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President: Mr. Muhammad ZAFRULLA KHAN
(Pakistan).

AGENDA ITEM 1

Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Pakistan

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: By reason of my chairmanship of the Pakistan delegation, in accordance with rule 30 of the rules of procedure, I declare open the fourth special session of the General Assembly.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Minute of silent prayer or meditation

2. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: I invite the representatives to stand and observe one minute of silent prayer or meditation.

The representatives stood in silence.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Appointment of the Credentials Committee

3. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: We shall proceed with the appoint of the Credentials Committee. Rule 28 of the rules of procedure provides that the Committee shall consist of nine members who shall be appointed by the General Assembly on the proposal of the President. With a view to expediting the work of the special session it might be appropriate if the Credentials Committee were to consist of the same members who served during the seventeenth regular session. I therefore propose to the Assembly the appointment of the following States to the Credentials Committee: Canada, El Salvador, Greece, Guinea, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the United States of America. If there is no objec-

tion to this proposal, I shall consider the Credentials Committee constituted accordingly.

It was so decided.

4. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: I wish to remind the members that the Secretary-General has stated, in his note convening this session, that credentials for those representatives who were not already authorized to represent their Governments in the General Assembly should be issued in conformity with rule 27 of the rules of procedure.

AGENDA ITEM 4

Election of the President

5. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: I now invite the Assembly to proceed to the election of the President of the fourth special session of the General Assembly.

6. Mr. Taieb SLIM (Tunisia) (translated from French): In accordance with the decision which it took at the seventeenth session [resolution 1866 (XVII)], the General Assembly is meeting today in special session in order to examine the financial situation of the Organization.

7. It is in the interests of efficiency and in the hope that our discussions may proceed rapidly and satisfactorily that the Tunisian delegation would like, with the permission of the President, to put forward a few procedural suggestions concerning the organization of our work.

8. First of all, I should like to propose formally to the Members of the Assembly that they should reelect the President, the Vice-President and the Chairmen of the Committees of the seventeenth session by acclamation, for the duration of the present session. Such a procedure appears to be practical and in conformity with the rules of procedure; the General Assembly has already had recourse to it on a previous occasion, at its third special session, which met on 21 August 1961.

9. This proposal will enable my eminent friend, Mr. Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, who presided over

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the work of the seventeenth session with such ability and distinction, to guide the debates of this session with the same wisdom and efficiency. It will also enable us to prolong the mandate of the members of the General Committee of the seventeenth session, it being understood that the heads of the delegations from which the Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the Committees had been chosen at the seventeenth session would replace their absent colleagues.

10. The second proposal which I should like to submit formally on behalf of the Tunisian delegation relates to the adoption of the agenda by the Assembly without its first being referred to the General Committee. We consider that the General Assembly is meeting for the specific purpose of taking up the one item that it decided to consider at its fourth special session, namely "Consideration of the financial situation of the Organization in the light of the report of the Working Group on the Examination of the Administrative and Budgetary Procedures of the United Nations", and that there is consequently no need to refer this matter to the General Committee.

11. Moreover, at the request of several delegations, including my own [see A/5419 and Add.1], the General Assembly will have to deal with another question, that of the admission of Kuwait as a full Member of the United Nations. We propose that the Assembly should place that item on its agenda without first referring it to the General Committee.

12. The insertion of such a question on our agenda is so happy and so rare an event that my delegation does not wish to delay it and hopes to see the State of Kuwait admitted to this body as soon as possible. Tunisia, which has had the honour of sponsoring the admission of several brother countries of Africa which have achieved independence during the last four years, is happy to witness this new addition to the family of States that have been freed from colonial trusteeship.

13. The admission of Kuwait to our Organization will merely confirm the international existence of a young State which has for a long time maintained diplomatic relations with a great many countries, including my own. Moreover, the Security Council has quite recently unanimously recommended [1034th meeting] the admission of this brother country and we are confident that all Member States will accept this recommendation, in the hope that Kuwait may make its own substantial contribution to the work of the Organization.

