



VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 2ND MEETING

Chairman: Mr. BOATEN (Ghana)

CONTENTS

Statement by the Chairman

Election of two Vice-Chairmen

Election of the Rapporteur

* This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be incorporated in a copy of the record and should be sent *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, room A-3550.

Corrections will be issued shortly after the end of the session, in a separate fascicle for each Committee.

Distr. GENERAL
A/C.1/32/PV.2

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN I should like to commence this meeting of the First Committee by extending, on behalf of all the members of the Committee, and on my own behalf, a most cordial welcome to the new Members of the United Nations, namely the Republic of Djibouti and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. We are certain that the Committee will have the advantage of their valuable contribution, which will enhance the quality of our work.

At the very outset of our meeting today, I feel that it is appropriate for me to express my profound appreciation and gratitude to all the Members of the United Nations for the honour and privilege which they have conferred on me and my delegation by electing me Chairman of this Committee. My thanks go to each and every delegation but, in particular, I should like to say how much I appreciate the very kind and generous remarks made by our eminent Chairman of last year, Ambassador Henryk Jaroszek of Poland, in nominating me at the first meeting of this Committee. His generous tribute enjoins me to accept this election with some trepidation. I saw with some trepidation, fully aware of the distinguished manner in which Ambassador Jaroszek guided the work of this Committee last year.

It was a delight to work with him as Vice-Chairman. For my part I can only say that I shall do my best to live up to the high standard which he has set.

I am sure that I am expressing the sentiments of all the members of the Committee when I extend to Ambassador Jaroszek our sincere congratulations and say to him: well done.

I am encouraged to accept this election knowing full well that I can count on the co-operation of all members. Co-operation is the key word here: if we co-operate, I have no doubt that, at the end of our deliberations, we shall have cause to congratulate ourselves. I believe that, in a spirit of conciliation, accommodation and useful dialogue, we shall achieve positive results.

I am personally happy that I shall have the assistance of the Under-Secretary-General, Mr. Arkady Shevchenko and the Committee Secretary Ambassador Panerlee. I have no doubt that they will give of their best, as they have in fact always done.

ELECTION OF TWO VICE-CHAIRMEN

The CHAIRMAN: The agenda for today's meeting concerns the election of the Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur. Before proceeding to the item on our agenda, I should like to draw the attention of the Committee to the decision of the General Assembly, taken at its 1935th meeting on 22 September 1971, concerning the procedure regarding the election of officers of the Main Committees. According to that decision, the nomination of candidates should be limited to one statement for each candidate, after which the Committee should immediately proceed to the election. The Committee will follow this procedure in regard to the agenda for today.

Mr. FURTSEFF PEREIRA (Portugal): Mr. Chairman allow me first of all to congratulate you, on behalf of my delegation, on your unanimous election as Chairman of this important Committee of the General Assembly.

Since my colleague, Mr. Costa Lobo, who was Vice-Chairman of this Committee last year, has been transferred to Lisbon to take charge of further important functions, I replace him here today to propose that we elect as Vice-Chairman of this Committee the Permanent Representative of Finland, Mr. Ilkka Olavi Pastinen.

(Mr. Futscher Pereira, Portugal)

The representative of Finland was born in 1928 and studied political science in his country and in Paris. He entered the Finnish foreign service in 1952 and held assignments in Stockholm, New York, Peking, London and again New York. He was Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament during the years 1971 to 1974. In May of 1975 he was Secretary-General of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. His high professional qualities, as well as his long experience with the United Nations, give us the assurance that he will fill this post with effectiveness and great competence.

For all these reasons, I have the honour to propose that Mr. Pastinen be elected Vice-Chairman of the First Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the representative of Portugal for his nomination of Ambassador Ilkka Olevi Pastinen. There are no other nominations. I take it that the Committee, in accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure and with the established practice, wishes to dispense with the secret ballot and to declare Ambassador Pastinen elected Vice-Chairman of the First Committee by acclamation.

Ambassador Ilkka Olevi Pastinen (Finland) was elected Vice-Chairman of the First Committee by acclamation.

Mr. DUJEVI (Chad): I have the honour and privilege to nominate Ambassador Imre Hollai of the Hungarian People's Republic as a Vice Chairman of this Committee.

To many of us assembled here this afternoon, Ambassador Hollai needs no introduction, being a popular personality in the lobbies of the United Nations Organization. However, for the benefit of those representatives who do not know him, I should like to state that Mr. Imre Hollai has had a long diplomatic career which eminently fits him for this post. In 1949 he entered his country's foreign service. From 1956 to 1960 he was a Counsellor of the Hungarian Permanent Mission to the United Nations. Hereafter he served as Head of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party for three years.

