated in*

*paragraph 8 of the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159).*

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items entitled "Question of the composition of the General Committee of the General Assembly" and "Question of equitable representation on the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council" should be allocated to the same Committee as had chapter XIII, section VI, of the report of the Economic and Social Council, which had been mentioned in paragraph 9 of the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159).*

4. Mr. SEYDOUX (France) wondered whether discussion of the item entitled "The violation of human rights in South Viet-Nam" in plenary meetings would not mean an interruption of the general debate. It seemed that, as a rule, additional items were allocated to one of the Main Committees; when that was done, the Committee to which the item was referred could consider the substance of the question in a calmer atmosphere, and the interested party could state its position.

5. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the general debate, in which Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Member States spoke on a variety of questions, was subject to a very strict time-table, so that the question of Viet-Nam would not come up for discussion until immediately after the closure of the general debate, which was scheduled for 7 October. That arrangement had been made after consultation with the delegations concerned, which were anxious to adhere to the programme established for the work of the General Assembly.

6. Mr. ROSSIDES (Cyprus) considered that the text of paragraph 10 of the Secretary-General's memorandum was entirely satisfactory. In view of the very serious violations of human rights in South Viet-Nam and the refusal of its Government to heed the friendly observations which had been made to it, the item should be discussed in plenary meetings.

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation of item 77, entitled "The violation of human rights in South Viet-Nam", to plenary meetings, as indicated in paragraph 10 of the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159).*

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR ALLOCATION TO PLENARY MEETINGS

7. The CHAIRMAN pointed out, with respect to item 22 of the provisional agenda, that the General Assembly would consider only the financial aspects of the Secretary-General's report on the Third International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy.

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to the Fifth Committee*

of item 22, entitled "Third International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy: report of the Secretary-General".

8. Mr. ACHKAR (Guinea) proposed, in connexion with the 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, that the chapter dealing with Territories under Portuguese administration should be allocated to the Fourth Committee in order, *inter alia*, to enable petitioners from those Territories to be heard; such a decision would be logical also because of the Secretary-General's proposal that the questions of Southern Rhodesia and South West Africa, which were dealt with in the Special Committee's report, should be allocated to the Fourth Committee. The General Assembly would consider the report as a whole in plenary meeting, but would take no decision on those chapters of the report which had been allocated to the Fourth Committee until the latter had considered them and submitted its report.

9. Mr. TARAZI (Syria), Mr. ROSSIDES (Cyprus) and Mr. FEDORENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) supported the proposal made by the representative of Guinea, which seemed to them to be both logical and reasonable.

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to the Fourth Committee of that chapter of the 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 which dealt with Territories under Portuguese administration.*

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to plenary meetings of the remaining items which the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159 and Add.1) proposed should be allocated to plenary meetings.*

#### ITEMS PROPOSED FOR ALLOCATION TO THE FIRST COMMITTEE

10. Mr. YOST (United States of America) proposed that the items entitled "International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space" and "Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter VII (section IV)]"—items 3 and 5 in the list of items proposed for allocation to the First Committee (A/BUR/159)—should be merged; although their titles were slightly different, both items related to the peaceful uses of outer space.

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 3 and 5 in the list of items proposed for allocation to the First Committee (A/BUR/159) should be merged under the title "International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space: (a) Report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space; (b) Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter VII (section IV)]".*

11. Mr. DIAZ CASANUEVA (Chile) proposed that the items entitled "Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermo-nuclear tests" and "Denuclearization of Latin America" should be placed immediately after the item relating to international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space because all those items were logically inter-linked. The "Korean question" should be put at the end.

12. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that it was for the Committees themselves to decide upon the order in which they would take up the items allocated to them.

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to the First Committee of the items proposed for consideration by that Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159).*

#### ITEMS PROPOSED FOR ALLOCATION TO THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

13. The CHAIRMAN recalled that the Committee had already decided to recommend the allocation to the Special Political Committee of three additional items, namely: the "Question of the composition of the General Committee of the General Assembly", the "Question of equitable representation on the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council", and the "Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter XIII (section VI)]".

14. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) pointed out that the thirteen delegations requesting the inclusion of the item entitled "Question of Oman" in the agenda had stated in their explanatory memorandum (A/5492 and Add.1) that it was a colonial problem. He therefore formally proposed that that item should be allocated to the Fourth Committee, since the provisions of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples were clearly applicable to the question of Oman.

15. Mr. ACHKAR (Guinea) supported that proposal. The question of Oman was undeniably a colonial problem and hence must be considered by the Committee having competence in that field.

16. Mr. Nur ELMU (Somalia) unreservedly supported the Syrian representative's proposal.

17. Sir Patrick DEAN (United Kingdom) said the Special Political Committee was perfectly aware of the facts of the case. As no new developments had occurred, there was no reason to allocate the item to another Committee.

18. Although the thirteen delegations requesting the inclusion of the item maintained that that was a colonial problem, they failed to justify their argument in their memorandum. Furthermore, the agenda of the Special Political Committee was relatively light compared with that of the Fourth Committee. To apportion the work equitably, it would therefore seem logical to refer the item again to the Special Political Committee.

19. Mr. YOST (United States of America) also felt that the agenda of the Fourth Committee was already too heavy and that the Special Political Committee was the best qualified to deal with the item.

20. Mr. THAJEB (Indonesia) supported the Syrian proposal. Since the item was concerned with colonialism, it must be taken up by the Fourth Committee.

21. Mr. FEDORENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he had already observed during the discussion of the agenda itself that the question of Oman was a colonial problem and that it must be examined as such. The Committee must allocate the item to the competent organ instead of concerning itself with purely arithmetical considerations and worrying about the number of items to be referred to individual committees. He accordingly supported the Syrian proposal.

22. Mr. BINDZI (Cameroon) said that he also supported the proposal. Certain delegations argued that the item should be allocated to the Special Political Committee because that Committee had already considered it at two previous Assembly sessions. If, however, the problem remained unsolved, the reason was perhaps that the Special Political Committee was not competent to handle it. By entrusting the matter to the Fourth Committee, the General Committee would not be creating a precedent, for it had already decided to make certain changes in the allocation of items.

23. Mr. THORS (Iceland) pointed out that, from a practical point of view, decisions were ultimately taken by the General Assembly and not by the Committees. Furthermore, the Special Political Committee was already familiar with the problem. Delegations which felt that it was a colonial problem would have every chance of stating their views in any Committee. In addition, the General Assembly must avoid prolonging its current session by adding further to the burdens of the Fourth Committee, to which an additional item, the question of Territories under Portuguese administration, proposed by the representative of Guinea, had already been allocated.

24. Mr. BINDZI (Cameroon) said he was afraid that he had not made himself clear. He had not asserted that the problem of Oman had not been solved because it had been considered by the Special Political Committee; he had simply drawn that point to the General Committee's attention. The fact that the question of Oman had been allocated to the Special Political Committee implied, at least for certain delegations, that it was not a colonial question. It must be borne in mind that the allocation of items to particular Committees contributed to their solution to the extent that it enabled them to be defined. Although there had been talk about the need to shorten the agenda of the Fourth Committee, its own Chairman would like to have the item considered by that Committee, and he would undoubtedly take all the steps necessary to observe the time-table that was decided on.

25. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) recalled that it had already been agreed to allocate three additional items to the Special Political Committee. His proposal was designed precisely to reduce the work of that Committee. The insistence of certain delegations that the question of Oman should be referred to the Special Political Committee was somewhat disquieting.

26. Mr. ACHKAR (Guinea) said he was well aware that the Fourth Committee had a very heavy agenda. However, as Chairman of that Committee, he would take what action was necessary to ensure that its work was brought to a successful conclusion within the time limits laid down. The Committee was really faced with a question of principle: whether or not the problem of Oman was a colonial problem. If it was, the organ competent to consider it was the Fourth Committee.

27. Mr. Nur ELMI (Somalia) said that he supported the Syrian proposal. The question of Oman was a typically colonial problem. Furthermore, the presence of very large United Kingdom forces in Southern Arabia and in other areas around the Persian Gulf constituted a threat not only to the Arab countries but also to countries situated, like Somalia, on the eastern tip of Africa.