14. The friendly relations, the cultural ties and the Islamic traditions that link us to the people of Kuwait make us hope that this State may be officially admitted to this international forum without delay. Moreover, the material contribution and moral support that Kuwait has constantly given the Organization as an observer State has confirmed the political maturity of this young State and its adherence to the principles of the Charter.

15. For these reasons, I shall propose on behalf of the Tunisian delegation that after deciding upon the insertion on the agenda of the question of the consideration of the financial situation of the Organization and referring it to the Fifth Committee, the Assembly should consider this very day the question of the admission of the State of Kuwait to membership of the United Nations.

16. These are the proposals that I have the honour to submit formally for the consideration of the General Assembly. I venture to hope that they will be accepted without discussion and unanimously.

17. Mr. NIELSEN (Norway): It is indeed an honour for the Norwegian Delegation to second the motions made by the representative of Tunisia. We would hope that the proposal to follow the precedent of the third special session of the General Assembly and to elect Mr. Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, the President of the seventeenth regular session of the General Assembly, as President also for this special session will receive the unanimous support of the Members.

18. The honourable and highly respected representative of Pakistan, Mr. Zafrulla Khan, fulfilled his functions as President with all the wisdom and capacity which was to be expected from a man with his remarkable experience and integrity. Might I be permitted to add that, on the basis of his handling of the seventeenth regular session, we should be allowed to hope that his firm hand will contribute to make this session not only successful, but expeditious and short. The Norwegian delegation, therefore, takes particular pleasure in seconding the motion to elect Mr. Muhammad Zafrulla Khan as President of the fourth special session of the General Assembly.

19. We are also glad to give the Tunisian proposal regarding the composition of the General Committee our full and unqualified support. The Norwegian delegation would also second the motion to approve the provisional agenda for the special session of the General Assembly. Together with twenty other delegations, we have proposed [A/5419 and Add.1] a supplementary item for this agenda concerning the admission of Kuwait to membership in the United Nations. We would appeal for support for the proposal that this supplementary item be included in the agenda and dealt with without delay.

20. As to the Organization of work of the present session, we are in agreement with the proposal that the question of the financial situation of the Organization should be referred to the Administrative and Budgetary Committee for consideration, whereas the question of the admission of Kuwait to membership should be dealt with directly in the plenary. We would hope that the Assembly would be able to take up the proposal [A/L.424 and Add.1] recommending the admission of Kuwait to membership in the United Nations during today's meeting.

Mr. Muhammad Zafrulla Khan was elected President of the fourth special session of the General Assembly by acclamation.

21. The PRESIDENT: My colleagues, I am sure, would not stand in need of any assurance from me that I value very greatly the confidence which they have placed in me a second time by electing me President of the fourth special session. I shall do everything in my power to deserve that confidence. May I on my part express the hope that the special session will work in the same spirit in which the seventeenth session worked; that is to say, in a spirit of genuine co-operation, with the sole desire to achieve the objectives of the United Nations Charter which we are all committed to uphold?

22. All of us deem it a great honour to represent our respective Governments and States in this august body. I am certain that we are also conscious that every one of us represents mankind as a whole and that that is as great an honour, and that we shall therefore work in that spirit so that we shall bring our judgement, our intelligence and our keen anxiety to the service of mankind towards the solution of the

problems with which we will be faced during this session.

AGENDA ITEM 5

Organization of the session

23. The PRESIDENT: The General Assembly has heard the proposal just made by the representative of Tunisia and seconded by the representative of Norway. Does any other Member wish to make any comments on the first proposal to the effect that the Assembly decides to reappoint the General Committee elected for the seventeenth regular session until the end of this special session? I take it that the proposal is adopted by the General Assembly.

The proposal was adopted.

