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PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE FORTIETH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 15 October 1987, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. FLORIN (German Democratic Republic)

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 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General
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- Co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States [23]
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The meeting was called to order at 3.35 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 22

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

(a) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/42/388 and Add.1)

(b) DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/42/L.4)

The PRESIDENT: (interpretation from Russian): I call on the representative of Kuwait to introduce draft resolution A/42/L.4.

Mr. ABULHASAN (Kuwait) (interpretation from Arabic): When His Royal Highness Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Jaber, the Emir of the State of Kuwait, inaugurated the fifth summit Conference of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held in Kuwait in January of this year, he addressed his brothers, the Kings and Presidents of the Muslim nation in the following terms. He said each organization had a domain in which it worked and that the domain of that organization was the Islamic world; that its purpose was to work for the well-being and interests of Muslims as brothers who would not be divided by colour, religion or race; and that the distinctiveness of the domains of the different organizations and their effectiveness in co-operating without overlapping helped each of them to fulfil its responsibilities.

The Organization of the Islamic Conference believes strongly in the importance and usefulness of co-operation with the United Nations. Therefore, I have the honour, on behalf of the member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, to introduce draft resolution A/42/L.4 on co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

(Mr. Abulhasan, Kuwait)

The text of the draft resolution, which is similar to that of resolutions adopted at past sessions, notes with satisfaction the active participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. It requests the two organizations to continue co-operation in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental human rights and the establishment of a new international economic order.

Further, the General Assembly encourages the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their co-operation with the Islamic Conference, particularly by negotiating co-operation agreements, and invites them to increase the contacts and meetings of central bodies dealing with co-operation in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

The General Assembly also requests the Secretary-General to strengthen co-operation between the two organizations to serve their mutual interests in the political, economic, social and cultural fields. It expresses its appreciation for the efforts of the Secretary-General in the promotion of co-operation between the two organizations and its hope that the mechanisms of such co-operation will continue to be strengthened.

The Organization of the Islamic Conference derives its principles from the message of Islam, the great faith. The organization is based on the principles of peace, solidarity, tolerance, equality and justice, which are made incumbent upon us by our true religion. The charter of the organization emphasizes the commitment of its members to the fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter. All

(Mr. Abulhasan, Kuwait)

members of the organization are also Members of the United Nations. Therefore, it is only normal for the two organizations to work in close co-operation for the promotion of their common ideals, principles and goals.

The experience of past years has proved that the spectrum of co-operation between the two organizations is both large and wide and that they have both benefited from that co-operation. Therefore, while calling upon States Members of the United Nations to give their full support to this draft resolution, I assure them that in its search for peace, security and economic well-being mankind depends on common perceptions, without division because of colour of skin, creed or social system. Thus, it is our responsibility as Members of the United Nations to make the work of other organizations successful by supporting all plans for co-operation between them. The world today is a world of common interests. Regional and international organizations have become the melting-pot in which those interests are defined and given the form in which they can be met.

In conclusion, I call upon representatives to extend their full support to draft resolution A/42/L.4, which we hope will be adopted unanimously.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I now call upon the Permanent Observer of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3369 (XXX), of 10 October 1975.

Mr. ANSAY (Organization of the Islamic Conference): It is a great privilege for me to address the General Assembly on an item of particular significance to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations, namely, co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

(Mr. Ansay, Organization of
the Islamic Conference)

May I begin, Mr. President, by extending to you my warmest congratulations on your unanimous election to that high post. It is a tribute to your country, your vast experience, your ability and your long association with the United Nations.

I take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation to Mr. Humayun Rasheed Choudhury, who served in an exemplary manner, with great skill and profound wisdom, as President of the General Assembly at its forty-first session.

I should also like to express our deep appreciation of the significant contribution being made by the Secretary-General, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, to the effectiveness and smooth functioning of the world body. He has earned the gratitude and respect of the international community by his humane attitude and deep understanding of global problems.

I further avail myself of this opportunity to extend our warmest congratulations to Mr. Joseph Verner Reed, on his assumption of his new post as Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs.

