

GENERAL  
ASSEMBLYASSEMBLEE  
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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

## AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION

SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THE EXPEDITION OF THE WORK OF  
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLYLETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE  
AD HOC COMMITTEE

The General Committee at its meeting of 3 November discussed the progress made to date by the Committees in dealing with their agenda and various suggestions were put forward with a view to expediting the work of the session. On the basis of these discussions I am writing to you to enlist your support as Chairman of the ad hoc Committee on the Palestinian Question, and that of all members of your Committee, in an endeavor to complete your agenda by 15 November.

In view of the heavy programme of work which still lies before the Assembly I would like to make the following proposals for your consideration.

1. That morning meetings of the committees should begin at 10:30 a.m. instead of 11 a.m. In this connection it is urged that all delegations be requested to co-operate by arriving in time for the meetings to begin promptly at the scheduled hour.
2. That night meetings for committees should be held if necessary.

Apart from these purely practical measures I would like to draw to your attention the following considerations which might be effective in avoiding unduly protracted discussion without interfering with freedom of debate:

Firstly, I feel sure that delegations will co-operate in curtailing as much as possible the length of speeches in committees. Further, I do not think that it would be considered unjustifiable to suggest that each delegation should speak only once in the general debate on the question with the possible exception of the mover of a proposal to whom the opportunity to reply to previous speeches might be reasonably extended.

Secondly, I suggest that the attention of the committee might be drawn to the fact that the experience of the Assembly thus far has been that questions which have been debated fully in committee and sub-committee meetings have again been the subject of considerable discussion in the plenary meetings. In this connection I would suggest that consideration might be given to the implications of Rule 110 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure which if applied would have the effect of avoiding duplication of debate in committee and plenary meetings while fully protecting the rights of minorities in the Committees and in the Assembly.

/In conclusion,

In conclusion, I should like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the strenuous work that has already been, and is still being done by your Committee and of the spirit of co-operation which has been apparent throughout this session of the Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) OSWALDO ARANHA  
President of the General Assembly

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