24. The PRESIDENT: The General Committee which will serve during the special session will be the same as that of the seventeenth regular session, in accordance with the decision just taken. I have been informed that among the Committee Chairmen at the last session, two are not present at this session, Mr. Kasiwal of India and Mr. Eustathiades of Greece. For the purpose of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee and in accordance with the precedent established at the third special session, I would suggest that the representatives of India and Greece would replace their absent colleagues on the General Committee. If this suggestion is acceptable to the General Assembly, I would request the delegations of India and Greece to convey to the Secretary-General the name of the representative who will serve in the General Committee at this special session.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Adoption of the agenda

25. The PRESIDENT: I turn now to the second and third proposals made by the representative of Tunisia which referred to the adoption of the agenda. The Assembly has before it the provisional agenda which contains the item for which the special session was convened, namely "Consideration of the financial situation of the Organization in the light of the report of the Working Group on the Examination of the Administrative and Budgetary procedures of the United Nations". The Assembly also has before it a request for the inclusion in the agenda of a supplementary item entitled "Admission of new Members to the United Nations" [A/5419 and Add.1, A/5420].

26. The representative of Tunisia has proposed that the agenda be considered in plenary forthwith without reference to the General Committee. In the absence of any objection, I take it that the General Assembly so decides.

It was so decided.

27. The PRESIDENT: I now ask the Assembly whether there is any objection to the adoption of the agenda [A/5410 and A/5420].

The agenda was adopted.

28. The PRESIDENT: We now come to the allocation of the two items. May I take it that the Assembly agrees to the proposal of the representative of Tunisia that the item on the financial situation be referred to the Fifth Committee for consideration and report, and that the supplementary item be dealt with directly in plenary meeting on the opening day.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 8

Admission of new Members to the United Nations

29. The PRESIDENT: The Security Council has unanimously recommended that the General Assembly should admit Kuwait to membership in the United Nations. In this connexion the Assembly has before it a draft resolution [A/L.424 and Add.1] sponsored by several delegations.

30. Mr. RIFA'I (Jordan): If I do not express to you today, Mr. President, special congratulations on your unanimous election to the Presidency of this special session of the General Assembly, it is because I hope that my congratulations to you will be continuous.

31. At its 1034th meeting on 7 May 1963 the Security Council unanimously decided to recommend the admission of the State of Kuwait to membership of the United Nations. Upon approval of this recommendation by the General Assembly, a new flag will be raised in the United Nations and a new State will join in the service of the principles and purposes of the United Nations. My delegation is honoured and privileged to join with the delegations of Costa Rica, Ecuador, Federation of Malaya, Guinea, Hungary, India, Ireland, Liberia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan and Tunisia in sponsoring the draft resolution which has been circulated to Members [A/L.424 and Add.1], proposing to the General Assembly the admission of Kuwait to membership of the United Nations.

32. Small in population and area, Kuwait, the land of oil and sand, comes today to the United Nations with treasures of material and moral values. The thirsty, sober and grave Arabian desert in its search for water struck instead huge reservoirs of oil, and thus provided the world with fuel, light and heat. That same desert which produced from its depths a great wealth, gave mankind, spiritually, a heavenly inspiration and divine revelation. Kuwait is a country which possesses these two resources which are fundamental to the decent and honourable life, and it represents the true characteristics of the Arabian desert.

33. Under the respectable dynasty of Al-Sabah over the last 200 years, Kuwait has enjoyed its autonomy, and since the abrogation of the British-Kuwait Agreement of 1899 on 19 June 1961, Kuwait became a sovereign and independent State and stood on an equal footing with all the other free members of the international community. It was recognized by a considerable number of States and it exchanged with many of them diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level. It joined the League of Arab States which, besides Kuwait, comprises Algeria, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic, Yemen and Jordan. The Arab League also took a decision on 20 July 1961 to support the admission of Kuwait to the United Nations and to act with speed to this end.

34. Having set a high and completely satisfactory standard of living for its citizens and having built an advanced social welfare system for its population, Kuwait started a programme of economic aid to its Arab sister States through establishing a Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development. It extended this aid to some of the Arab countries, including my own, and my delegation acknowledges this fact with sincere appreciation. Kuwait's admission to the United Nations

no doubt will enable it to play a constructive role in world economic development.

35. Kuwait gave helpful opportunities to Arabs from other lands to live on its soil and to take part in the general progress and prosperity of the country. I mention with gratification that some 40,000 persons of Jordanian citizenship live at present in Kuwait as a good and useful community.