The members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, from the very outset clearly identified the role of our organization with the overall framework of the United Nations Charter. The charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference underlines the determination of its member States to make effective contributions for the enrichment of mankind and the achievement of progress, freedom and justice all over the world by promoting global peace and security.

It is in this perspective that the Organization of the Islamic Conference views its relationship with the United Nations. The Organization of the Islamic Conference was established, and its charter was based, on the noble principles of

(Mr. Ansay, Organization of
the Islamic Conference)

peace, harmony, tolerance, brotherhood and the equality of all human beings preached by Islam. The preamble to our charter reaffirms the commitment of our members to the Charter of the United Nations. The organization has, therefore, since its establishment, set for itself as a primary task the realization of the purposes and principles of the United Nations and has striven to play a positive role in the maintenance of international peace and security. The perceptions of the members of the organization, all of which are also Members of the United Nations, are identical to those of the vast majority of the United Nations membership on important international issues.

Since its inception the Organization of the Islamic Conference has adopted numerous resolutions and declarations, both at the summit level and at the level of the meeting of Foreign Ministers, addressing the issues that confront the Islamic world as well as important global developments relating to international peace and security, human rights, disarmament, decolonization and issues relating to socio-economic development, particularly the establishment of a new international economic order based on justice and equality. The efforts of our organization in that regard complement the global endeavours of the United Nations.

I should like to advert briefly to some of those issues.

On the question of Palestine and the explosive situation in the Middle East, the Organization of the Islamic Conference fully supports the struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their inalienable rights. We believe that Israel must withdraw from all Arab and Palestinian territories occupied by it, including the Holy City of Jerusalem, and we are committed to supporting the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland, to self-determination and to an independent state in Palestine. The Organization of the Islamic Conference has

(Mr. Ansay, Organization of
the Islamic Conference)

endorsed in full the Fez peace plan, adopted by the Arab League summit in 1982. It has also given its full support to the early convening of an international conference on peace in the Middle East, under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation on an equal footing of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole, legitimate and authentic representative of the Palestinian people.

(Mr. Ansay, Organization of
the Islamic Conference)

The Organization of the Islamic Conference stands firmly behind the black people of South Africa and Namibia in their just and legitimate struggle against the abhorrent policy of apartheid of the South African régime. It condemns the illegal occupation of Namibia by the Pretoria régime and demands the immediate implementation of Security Council resolutions 385 (1976) and 435 (1978), which constitute the only acceptable basis for the transition of Namibia to independence.

The Organization of the Islamic Conference has also taken a principled position on the situation in Afghanistan similar to the one adopted by the United Nations. We support the process of proximity talks through the intermediary of the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, for a comprehensive and just political solution in Afghanistan.

The Organization of the Islamic Conference has striven ceaselessly, and continues to do so, through its secretariat and the Islamic Peace Committee to resolve the conflict between Iran and Iraq. It expresses full support for the efforts of the Secretary-General in respect to the implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987).

In other fields, the Organization of the Islamic Conference has encouraged and fully endorsed the adoption of the final document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development. We would enthusiastically support any positive step towards complete disarmament.

The Organization of the Islamic Conference has also taken a number of decisions on international economic issues as well as on the development of economic co-operation among the Islamic countries. We are seriously concerned, however, by the stalemate in the North-South negotiations.

Since 1975, when the Organization of the Islamic Conference was granted Observer status by the United Nations, the co-operation between the two

(Mr. Ansay, Organization of
the Islamic Conference)

organizations has received an important boost, and constructive co-operation has been developed with specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the bodies concerned with technical co-operation for development.

The comprehensive report of the Secretary-General contained in document A/42/388 of 24 July 1987 and the addendum thereto in document A/42/388/Add.1 describes in detail the range of activities undertaken by the two organizations to promote and strengthen their relationship.