28. Sir Patrick DEAN (United Kingdom) agreed that a question of principle was involved. That matter could be debated by the Committee to which the item concerned was allocated. It was those who favoured allocation to the Fourth Committee who were prejudging the question of principle. Until that question had been settled, it would be better to allocate the item to the Committee which had previously dealt with it and which had carried out its task well, even if not always to the satisfaction of some countries.

29. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) said that, since the General Committee could not consider the substance of the items on the provisional agenda, it could not discuss whether or not the item was a colonial question. It could, however, be said without further argument that Oman was not a self-governing territory since, if it had been, it would have been represented in the United Nations.

30. The CHAIRMAN, after noting that the Committee could reach a decision only by taking a vote on the matter, put to the vote the Syrian proposal to allocate the item to the Fourth Committee.

*The Committee adopted the proposal by 11 votes to 7, with 3 abstentions.*

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to the Fourth Committee of the item entitled "Question of Oman", which had been proposed for consideration by the Special Political Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159).*

31. Mr. ACHKAR (Guinea), referring to item 1 in the list of items proposed for consideration by the Special Political Committee (A/BUR/159), said that the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa had also submitted two interim reports. In addition, the General Assembly had requested Member States to report on the measures taken in pursuance of its recommendations. The item might therefore be entitled "The policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa: reports of the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa and replies by Member States under General Assembly resolution 1761 (XVII)".

32. The CHAIRMAN said that that amendment did not affect the substance of the item in any way. If there were no objections, he would consider the Guinean proposal adopted.

*It was so decided.*

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to the Special Political Committee of the first three items proposed for consideration by that Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159), taking into account the amendment adopted.*

#### ITEMS PROPOSED FOR ALLOCATION TO THE SECOND COMMITTEE

33. The CHAIRMAN recalled that the General Committee had already decided to delete sub-paragraph (b) (The role of patents in the transfer of technology to under-developed countries) of the item entitled "Economic development of under-developed countries", in accordance with the proposal by the Secretary-General mentioned in paragraph 4 of his memorandum (A/BUR/159). The reasons for the deletion would be

explained in the report of the General Committee to the General Assembly.

34. Mr. YOST (United States of America) proposed that the item entitled "Co-operation for the eradication of illiteracy throughout the world: report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization" should be allocated to the Second Committee instead of to the Third Committee.

*It was so decided.*

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to the Second Committee of the items proposed for consideration by that Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159).*

#### ITEMS PROPOSED FOR ALLOCATION TO THE THIRD COMMITTEE

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to the Third Committee of the items proposed for consideration by that Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159), with the exception of the item entitled "Co-operation for the eradication of illiteracy throughout the world: report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization", which it had recommended for allocation to the Second Committee.*

#### ITEMS PROPOSED FOR ALLOCATION TO THE FOURTH COMMITTEE

35. Mr. Nur ELMI (Somalia) said that the item entitled "Question of Oman" should be added after the item relating to the question of Southern Rhodesia.

36. The CHAIRMAN recalled that it was for the Committees themselves to decide on the order in which they would consider the various items.

37. As the Committee had agreed earlier, the title of the item relating to the question of Southern Rhodesia would be: "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". Furthermore, in accordance with the decision taken at the present meeting, the Committee was to recommend that the agenda of the Fourth Committee should include the following item: "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 (chapter concerning Territories under Portuguese administration)".

38. Mr. ACHKAR (Guinea) recalled that, in addition to the fact that the question of Southern Rhodesia was considered in the report of the Special Committee, several delegations, including his own, had requested its inclusion in the agenda. It was for the latter reason that it was included in the Secretary-General's memorandum.

39. The CHAIRMAN thought that the proposed amendment in no way affected the fact noted by the representative of Guinea.

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to the Fourth Committee of the items proposed for consideration by that Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159), taking into account the amendments adopted.*

#### ITEMS PROPOSED FOR ALLOCATION TO THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

40. The CHAIRMAN recalled that the General Committee had decided to recommend to the General Assembly the addition to the agenda of the Fifth Committee of the item entitled "Third International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy: report of the Secretary-General".

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to the Fifth Committee of the items proposed for consideration by that Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159).*

#### ITEMS PROPOSED FOR ALLOCATION TO THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

*The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to the Sixth Committee of the items proposed for consideration by that Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/159).*

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.