



UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



GENERAL

A/BUR/122  
18 September 1950

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifth session

GENERAL COMMITTEE

ORGANIZATION OF THE FIFTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Memorandum by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to place before the General Committee certain observations and suggestions regarding the arrangements for the meetings of the General Assembly and its Main Committees during the fifth session.

Schedule of meetings

1. It is suggested that both plenary and committee meetings should begin at 10.45 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. In view of the heavy programme, it is urged that delegations make every effort to arrive at the scheduled meeting place on time.
2. It is proposed that a six-day working week be established. On Saturdays one extended meeting will normally be scheduled for Committees from 10.45 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.
3. Plenary meetings will be held in the General Assembly Hall at Flushing Meadow. The Main Committees will meet in the conference rooms at Lake Success. The General Committee will be scheduled to meet in Conference Room A in the General Assembly building at Flushing Meadow or at Lake Success as appropriate.
4. The Secretary-General has made arrangements for the servicing of four Main Committees meeting simultaneously. He wishes to suggest that in the initial stages of the Committees' work four Main Committees be scheduled to meet each morning and four each afternoon.

Target date for the closing of the session

5. Rule 2 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly as amended during the fourth session states: "On the recommendation of the General Committee, the General Assembly shall, at the beginning of each session, fix a target date for the closing of the session." The Secretary-General wishes to suggest that

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the General Committee propose to the General Assembly 30 November 1950 as the target date for the closing of the fifth session.

Deadline for the submission of requests for the inclusion of additional items in the agenda

6. To facilitate the planning of the total programme of work of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General suggests that the General Committee recommend that a date be determined after which requests for the inclusion of additional items in the agenda of the session should not be made. If it is desired to adopt such a procedure, the Secretary-General proposes 4 October for such a deadline.

Verbatim records of Main Committees

7. The Secretary-General wishes again to bring to the attention of the General Committee the decision of the General Assembly of 20 November 1947, at the time of approval of the third annual budget of the United Nations, that the Secretary-General should be authorized to provide verbatim records "for one Main Committee at a time, a committee which, in the opinion of the General Committee, has the most important items on its agenda".\*

8. The General Committee is therefore required to decide for which of the Main Committees verbatim records shall be provided during the fifth regular session of the General Assembly.

Seating arrangements

9. At a recent Secretary-General's staff meeting lots were drawn to choose the Member to occupy the first desk on the Assembly floor from which the alphabetical seating order will begin. Sweden was the name drawn and, consequently, Sweden will sit at the first desk at the extreme right of the President. At the initial meetings of the Main Committees the same seating order will be observed. There will be, however, a daily rotation of one place in the Main Committees thereafter.

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\* Report of the Fifth Committee on the Third Annual Budget and Working Capital Fund (A/498, see Official Records of the second session of the General Assembly, Annexes, page 1499)