In this context, it should be noted that a representative of the Secretary-General has always participated in our annual meetings of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. The Secretaries-General of the United Nations attend the Islamic Summit Conferences, which are held every three years. It has also become a tradition of our organization to meet each year at the beginning of the annual session of the General Assembly in New York to co-ordinate views on the issues before the General Assembly which are of particular concern and relevance to the Islamic World. This year the Co-ordination Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Organization of the Islamic Conference was held on 1 October with the participation of the Secretary-General. I should like to take this opportunity to thank the Secretary-General specially for his personal contribution to the strengthening of co-operation between the two sister organizations.

(Mr. Ansay, Organization of
the Islamic Conference)

The draft resolution before the Assembly in document A/42/L.4, which has been introduced by the Permanent Representative of Kuwait, representative of the current Chairman of the Islamic Conference and its membership, reflects the firm determination of our two organizations to co-operate in the various fields I have mentioned, and I am confident that it will have the unanimous approval of the members of the Assembly.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I do not have any more speakers. There have been no requests to explain votes before the vote.

The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/42/L.4. In this connection, I should like to inform members that the Secretary-General does not foresee programme budget implications in the implementation of this draft resolution.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts draft resolution A/42/L.4?

Draft resolution A/42/L.4 was adopted (resolution 42/4).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We have now concluded our consideration of agenda item 22.

AGENDA ITEM 23

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

- (a) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/42/394 and Add.1)
- (b) DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/42/L.5)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I call on the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to introduce the draft resolution contained in document A/42/L.5.

Mr. TREIKI (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) (interpretation from Arabic): I am pleased to present to the members of the Assembly the draft resolution on

(Mr. Treiki, Libyan Arab
Jamahiriya)

co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States (A/42/L.5). I am doing so in my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for this month, on behalf of the Arab countries that adopted it.

It is well known that the elements of the draft resolution are not new as to substance or objectives. Essentially, they envisage continued co-operation between the two organizations in letter and in spirit. The draft resolution reflects the desire of the members of the League of Arab States, which are all Members of the United Nations, to strengthen and promote co-operation with the United Nations in all social, economic and political fields in a manner that serves the interests, objectives and the purposes of the United Nations and its Charter. We should also like to affirm the interest of all Arab States in contributing constructively and continuously to all international efforts to maintain international peace and security, to promote human rights, to combat all forms of racism and racial discrimination, to end colonialism and to promote decolonization throughout the world.

Therefore, and taking into account the draft resolution's preambular paragraphs, it is very clear that the Arab countries attach great importance to the various forms of co-operation existing between the United Nations and the League of Arab States and desire to strengthen it in order to find a just, comprehensive and permanent settlement of the conflict in the Middle East and of the Palestinian question, which is at the core of that conflict.

(Mr. Treiki, Libyan Arab
Jamahiriya)

Operative paragraph 9 concerns arrangements for a joint meeting in 1988 to review the progress made during the past five years with the objective of enhancing future co-operation. In this respect we express our appreciation to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for its co-operation with the Arab Fund for Socio-Economic Development on a regional seminar on the development of human resources in the Arab nation to be held in the latter part of November 1987 in Kuwait.

The Arab countries look forward to the consultations between the Secretaries-General of the two organizations to initiate consultations for the purpose of drafting an agreement on co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States.

On behalf of the Arab States, I appeal to members of the General Assembly to vote for draft resolution A/42/L.5, which, if adopted, would promote co-operation between the two organizations, with respect for their principles and for the noble objectives that we all look forward to achieving to ensure the establishment of a new world in which justice, peace and co-operation prevail among all countries and all peoples.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I call on the Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 477 (V), of 1 November 1950.

Mr. MAKSOUD (League of Arab States) (interpretation from Arabic): On behalf of the League of Arab States, I congratulate you, Sir, on your election to the presidency of the forty-second session of the General Assembly. In addition to reflecting the respect and appreciation of the international community for your sagacity, your election to the presidency bespeaks the high standing of the German Democratic Republic in the international arena. I would also like to express our

(Mr. Maksoud, League of Arab States)

appreciation of the close ties between your country and the Arab States. The friendly stance of the German Democratic Republic is reflected in the outstanding support it extends to the causes which affect the destiny of the Arab nation.