(Mr. Dumevi, Ghana)

His years in this post gave him an excellent grounding and experience to qualify him for the post of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Greece, with concurrent accreditation to Cyprus, from 1964 to 1970. He was then recalled home and reassigned the portfolio of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1970 to 1974. Since August 1974 he has, as already indicated, been the Permanent Representative of the Hungarian People's Republic to the United Nations.

I find it a great pleasure and privilege to nominate Ambassador Imre Hollai as Vice-Chairman of this Committee. I have no doubt whatsoever that my nomination of Ambassador Hollai will receive the ready support of all members of this Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the representative of Ghana for his nomination of Ambassador Imre Hollai for the Vice-Chairmanship.

As there is no other nomination, I take it that the Committee in this case too wishes to dispense with the secret ballot and to declare Ambassador Imre Hollai elected Vice-Chairman of the First Committee by acclamation.

Ambassador Imre Hollai (Hungary) was elected Vice-Chairman of the First Committee by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN: May I express to the two Vice-Chairmen my warmest congratulations on the distinction that has been conferred on them and assure them that we shall co-operate in a harmonious manner so that we can jointly discharge the responsibilities incumbent upon us.

ELECTION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

Mr. LOHANI (Nepal): I have the honour and pleasure to nominate Mr. Francisco Correa as Rapporteur of this Committee.

Mr. Correa of Mexico is a Counsellor of his country to the United Nations. As far as his qualifications are concerned, he completed his studies in the Law School of the University of Mexico in 1960. He subsequently received his Baccalaureate and his master's degree in international relations from the Centre of International

(Mr. Lohani, Nepal)

Studies of El Colegio de Mexico. In 1966 he was a researcher in the same institution and later became Editor of Foro Internacional, a leading publication on international affairs in Mexico. In 1966 and 1967 he was Assistant Professor of International Organizations at the Centre of International Studies in Mexico. In 1967 he participated in the seminar on international law held under the auspices of the International Law Commission.

Mr. Correa entered the foreign service of his country in 1965. He was a member of the delegation of Mexico to the third and fourth sessions of the Preparatory Committee on the Denuclearization of Latin America which culminated in the signature of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America. He has been a member of the delegation of his country to five sessions of the General Assembly and also to the third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and several other international conferences.

In the light of the background information which I have just supplied, I hope that the nomination of Mr. Correa for the post of Rapporteur will be approved by this Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the representative of Nepal for his nomination of Mr. Francisco Correa of Mexico for the post of Rapporteur. As there are no other nominations, I presume that the Committee wishes to follow the same procedure.

Mr. Francisco Correa (Mexico) was elected Rapporteur of the First Committee by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN: I wish to express my cordial congratulations to Mr. Francisco Correa upon his election as Rapporteur of the First Committee. I invite him to take his seat at the officers' table.

The Committee has concluded the election of its officers. Does any representative wish to speak at this stage?

Mr. JANCOSZKA (Poland): First of all I wish to thank you, Mr. Chairman, most sincerely for the very kind words you addressed to me as Chairman of this Committee last year. I wish to assure you and the other members of this Committee that I value very highly the co-operation I received from you, from the other officers of the Committee and from the entire membership in the performance of my duties in this Committee during the thirty-first session of the General Assembly.

I am glad indeed that the rules of procedure have given me all the legal grounds to speak today and, on behalf of the entire membership of this Committee and on my own behalf, to extend to you, Mr. Chairman, and the other officers of the Committee our heartfelt congratulations and wishes for success.

Last Wednesday, during the Committee's first meeting in the General Assembly hall, I had the pleasure of referring to the numerous virtues and qualities of our Chairman, His Excellency Ambassador Frank Edmond Boateng of Ghana. These feelings of mine have not lost an iota of their timeliness. Quite to the contrary. As we are meeting to prepare the substantive part of the very important work that the First Committee has before it this year, I realize the immensity of the task and the calibre of man it will take to lead us successfully through the intricate subjects to be tackled, speeches to be made, votes to be taken and resolutions to be adopted.

Multiple questions of disarmament, including preparations for the special session of the General Assembly and the World Disarmament Conference, strengthening of international security, non-use of force in international relations and last, but in no way least, international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space - those are but the main signposts to be covered under your chairmanship, Mr. Ambassador. Those subjects also command the very anxious attention of world public opinion.

In your difficult but exultant task you can always count, I am sure, as I did last year, on the co-operation of the members of this Committee, whose sympathy and goodwill will accompany your activity till next December. I hardly need reassure you that the same applies to the Polish delegation and me.