36. Kuwait is developing a democratic society with a parliamentary system. It has a fine Arabic Press, a number of daily newspapers and a well-organized and powerful broadcasting system. It provides free education, medical services and social security for its inhabitants. Modern life in Kuwait manifests itself in various aspects to the comfort and satisfaction of its people.

37. In its external policy, the State of Kuwait has succeeded in establishing friendly and peaceful relations with all other States alike. In its national policy, Kuwait, aware of its being a part of the Arab homeland and of the Arab nation, has adopted a constructive attitude for strengthening brotherly ties with all Arab countries. It could rightly be said in this connexion that the collective efforts of all the Arab States, no matter how they might vary in their constitutional systems and internal conditions, are the best security for Arab unity and progress.

38. The co-sponsors of the draft resolution have bestowed upon me the honour of introducing it to the General Assembly. It is with pride and joy that I do so, in the dual capacity, officially and personally. Therefore, on behalf of my colleagues and on behalf of my delegation, I submit this draft resolution in the hope that the admission of the State of Kuwait to membership of the United Nations will be given by this Assembly a unanimous affirmative vote.

39. The PRESIDENT: As I have already mentioned, the Security Council has recommended unanimously that the General Assembly admit Kuwait to membership of the United Nations. May I take it that the General Assembly decides, by acclamation, to accept the recommendation of the Security Council and to receive Kuwait as a Member of the United Nations?

The draft resolution was adopted by acclamation.

40. The PRESIDENT: I declare Kuwait admitted to membership of the United Nations.

The delegation of Kuwait was escorted to its place in the General Assembly Hall.

41. The PRESIDENT: Last year, as President of the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, I had the great pleasure of welcoming six new Members of the United Nations—Rwanda, Burundi, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Algeria and Uganda. Today, as President of the fourth special session of the General Assembly, I am happy to welcome the one hundred-and-eleventh Member, Kuwait, to membership of the United Nations. I would request His Excellency the Foreign Minister of Kuwait to convey to Emir His Highness Sheikh Abdulla Al Salem Al Sabah and the people of Kuwait my warm felicitations on this happy occasion, together with my best wishes for their future.

42. The admission of each new Member is a further application in the world community of the principle of the independence and equality of Member States. It is, therefore, not only a stage in human progress, but a promise of further advance in the future.

43. I congratulate not only the new Member, Kuwait on its admission to the United Nations, but also our entire Organization on having taken one further step towards achieving the ideal of universality.

44. Mr. BENHIMA (Morocco) (translated from French): The Arab delegations who have done me the honour of asking me to speak on their behalf on this occasion have conferred on me a most agreeable privilege, namely, that of welcoming the youngest Arab State, which is joining the United Nations today, and of expressing on their behalf our good wishes and congratulations to the 111th Member of the Organization. You will understand the emotion that pervades me as I perform this pleasant duty, at the thought that the State of Kuwait, which had already taken its place in the Arab family two years ago, has today after constant efforts and repeated requests, been unanimously admitted to membership of the United Nations.

45. While international upheavals have recently led to the independence of a number of countries, Kuwait, with quiet determination and unwavering faith, has for several years persisted in its efforts to transform the relationship under which its sovereignty was subordinated to another Power and to take its place, with full authority, as a free State in the Arab family of nations, as it will now take its rightful place in the international organizations.

46. This example of the peaceful attainment of independence is not the achievement of the people of Kuwait alone; it also reflects a new international awareness which, conscious of the need to uphold and assist movements of liberation, has led the protecting Power to assent, mutely and with great courage, to Kuwait's efforts to become a Member of the United Nations.

47. The State of Kuwait is situated in a region where all the main problems are contingent on social progress, and where social progress itself is contingent on the economic situation and the level of development. The wealth that nature has showered on Kuwait not only guarantees the stability and social progress that are already apparent in that country, but also gives reason to hope that this well-being will spread to the entire region and will consolidate its prosperity, equity, justice and progress.