I also extend our congratulations to your predecessor on his excellent conduct of the business of this Assembly during its forty-first session and to Ambassador Joseph Reed on his appointment to his new post, in which we wish him every success.

The League of Arab States values the efforts and interest described in the Secretary-General's report on this item (A/42/394 and Add.1). The League of Arab States firmly believes that co-operation between the two organizations should continue and expand to embrace various sectors and areas and hopes that the necessary arrangements will be made for a meeting in 1988 of the secretariats of the United Nations and the League of Arab States, together with representatives of the specialized agencies of both organizations, to review and assess the co-operation achieved over the past five years and consolidate it further. The aim should be to formulate a well-thought-out basis for a future agreement on co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States.

The League of Arab States has always kept the United Nations Secretariat and officials informed of its principal economic, social and political concerns, and the response from the United Nations has always been positive and our concerns have been understood. We continue our contacts, co-operation and co-ordination. It is hoped that this common endeavour will lead to further integration and achievements in the service of peace and justice in the area.

We in the League of Arab States have always sought and continue to seek peace in the Middle East by calling for and supporting the convening of an international

(Mr. Maksoud, League of Arab States)

peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations, in accordance with the resolutions of the Arab summit Conference held in Fez in 1982 - and in implementation thereof.

The Arab countries have declared their commitment to the peace option and their conviction that the United Nations is the framework, the body and the machinery through which the option of peace may yield results that would promote and guarantee a just peace, not only in the Middle East but for the whole world.

We believe that in working through the United Nations in favour of the peace option the alleged obstacles in the way of the conference must be removed. Hence, we stress the important role the United Nations can play, at the information and political levels, in making progress towards the convening of the conference that has been recommended time and again by the General Assembly at consecutive sessions as an essential forum for resolving the Arab-Israeli dispute on a comprehensive, just and lasting basis and in a manner that would guarantee the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and their own independent State on their native soil.

This brings out the importance of the role of the United Nations. Its involvement will strengthen the possibility of persuading world public opinion, particularly American public opinion, of the positive aspects of the international initiative, and the imperative need to hold the conference at the earliest possible opportunity.

We must stress that any delay in holding that conference will have a decidedly negative impact on the image of the United Nations and the way world public opinion views its role in resolving international disputes. This, of course, will be detrimental to the credibility of the Organization. Therefore, we believe it is

(Mr. Maksoud, League of Arab States)

high time the peace conference was held, in line with the behests of international legitimacy and United Nations resolutions.

When we view the situation from this angle, it becomes clear that the crises besetting the Middle East require the United Nations, particularly at this stage, to intensify its attempts to restore the credibility and effectiveness of its resolutions on the Middle East and the Iran-Iraq conflict. Only then will this international Organization safeguard its standing and authority as an arbiter to which nations and Governments resort at times of crisis. To do this, the United Nations must be in control of the situation when it comes to the question of implementing its resolutions. Only this will enable the international community to achieve what is needed, namely, peace, security and respect for the right of peoples to self-determination.

Economically speaking, we believe that the prospects of development progress and stability, in the long-term plan of development in the Arab homeland, will be a constant target of obstruction and interruption so long as that plan and the relevant programmes continue to be deprived of the security and political stability that would ensure their continued unimpeded and uninterrupted implementation and provide the necessary conditions that would channel all efforts towards the desired change and the creation of the type of society that would guarantee dignity, equality and freedom for every one of its members.

Hence, it can be said that co-operation becomes more distinct as the common Arab economic endeavour enters upon the phase of overall national planning that requires the formulation of plans and programmes of joint Arab enterprises that would promote integration, security and development and reduce the development gap between the Arab countries. In this context, the League of Arab States looks

(Mr. Maksoud, League of Arab States)

forward to close and fruitful co-operation with the machinery of the United Nations in selecting and assessing integration projects that would organically link Arab economies.