(Mr. Jaroszek Poland)

May I also say how happy I am to greet among the officers of the Committee just elected my very dear and long-time friend, the representative of a sister country, Socialist Hungary, with which Poland is bound by fraternal relations of friendship and alliance, Ambassador Imre Hollai, as one of the Vice-Chairmen of this Committee. Indeed, his great experience, wisdom and personal charm add greatly to the high qualities of the Bureau's membership.

In the same spirit I welcome among the officers of the Committee Ambassador Ikka Pastinen of friendly Finland, which is linked to my country by most fruitful co-operation. We can only be grateful to the Government of Finland for letting us share his wide and lasting experience, especially in the field of disarmament, in the capacity of one of the Committee's Vice-Chairmen.

I also address our friendly sentiments to our Rapporteur, Mr. Francisco Correa of Mexico, with which my country enjoys friendly, cordial relations. He, too, has a difficult task ahead of him; but, given his outstanding background and personal qualities, I am confident that his will be as successful a term of office as that of the other officers of the Committee.

In wishing you, Mr. Chairman, our two Vice-Chairmen and the Rapporteur a productive and at least a relatively light session, I extend the same feelings and expectations to all our colleagues in this Committee, especially those who have come here from capitals or posts outside New York to join us in the quest for yet another step towards a better and more peaceful world.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank Ambassador Jaroszek for the generous remarks addressed to me personally, to the two Vice-Chairmen and the Rapporteur.

Mr. PASTINEN (Finland): I should like to thank the representative of Portugal for having been kind enough to nominate me as one of the Vice-Chairmen of this Committee and to thank also the members of this Committee for having accepted that nomination. I hope that their trust will not be misplaced.

(Mr. Pastinen, Finland)

I should like to couple those thanks with the pledge of my best efforts to the service of this Committee and to its most distinguished Chairman, Ambassador Bosten of Ghana. It will be a privilege for me to serve under his leadership and to do so together with Ambassador Imre Hollai of Hungary and Mr. Gorron of Mexico, to whom I should also like to offer my congratulations.

Last of all, I should like to express my thanks to the past Chairman of the First Committee for his very kind words.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the representative of Finland for his generous words addressed to me and the other officers of the Committee.

Mr. HOLLAI (Hungary): My first words of congratulations should, I think, be addressed to you, Sir, on your well-deserved, unanimous election as Chairman of the First Committee for this year. I should like to thank the Delegation of Ghana for having nominated me as one of the Vice-Chairmen of this Committee.

You, Mr. Chairman, used the word "co-operation"; I should like to assure you and the other officers of the Committee of my full co-operation and also that of the Hungarian Delegation. I should like to thank you and all the members of the Committee for having accepted Ghana's nomination of my humble self to serve as one of the Vice-Chairmen of this Committee.

I take this opportunity to congratulate my colleague and good friend Mr. Pastinen. I am sure that we will try to do our best to assist you, Mr. Chairman, in the performance of your duties. The same applies to the Rapporteur, whom I should like to congratulate at this stage.

(Mr. Hollai, Hungary)

May I take this opportunity also to thank my dear friend and colleague Ambassador Jaroszek of Poland, with whom we have already shared many meetings of this Committee, for having mentioned my humble name here, and for the excellent relations which exist between our two countries.

I can assure the Committee that as one of its Vice-Chairmen my delegation will co-operate as fully during the coming session and throughout the debates in this Committee as it has previously.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the representative of Hungary for the kind words he addressed to me.

Mr. CORREA (Mexico) (interpretation from Spanish): I should merely like to EXPRESS my gratitude for the kind words spoken by the representative of Nepal, Mr. Lohani, as well as for those of Mr. Jaroszek of Poland, Mr. Pastinen of Finland and Mr. Hollai of Hungary.

In expressing my personal congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the representatives of Hungary and Finland, I only want to reiterate my intention to discharge my duties with the efficiency which the confidence placed in me by this Committee demands.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the representative of Mexico for his kind words addressed to me.

We have now concluded this meeting of the First Committee for the election of officers. Our next meeting will be on Monday, 3 October, to arrange our work. I hope that before then I shall be able to consult the various regional Chairmen and obtain their views. Whatever conclusions I arrive at will represent the agreed view of all the members of the Committee.

Before I conclude I should like to say this. It took us roughly 25 minutes to get started today. I do not intend that this should continue in the future. I intend as far as possible to be here right on time, and

(The Chairman)

when I say right on time I mean right on time. If we say a meeting will start at 3 o'clock, we mean 3 o'clock, not 3.05 and not 3.10. I ask for your co-operation in this matter because if you do not co-operate we shall not finish our work.

The meeting rose at 3.55 p.m.