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The resolutions of the Security Council, numbered in accordance with a system adopted in 1964, are published in yearly volumes of *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council*. The new system, which has been applied retroactively to resolutions adopted before 1 January 1965, became fully operative on that date.

1976th MEETING

Held in New York, on Wednesday, 1 December 1976, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. Ion DATCU (Romania).

Present: The representatives of the following States: Benin, China, France, Guyana, Italy, Japan, Libyan Arab Republic, Pakistan, Panama, Romania, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America.

Provisional agenda (S/Agenda/1976)

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Admission of new Members:
Application of Western Samoa for admission to membership in the United Nations (S/12245)

The meeting was called to order at 11.10 a.m.

Expression of thanks to the retiring President

1. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Before we take up the item on the agenda I should like, in my capacity as President of the Council for the month of December, to discharge a very pleasant duty, namely, to thank the outgoing President, Ambassador Jorge Illueca of Panama, and at the same time to congratulate him for the admirable way in which he conducted the work of the Security Council during the month of November. I should like to express the admiration felt, I am convinced, by all members of the Council for our colleague from Panama who discharged his obligations as President of the Council with so much distinction and efficacy. Under his presidency, thanks to his dedication, wisdom and patience, the Council was able to resolve important and delicate problems and questions.

2. Your presidency, Ambassador Illueca, has been for me, personally, a source of inspiration and encouragement. I believe that I speak for all my colleagues when I express our appreciation and gratitude to Ambassador Illueca and his collaborators for the work that they accomplished last month at the head of the Council.

3. Mr. ILLUECA (Panama) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Mr. President, words fail me to express to you my gratitude for the very generous words you have just spoken. Thank you.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Admission of new Members:

Application of Western Samoa for admission to membership in the United Nations (S/12245)

4. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): On 29 November 1976 the Secretary General, acting in accordance with rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure, circulated the application of Western Samoa for admission to membership in the United Nations [S/12245].

5. Under the provisions of rule 59, unless the Council decides otherwise, such applications shall be referred by the President to the Committee on the Admission of New Members. Accordingly, if there is no objection, I shall refer the application for admission of Western Samoa to the Committee on the Admission of New Members for examination and report.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 11.15 a.m.

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