I should like to refer now to the co-operation which has existed for years between the League of Arab States and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). One of the recent results of that co-operation has been the signing of an agreement which embodies a comprehensive plan for the development of administrative departments of the League's secretariat. The agreement was signed by Mr. Chedli Klibi, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, and Mr. William Draper, the Director-General of the UNDP, in the course of his recent visit to the seat of the League in Tunisia, last April. We hope that the agreement will be implemented soon.

(Mr. Maksoud, League of Arab States)

Constant progress is being made also in regional co-operation among the Arab States. A new project entitled "Arab Information Network", which is an extension of the project of the Information Centre of the League of Arab States, will be completed by the end of October 1987.

I take this opportunity to welcome, on behalf of the League of Arab States, the appointment of Mr. Mohamed Abdullah Noor to the post of Director of the Office of Arab and European Programmes. Mr. Noor is well known in and outside the Arab world. He has held many a high office, both on the national and the international levels. We all hope that his wide experience with and full knowledge of the problems of development in the Arab world will have a decisive effect on reactivating co-operation between the Programme and the Arab countries, on the one hand, and the League of Arab States and its specialized agencies, on the other.

In this context I would refer to the close co-operation established by the Arab Office with all the Arab specialized agencies, particularly IAIDO, AISU, AOAS and the Arab Fund. This co-operation has been demonstrated in the co-ordination by the Arab Office with all those agencies and the League of Arab States in the formulation of the regional programme for Arab countries, which will be submitted to those countries in mid-March 1988.

The League of Arab States also wishes to strengthen further the present level of co-operation between the secretariat of the League and UNFPA, and particularly with the population units of the secretariat. That will be of immense help to the peoples of the region and will consolidate the development processes of the region.

We also appreciate the efforts made by Mr. Nefissa Sadiq, the Director of the Centre.

(Mr. Maksoud, League of Arab States)

The League of Arab States also welcomes co-operation with UNICEF, which has been of immense value. Several common programmes and projects have been implemented. The League has indicated its interest in this co-operation in the declaration of the Ministers of Social Affairs of the Arab countries. In that declaration, they recommended the implementation of programmes in the interest of children and mothers.

I also pay a tribute to the WHO for co-operating in several spheres. That co-operation has assisted Arab regional programmes.

During the period between the two sessions, there has been constant consultation between the two organizations in all areas, at the highest level. This has contributed to better understanding and co-ordination and paved the way to further joint efforts in the service of peace, security and justice in the Middle East.

In conclusion, the importance of co-operation between the League of Arab States and the United Nations is becoming evident from the results of enhanced co-operation in various sectors, particularly those relating to the maintenance of peace and security - above all in the Middle East and the Iran-Iraq area. This joint co-operation serves the achievement of the noble interests of the United Nations and its Charter.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): We have heard the last speaker in the debate on this item.

I now call on the representative of Israel, who wishes to speak in explanation of vote before the voting. I would remind him that, in accordance with decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Mr. NISSIM-ISSACHAROFF (Israel): The General Assembly is once again requested to adopt a resolution regarding the co-operation between the United Nations and the Arab League. This co-operation is supposed to further the realization of the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. In the view of my delegation, the activities and objectives of the League clearly contradict the Charter, and accordingly Israel will vote against the draft resolution in document A/42/L.5.

The Arab League throughout the years of its existence has consistently rejected any realistic or viable approach to the resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The raison d'être of the Arab League has been the active negation of the existence of the State of Israel, a sovereign Member State of the United Nations. It co-ordinates and disseminates anti-Israeli propaganda, in order to prevent the establishment of any atmosphere conducive to enhancing mutual understanding and peaceful negotiation. Indeed, it would not be untrue to state that the League has a vested interest in the maintenance of the Arab-Israeli conflict, which has become virtually the only justification for its existence.