48. My delegation has had the honour to associate itself with the Security Council's decision unanimously recommending that the General Assembly should admit Kuwait to the United Nations [1034th meeting]. On behalf of those same delegations which did me the honour of asking me to speak on their behalf in the Security Council, I am particularly happy to express the good wishes of my delegation to the delegation of Kuwait and to request it kindly to convey to the Emir's Government the congratulations of the Moroccan Government and the good wishes of the Moroccan people. I am sure that this request has already been granted, since Kuwait has not awaited the official ratification given today in order to take its first steps in international life.

49. Kuwait is a member of several international bodies. It has already been active in economic, social and cultural matters in all the major organs of world society. Its behaviour and its contributions undoubtedly provide an assurance that this activity will continue and that the path of progress upon which it has embarked gives promise of a better future for Kuwait and, for the Arab family of nations to which it belongs, a new reason for pride.

50. Mr. CHAKRAVARTY (India): Mr. President, please permit me in this, my first intervention, to congratulate you on your election as President of the fourth special session of the General Assembly.

51. I consider it a great honour and privilege to speak on this happy occasion not only on behalf of my own delegation, but also on behalf of the delegations of Australia, Canada, Cambodia, Ceylon, Indonesia, Nepal, New Zealand and Malaya, which have asked me to do so. It is with a deep sense of gratification that my delegation, along with these delegations, welcomes Kuwait to take its rightful place in the United Nations Organization.

52. The people of Kuwait, under the benevolent and enlightened guidance of His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait, in the course of a few years, have developed for themselves a social system which is one of the most advanced and of which they can be justly proud. Since independence, a constituent assembly has been freely elected by the people to draw up the Constitution and there has been determined planning for better social, cultural and economic conditions.

53. The Government of Kuwait has declared itself a peace-loving nation, keen to establish friendly relations with all. It has already shown that it is both able and ready to play a worthy role in international affairs. Nature has generously endowed Kuwait with large deposits of oil, which is the main source of its wealth. The Ruler and people of Kuwait have equally generously given of their wealth for the benefit of their less fortunate neighbours. Kuwait has indeed made a major contribution towards the economic development of other Arab countries by creating a fund from which aids are available to other countries for development projects.

54. For several years past, Kuwait has been a member of a large number of international organizations like the ILO, WHO, FAO, UNESCO, and so forth. It has also been an active member of the League of Arab States.

55. With a neighbouring country like Kuwait we in India have had an old-established friendship and interests which we wish to develop to our mutual benefit. The Government of India has had consular relations with Kuwait for a considerable period, and last month the first Indian Ambassador presented his credentials to His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait, thus cementing further the already close and friendly ties existing between our two countries.

56. The delegations of Australia, Canada, Cambodia, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Nepal, New Zealand and Malaya are convinced that the State of Kuwait will bring new ideas to our deliberations and will play a significant and effective role in the United Nations. We look forward to fruitful collaboration and happy association with the representatives of Kuwait, both inside and outside the United Nations, in promoting the objectives of this Organization.

57. Mr. CHANDERLI (Algeria) (translated from French): Mr. President, allow me first of all to tell you how delighted my delegation is that you have been elected President of this special session. Your wisdom, your concern for efficiency and the high level of debate which you inspired at the seventeenth session are the best guarantee of the harmony and seriousness which should characterize the present session.

58. It is a singular coincidence and, I hope, a good omen that we should have concluded the seventeenth

session with the installation of the delegation of the Arab Republic of Yemen and that we should begin this fourth special session by admitting another Arab State, that of Kuwait. This continuity might well symbolize, despite the vicissitudes of history, the steady march of the nations of the Arab world towards sovereignty, an essential and necessary stage in their natural vocation to unity.

59. The Algerian delegation is particularly happy to come to this rostrum today to welcome the State of Kuwait to the great family of nations. To our good wishes are joined those of the delegations of Somalia and Iran, which have asked us to associate them in our congratulations.

