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UN/GA COLLECTION

FIRST COMMITTEE  
1st meeting  
held on  
Tuesday, 17 September 1985  
at 4.10 p.m.  
New York

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 1st MEETING

Chairman: Mr. de PINIES (President of the General Assembly)

CONTENTS

- Election of the Chairman

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The meeting was called to order at 4.10 p.m.

#### ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): Rule 103 of the Rules of Procedure provides that each Main Committee shall elect a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. These officers shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, experience and personal competence.

The elections shall be held by secret ballot unless the Committee decides otherwise in an election where only one candidate is standing. The nomination of each candidate shall be limited to one speaker, after which the Committee shall immediately proceed to the election.

Furthermore, rule 110 of the Rules of Procedure provides that congratulations to the officers of a Main Committee shall not be expressed except by the Chairman of the previous session - or, in his absence, by a member of his delegation - after all the officers of the Committee have been elected. This meeting has been convened for the election of the Chairman of the First Committee. Are there any nominations?

Mr. MACIEL (Brazil): As Permanent Representative of Brazil and as leader of the Brazilian delegation to this session under your presidency, it is an honour for me to propose Ambassador Ali Alatas, Permanent Representative of Indonesia, as Chairman of the First Committee.

Ambassador Ali Alatas is well known and it would be presumptuous on my part to give a full curriculum of his activities. He graduated from the Academy of Foreign Service in 1954. I think that was a loss of time: he is a born diplomat, he did not need this Academy of Foreign Service. Afterwards he served his Government in economic matters and in cultural relations and political relations and he has held many important posts in his Government such as chief of the secretariat of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and members of the Advisory Board of that Department.

(Mr. Maciel, Brazil)

He was also Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the European Office of the United Nations in Geneva and Executive Secretary of the Vice President of Indonesia, and again, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations in New York.

He was deeply involved in the creation of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and has participated in the annual ASEAN meetings, in the Conference on Peace in Viet Nam in 1973, the World Food Conference, the Negotiating Conference of the Common Fund for Commodities, the Conference on International Economic Co-operation in 1977 in Paris, and in three different sessions of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Nairobi, Manila and Belgrade.

He is an important member of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and this has taken him to Belgrade, Algiers, Colombo, Havana, New Delhi, and so on.

Above all, it gives me great pleasure personally to present Ambassador Alatas as candidate for the chairmanship of the First Committee because he is an old friend with whom I have worked very closely, and I can testify - as can everybody else - to his competence and integrity.

I would recommend that his name be accepted unanimously or by acclamation.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I thank the representative of Brazil who has proposed Mr. Ali Alatas of Indonesia.

Since only one candidate has been nominated, I propose that, under rule 103, the Committee decide not to hold a secret ballot.

It was so decided.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I therefore declare Mr. Ali Alatas of Indonesia elected Chairman of the First Committee by acclamation.

The meeting rose at 4.15 p.m.