For that reason, in reading draft resolution A/42/L.5, one can only be extremely sceptical of the League's purported advocacy of strengthening international peace and security and promoting the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

It is, in addition, instructive to dwell briefly on the wording of operative paragraph 3 of the draft, which calls for the implementation of

"United Nations resolutions relating to the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East". (A/42/L.5, para. 3)

The intention behind the wording is deliberate and clear. The resolutions adopted in the General Assembly discussions on these items have never constituted any genuine basis for the negotiated settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict by

(Mr. Nissim-Issacharoff,
Israel)

those actively involved in the peace process. These resolutions pay a transparent lip service to the desire for peace and strengthen those that persist in rejecting any direct negotiations based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973). That is entirely consistent with the rejectionist position of the Arab League.

But then one perhaps does not have to be so subtle in elucidating the deeper intentions of the League. The Arab League rejected out of hand the Peace Treaty between Egypt and Israel and expelled one of its principal members for having chosen the path of peace, and not the path of hostility, bloodshed and wars. The League will continue to oppose the peace process and try to stifle any substantive movement in the direction of enhancing confidence-building measures in the area. It cannot be allowed to succeed in this objective.

The League will without doubt continue its efforts, as it has for the last four decades, to attempt to strangle Israel economically. Under the direct supervision of the Arab League, its members were urged to establish national boycott offices. In those offices, as many as 10,000 international companies are blacklisted simply because they maintain some form of commercial activity with Israel. Fortunately, most of these companies are not intimidated by this blackmail. The blackmail, however, has become the singular trademark of the Arab League.

In conclusion, the Arab League's political and economic warfare against a Member State of the United Nations flagrantly violates the most elementary principles of the United Nations Charter. It is therefore untenable that any of the already-scarce funds of the United Nations should be devoted to co-operation with the League. This co-operation advances the negative objectives of the League and weakens the very principles on which the United Nations exists and functions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The Assembly will take a decision on draft resolution A/42/L.5.

In this connection, I should like to inform members that the Secretary-General does not foresee programme-budget implications in the implementation of this draft resolution.

We shall now begin the voting process. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Draft resolution A/42/L.5 was adopted by 153 votes to 2 (resolution 42/5).*

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I shall now call on those representatives wishing to explain their vote after the voting.

I remind members that, in accordance with decision 34/401, statements in explanation of vote shall be confined to 10 minutes and shall be made by delegations from their seats.

*Subsequently the delegation of Burkina Faso advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Mr. BIERRING (Denmark): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the 12 member States of the European Community.

While we have all voted in favour of the resolution on co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States just adopted, we wish nevertheless, once again, to make a few general comments.

Over the last few years the General Assembly has been faced with a growing number of resolutions relating to co-operation between the United Nations and various organizations holding observer status, a tendency which will continue during this session. The Twelve are well aware of the benefits of such co-operation and have been happy to join in expressions of support and encouragement for the further development of such co-operation within the framework of the United Nations Charter.

However, the Twelve would prefer that resolutions of this kind deal with the question of co-operation in terms which avoid introducing contentious elements.

In particular with regard to operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution A/42/L.5, the Twelve wish to draw attention to the need to avoid prejudicing the role of the Secretary-General and to the fact that the Twelve have not supported all the resolutions referred to in that paragraph.

The Twelve also urge that, in view of current financial constraints, efforts be made to limit the costs of such co-operation between the United Nations and various organizations with observer status.

Mr. KIKUCHI (Japan): The delegation of Japan is very much aware of the benefits to be derived from co-operation between the United Nations and the various organizations with observer status. Since we welcome and support United Nations co-operation with the League of Arab States, Japan voted in favour of draft resolution A/42/L.5, as a whole.

(Mr. Kikuchi, Japan)

However, we should like to reserve our position concerning its operative paragraph 3, which makes reference to United Nations resolutions which Japan did not support.

Mr. OKUN (United States of America): The United States voted against this resolution because paragraph 3 requests the Secretary-General to attempt to implement previous General Assembly resolutions which the United States voted against. The resolutions mentioned in this paragraph are contrary to fundamental policies of the United States Government with regard to the Middle East.