60. The Algerian Republic and, before it, the organs of the Algerian revolution have maintained and continue to maintain the warmest and most brotherly relations with the people and Government of the State of Kuwait. Hence our satisfaction, having had the privilege of preceding Kuwait in these precincts, at being able to welcome it today with all the affection which we bear it. Kuwait, a brother Arab country, has long expressed in deeds its attachment to the Arab fatherland. Conscious of its international responsibilities, Kuwait was able to demonstrate its public-spiritedness even before its admission to the United Nations by taking important initiatives in the matter of international solidarity. Among other actions, I shall quote for the record the establishment by the Government of Kuwait, in 1961, of the Fund for Arab Economic Development. This organization, which specializes in the financing of economic projects by granting short- and long-term loans or by participating directly in such projects, is certainly a remarkable contribution to the cause of economic and social progress in the Arab world.

61. My Government had the great pleasure of welcoming that of Kuwait in the Arab League. It cannot but rejoice, then, at being able today to number this brother country among the States Members of the United Nations. The particularly cordial relations which Algeria maintains with Kuwait cannot but be strengthened through co-operation at the United Nations level. Our close ties already find expression in diplomatic and commercial relations, not to mention the long-standing cultural relations which, for example, have enabled a large number of Algerian students to profit from the education given at the excellent University of Kuwait. We know the determination of the people and Government of Kuwait to work for the construction of the Arab unity to which we all aspire. This emotion, which is shared by all the Arab peoples, cannot but bring us closer together and enable us to contribute effectively to the maintenance of international peace and security.

62. We are therefore infinitely happy to welcome the delegation of Kuwait here, to offer it our warm congratulations upon the admission of its country to the United Nations, and to request it to transmit to the people and Government of Kuwait the assurance of our loyal friendship.

63. Mr. OKAZAKI (Japan): Allow me at the outset of my intervention to congratulate you, Mr. President, on your election to the high office of the Presidency of the fourth special session of the General Assembly.

64. Once again it is my great pleasure and privilege on behalf of the delegations of Laos, Philippines and Thailand, as well as Japan, to participate in the cere-

monies welcoming a new Member of the United Nations. On this particular occasion it is not only an honour, it is also a very sincere pleasure for me to join in the chorus of voices offering a heart-felt welcome to the delegation of Kuwait which has just become the newest Member of our Organization.

65. Japan has a very special and intimate economic relationship with Kuwait and many of my compatriots reside there now. I, myself, have had the opportunity of visiting Kuwait more than a dozen times. I shall long cherish with warm gratitude the memory of the generous hospitality and many courtesies extended to me during my visits, and the lasting friendships I have formed among the splendid people of that fortunate land, which has become an ideal welfare State under the wise guidance of its ruler and other leaders.

66. The extent to which Kuwait has come to participate in regional and other international organizations during recent years is well known. As a member of the League of Arab States and various specialized agencies, Kuwait has more than amply demonstrated its capacity to make an outstanding additional contribution to the work of the United Nations as a whole, with all its wide-spread ramifications, and through the United Nations, to the economic and social progress of mankind, justice for all peoples and the peace and security of the world. Thus, by adding Kuwait to our membership, we have further strengthened our Organization and we shall be all the better able thereby to accomplish the high purposes of the United Nations as they are set forth in the Charter.

67. Laos, Philippines, Thailand and Japan were among the first of the many Governments which now number, I understand, ninety-two or more that have recognized Kuwait as an independent and sovereign State. We look forward to a long unbroken period of harmonious and friendly relations in the interests not only of the mutual advantage of our two countries, but also of world peace and harmony among all nations.

68. Therefore, on behalf of the delegations of Laos, Philippines, Thailand and Japan, I am very happy to welcome the delegation of Kuwait and to pledge to them our unstinting co-operation in the pursuit of the noble objectives to which the United Nations is dedicated. With warmest good wishes we congratulate also the people and Government of Kuwait on this most auspicious occasion. May they long enjoy, together with all the other peoples and Governments that compose the United Nations, the blessings of peace, prosperity and happiness.

69. Mr. BARNES (Liberia): Mr. President, the delegations of Sierra Leone, Uganda and Liberia, on whose behalf I speak, are happy indeed to see you occupy the high office of President of the fourth special session of the General Assembly. Again the Assembly has honoured itself by honouring you with this high and important office. The outstanding and effective manner in which you conducted the work of the seventeenth session of the General Assembly is still fresh in our minds. May this session be productive of the full measure of success that will ensure the survival of the United Nations, the Organization which we all look upon as the gleaming crown of mankind's striving.

