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Temporary Chairman: Mr. Emilio ARENALES
(Guatemala).

Election of the Chairman

1. The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (*translated from Spanish*): Rule 105 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that each Committee shall elect its own Chairman on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, experience and personal competence. Does any representative wish to propose a candidate for the office of Chairman of the First Committee?

2. Mr. EL KONY (United Arab Republic): It will be the pleasure of the Chairman of the United Arab Republic delegation to express to the President of the General Assembly our congratulations upon his election. May I, however, avail myself of this opportunity to say to him how happy we are to see him elected to that high post. We wish him all success in the discharge of his great responsibilities.

3. It is a privilege as well as a pleasant duty for me to nominate Mr. Piero Vinci, the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations, for the Chairmanship of the First Committee during the twenty-third session of the General Assembly.

4. Mr. Vinci has had a close relationship with the United Nations for a long time. Although he has held his present post since 1964, his ties with the United Nations go back several years further. He was a member of the Italian delegation to the third special session and to the seventeenth and eighteenth regular sessions of the General Assembly.

5. After a brilliant and most distinguished career in the Italian diplomatic service, he headed the Political Office for Relations with Africa and the Middle East and subsequently the United Nations Division. He was later appointed Chef de Cabinet of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Attilio Piccioni, from 1960 to 1963. In that capacity he was in a position to be in close contact with the activities of the United Nations.

6. Mr. Vinci is a firm believer in the United Nations. He is among those representatives who work the hardest to bolster this world Organization. In all his activities he is guided by his lofty ideals and his firm belief in international co-operation. These brilliant qualifications, as well as his personal qualities, his amiable disposition, his friendliness, his understanding, his tact and his sincere co-operation with his colleagues, will certainly be an asset and gain for the work of this very important Committee. I feel convinced that they will also ensure him the unanimous approval of the Committee.

7. Mr. DIACONESCU (Romania) (*translated from French*): Mr. President, I should like first to extend to you my warmest congratulations on your election to the highly responsible office of President of the General Assembly. Your election is a tribute not only to your outstanding qualifications, well known to all who have worked for a long time at the United Nations, and to your country, but also to all the Latin American countries, whose contribution to our Organization's work is an integral part of our efforts and aspirations.

8. The Romanian delegation is happy to support the nomination of Mr. Piero Vinci, the Permanent Representative of Italy, as Chairman of the First Committee.

9. At the same time, I am honoured to have been requested by my colleagues, the representatives of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, the Ukrainian SSR and the Soviet Union to voice their support of Mr. Vinci's nomination. I feel that I am expressing the general sentiment in this Assembly when I say that this candidacy, so well put forward by the representative of the United Arab Republic, is bound to be successful on its obvious merits. Everyone who has been privileged to work with Mr. Piero Vinci has had ample opportunity to appreciate his quickness of mind, the fervour and devotion with which he has so frequently applied his rational thinking to the most complicated problems, and his well-weighed arguments based on the scientific analysis which has always guided his reasoning. I must also mention the wealth of diplomatic experience and the patience and co-operative spirit which have characterized Mr. Piero Vinci's activities at the United Nations. The

The printed official records of the meetings of the First Committee of the General Assembly are published in fascicle form, the record of each meeting being issued separately. A prefatory fascicle is issued for each session, containing a table of contents, the agenda and other prefatory matter. The fascicles are subsequently bound in volumes by session.

outstanding personality of this candidate for the high office of Chairman of the First Committee provides us at the outset with the guarantee that this year, once again, the complicated and highly important work of this Committee will go forward under the best auspices.

10. Mr. Vinci represents Italy, a country with an ancient civilization with which Romania enjoys good mutual relations and one which actively participates at the United Nations in the international dialogue on such vital contemporary questions as co-operation and the relaxation of tension, understanding and mutual respect among States. I am honoured to second the nomination of Mr. Piero Vinci in the spirit of friendship and understanding which, we are convinced, will continue to prevail among us.

11. The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (*translated from Spanish*): Mr. Piero Vinci, of Italy, has been proposed as Chairman by the delegation of the United Arab Republic, and the nomination has been seconded by the delegation of Romania, speaking in its own name and on behalf of the socialist countries.

12. Since only one candidate has been proposed, in accordance with the established procedure I declare Mr. Vinci, of Italy, elected Chairman of the First Committee, and I take the opportunity of extending to him my cordial and sincere congratulations.

The meeting rose at 11.20 a.m.