Mr. FERM (Sweden): I have the honour to explain the vote of the five Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

The Nordic countries voted for the resolution just adopted by the General Assembly and did so on the understanding that the elements with political implications - in particular operative paragraph 3 - are not relevant to the issue and obviously cannot prejudice the position of the Nordic countries on the substantive matter referred to.

Miss GIBSON (Canada): As in the past, Canada voted in favour of the draft resolution contained in document A/42/L.5. My delegation wishes, however, to place on record once again that we have certain reservations with regard to operative paragraph 3 of that draft resolution, as we previously did not support all the resolutions referred to in it.

Ms. WILLBERG (New Zealand): My delegation supports the promotion of co-operation between this Organization and the League of Arab States. We have accordingly voted in favour of the resolution which has just been adopted.

We have reservations about aspects of the resolution, however, in particular operative paragraph 3. I want to place on record that our vote does not signify any change in our position on matters that are not relevant to this resolution.

Mr. OKELY (Australia): Australia has been a consistently strong supporter of instruments of regional co-operation and of co-operation between such bodies and the United Nations. The Secretary-General's report before us is a source of satisfaction. For this reason, Australia has registered a positive vote on this resolution.

My delegation wishes to place on record, however, that again this year it encountered difficulties with the wording of operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution on which we have just voted.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The Observer of the League of Arab States has asked to speak in exercise of the right of reply. I call on him in accordance with General Assembly resolution 477 (V) of 1 November 1950.

Mr. MAKSOUD (League of Arab States): I think that the vote of 153 to 2 is in itself a clear and categorical response to the harangue of the Israeli representative about the Arab League. I want before I respond very briefly to his misleading innuendos to express my deep regret and great surprise at the negative vote of the United States, which during the past two years and through no less a statesman than the President of the United States has welcomed the efforts of the Arab League in many statements made during visits by Arab League delegations to the White House and the State Department. I think that the explanation that the United States has given almost fits in with a reservation rather than the negative vote, which we in the Arab League consider to be most regrettable.

So far as the Israeli position is concerned, the moral weight of the vote is more than adequate compensation for the vilification campaign that the Israeli delegation has tried to conduct.

Let me make it very clear that the raison d'être of the League of Arab States is not the continuation of the Arab-Israeli conflict. As my statement made very clear, in our support for the peace option as represented by the Fez resolutions of the Arab League we have maintained that it is in our vested interest that the international conference sponsored by the United Nations and properly structured - not, as Mr. Peres said in his statement here, a sort of ceremonial platform, but a seriously structured conference - should take place.

We have maintained, throughout the Fez Conference and subsequently, that we believe in the two pillars of peace in the Middle East which this Assembly has always ratified and confirmed, namely, the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the evacuation of Israeli forces from all the occupied territories, and the right of the Palestine Liberation Organization, a full member

(Mr. Maksoud, League of Arab States)

of the Arab League, to participate in all aspects of the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict in order to bring about a just and comprehensive peace.

As far as the raison d'être of the League of Arab States is concerned, the League is a regional as well as a national organization. Its members are bound together as sovereign States throughout the Arab world by the ties of national unity and the unity of our national destiny. We are bound, too, by the strong purpose of the Arab nation to liberate our territory and give freedom to our people, especially in Palestine; to advocate the withdrawal of all Israeli forces from the occupied territories - especially Lebanon, the West Bank and Gaza, and Jerusalem, as well as the Syrian Golan Heights. We believe that it is in the interests of the Arab people, through the framework and the agency of the Arab League, to develop ourselves, to bring our nation, through development and transformation, into the twentieth century during the twentieth century, because we believe that development and justice for human beings throughout the Arab world are the ultimate goals of the Arab League.

We are not obsessed with struggle, but we shall struggle until the imperialist hegemonist obsessions of Israel are brought to an end.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I call on the representative of Israel, who has asked to speak in exercise of the right of reply.

Mr. NISSIM-ISSACHAROFF (Israel): Before delivering my explanation of vote I suspected that to dwell at such length on an organization such as the Arab League would perhaps lend it a dignity which it does not possess. I would therefore not wish to compound my previous suspicion by entering into a futile polemical exchange with the representative of the Arab League.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The Assembly has concluded consideration of agenda item 23.