70. As far back as the 959th meeting of the Security Council, on 6 July 1961, Liberia, then a member of that Council, expressed in that body the opinion that Kuwait possessed all of the attributes of a sovereign and independent State, having progressed from a pro-

tectorate status to independence by the exchange of notes of 19 June 1961 with the then protecting Power, the United Kingdom. At the 984th meeting of the Security Council, on 30 November 1961, when the application of Kuwait for membership in the United Nations was before that body, Liberia whole-heartedly endorsed the admission of Kuwait to membership in our Organization because of our conviction that Kuwait was eminently qualified to assume and fulfil the obligations of the Charter.

71. The delegations of Sierra Leone, Liberia and Uganda were pleased to sponsor, together with a number of other delegations the resolution just adopted admitting Kuwait into membership of this family of nations. We of these delegations heartily welcome this newest of our Members. We are certain that Kuwait will make a significant and, indeed, outstanding contribution to the development of this Organization and to the maturation of the world community as a whole. We are also confident that Kuwait will put forth its maximum effort, financially and otherwise, towards furthering world order and towards building a prosperous and enduring peace. With a membership now of 111 States, the United Nations moves closer to becoming the universal Organization it was intended to be, which we of the delegations of Sierra Leone, Uganda and Liberia believe is of fundamental importance if the Organization is to take its true role in the maintenance of international peace and security.

72. Sir Patrick DEAN (United Kingdom): Mr. President, may I first discharge the pleasant duty of congratulating you on your election as President of this special session, and of wishing you all success in your very important task.

73. It gives me great pleasure, as it did in the Security Council a few days ago [1034th meeting], to express a very warm welcome to the delegation of Kuwait, whose admission as the one hundred and eleventh Member of the United Nations has just taken place. I join those who have spoken before me in wishing Kuwait well. We are very glad to have with us today the distinguished Foreign Minister of Kuwait, and to him, and through him to the Government and the people of Kuwait, we express our pleasure that his country has joined us in this international Organization.

74. For the people of Kuwait and for the United Nations as a whole, this is an occasion for rejoicing and satisfaction. I will not repeat what I said in the Security Council when, last week, it decided with unanimity to recommend the admission of Kuwait. Suffice it to say now that we know Kuwait will play its full part in our work here and will bring to the United Nations the competence and the ability to look to the future which the Kuwait Government has shown in developing its own country and in providing a high standard of living for its people. The United Kingdom, for its part, has long been connected with Kuwait in times both good and difficult, and many people of British nationality have visited it or have lived and worked there. It is therefore a special pleasure for us to see Kuwait admitted to the United Nations. So, on behalf of my Government and my delegation, I again offer our warmest congratulations and good wishes to the new Member that has joined us today.

75. Mr. CSATORDAY (Hungary): First of all, Mr. President, allow me to congratulate you on your election to the Presidency of the fourth special session of the General Assembly.

76. On the occasion of the admission of Kuwait to membership of the United Nations, I should like to express to the delegation and the people of Kuwait sincere congratulations on behalf of the socialist countries, among them my own. It is well known that in a letter dated 20 April 1963 [A/5412], from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait, addressed to the Secretary-General, the Government of Kuwait has solemnly declared the readiness of the State of Kuwait to undertake the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations. It is rather fortunate that since November 1961, when the Security Council dealt with the question of the admission of Kuwait to membership, significant changes have occurred which finally made it possible to consider this question favourably. In this connexion, allow me to refer to the withdrawal of the British troops from the territory of Kuwait. In pursuance of an agreement between the Arab League and Kuwait, some units of the Arab States are also being withdrawn. In the process of the accession of Kuwait to independence, a great step forward was made on 19 June 1961 with the abrogation of the treaty relationships with Great Britain. The position of Kuwait has been further strengthened internationally by the fact that in recent years it has become a member of a great number of international organizations, including UNESCO, ILO, FAO, WHO, and others, and that it has been recognized by more than eighty countries all over the world, including all the members of the Security Council.