AGENDA ITEM 15

ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN PRINCIPAL ORGANS

(a) ELECTION OF FIVE NON-PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The Assembly will now proceed to the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1987.

The five outgoing members are: Bulgaria, Congo, Ghana, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela. Those five States cannot be re-elected and therefore their names should not appear on the ballot papers.

Apart from the five permanent members, the Security Council will include in 1988 the following States: Argentina, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan and Zambia. The names of those States, therefore, should not appear on the ballot papers.

Of the five non-permanent members which will remain in office in 1988, two are from Africa and Asia, one is from Latin America and two are from the Western European and other States.

Consequently, pursuant to paragraph 3 of resolution 1991 A (XVIII), of 17 December 1963, the five non-permanent members should be elected according to the following pattern: three from Africa and Asia, one from Eastern Europe and one from Latin America. The ballot paper takes that pattern into account.

In accordance with established practice, there is an understanding to the effect that of the three States to be elected from Africa and Asia two should be from Africa and one from Asia.

I should like to inform the Assembly that the required number of candidates receiving the greatest number of votes and the majority required, as provided for

(The President)

in rule 83 of the rules of procedure, will be declared elected. In the event of a tied vote for the last seat there will be a restricted ballot, limited to those candidates which have obtained an equal number of votes.

(The President)

If there is no objection, I shall take it that the General Assembly agrees to that procedure.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election shall be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations.

Ballot papers are now being distributed. I request members of the Assembly to use only those ballot papers and to write the names of the five Member States for which they wish to vote. As I have indicated, the ballot papers should not include the names of the five permanent members, the five outgoing non-permanent members or the five States that are already non-permanent members for this year. Any ballot paper containing more than five names will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Platis (Greece), Mr. Budai (Hungary), Mr. Venkataramiah (India) and Mr. McBarnette (Trinidad and Tobago) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 4.55 p.m. and resumed at 5.45 p.m.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The result of the voting for the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council is as follows:

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	158
<u>Number of invalid ballots:</u>	0
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	158
<u>Abstentions:</u>	0
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	158
<u>Required two-thirds majority:</u>	106
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Brazil	151
Yugoslavia	146
Nepal	144
Senegal	132
Algeria	104
Morocco	61
Nigeria	2
Benin	1
Guyana	1
India	1
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	1
Pakistan	1
Romania	1

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, the following States were elected non-permanent members of the Security Council for a two-year period beginning on 1 January 1988: Brazil, Yugoslavia, Nepal and Senegal.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I congratulate the States that have been elected non-permanent members of the Security Council. One place remains to be filled by States from Africa and Asia. In accordance with established practice there is an understanding to the effect that of the three places allocated to the group of States from Asia and Africa two must be filled by States from Africa and one by a State from Asia. Inasmuch as Nepal and Senegal have been elected to the Security Council, the remaining place must be filled by one State from Africa. In accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure, we shall proceed to a second ballot restricted to the following two States, Algeria and Morocco, which were not elected in the previous ballot but obtained the largest number of votes.

(The President)

The ballot papers will now be distributed. I request representatives to write on them the name of the one State for which they wish to vote. Ballot papers containing the names of any State other than Algeria or Morocco or containing more than one name will be declared invalid.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Platis (Greece), Mr. Budai (Hungary), Mr. Venkataramiah (India) and Mr. McBarnette (Trinidad and Tobago) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 6 p.m. and resumed at 6.15 p.m.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The result of the voting is as follows:

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	158
<u>Number of invalid ballots:</u>	0
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	158
<u>Abstentions:</u>	3
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	155
<u>Required two-thirds majority:</u>	104
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Algeria	113
Morocco	42

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Algeria was elected a non-permanent member of the Security Council for a two-year period beginning on 1 January 1988.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I congratulate the States that have just been elected non-permanent members of the Security Council and thank the tellers for their assistance.

We have thus concluded our consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 15.

The meeting rose at 6.20 p.m.