77. It can be considered as a manifestation of good-neighbourly policy that the Kuwait Government has created the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and recently granted loans to the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and the Republic of Yemen.

78. Important developments have taken place in the internal situation of Kuwait as well. The modernization of society is going on by rapid steps. In this connexion, I should like to mention, only as an example, the free medical and health services and the availability of education and social security to all. By creating the Kuwait National Petroleum Company, the Government of Kuwait has taken the first step towards guaranteeing that the national resources of the country will benefit the people instead of further enriching foreign monopolies.

79. For those reasons, the socialist countries have supported the admission of Kuwait to membership of the United Nations. We should like to express our hope that Kuwait will play an active role in maintaining peace and security all over the world, especially in the Near East, and will contribute to frustrating the attempts of certain colonial Powers to intervene further in the affairs of that area. We are confident that Kuwait, as one of the newly independent Arab States, will participate actively in the continuing struggle for complete and general disarmament, for international co-operation and for the liquidation of colonialism, and against the emerging neo-colonialism.

80. In offering my congratulations, on behalf of the socialist countries, to this newly admitted Member State, may I at the same time welcome here the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, and, through him, the people of Kuwait.

81. Mr. STEVENSON (United States of America): The delegation of the United States is gratified, Mr. President, by your re-election to the Presidency of this special session of the General Assembly. We con-

gratulate you, and also ourselves on again having such wise and efficient leadership.

82. Speaking for the delegation of the United States, I too want to welcome Kuwait to membership of the United Nations. On two previous occasions the United States Government has affirmed its recognition of the sovereignty and independence of Kuwait and its great respect for that country.

83. Kuwait has participated, as we have been informed, increasingly in the work of the other organizations of the United Nations family. It is high time, we believe, that it became a full-fledged Member of the United Nations. Kuwait has made clear its acceptance of the obligations of our Charter. It has contributed a measure of its great wealth to the economic and social progress of sister Arab States. It has taken energetic steps to improve the standards of living and education of its people. My Government is convinced that Kuwait should enjoy the privileges of full membership of this Organization.

84. Hence, we applaud the unanimous admission of Kuwait today, and the delegation of the United States looks forward to useful co-operation with its representatives in the advancement of our common cause of peace, freedom and justice.

85. Mr. COMAY (Israel): I should first like to extend to you, Mr. President, the congratulations and good wishes of my delegation on your unanimous re-election to the Presidency of this special session.

86. My delegation wishes to make a brief statement in explanation of our attitude towards the question of the admission of Kuwait.

87. As a matter of principle, Israel has never opposed the admission of any State to the United Nations—not even in the case of Arab States which have demonstrated their hostility to my country. This Organization admits new Members in terms of Article 4 of the Charter, which requires such Members to be "... peace-loving States which accept the obligations contained in the present Charter and, in the judgement of the Organization, are able and willing to carry out these obligations". This duty to be peace-loving and these Charter obligations must apply as between a new Member and all the other Members, including that which I have the honour to represent.

88. My delegation would have cast an affirmative vote on the admission of Kuwait, had a vote been taken, only if we felt assured that the new Member State would faithfully adhere to the Charter in regard to my country as well. Since this is not clear to us, my delegation would have abstained from the vote if a vote had been taken on the draft resolution [A/L.424 and Add.1].

89. I wish to add only that nobody will be better pleased than we shall be to maintain peaceful relations with Kuwait, or any other State, if there is a mutual desire to do so.

90. Mr. BINDZI (Cameroon) (translated from French): It is my pleasant duty to come to this rostrum on behalf of a number of African delegations which have asked me to do so. When we parted at the conclusion of the seventeenth session, the way in which you, Mr. President, as also the distinguished Vice-Presidents who assisted you in your task and the eminent Committee Chairmen, directed the work of the General Assembly, that exceptional mastery which enabled us to finish within the allotted time,

gave us an inspiring feeling of having done our duty well. Given this satisfaction, therefore, we all of us more or less had in the back of our minds the hope that you would again preside over the work of this Assembly. We had believed the age of miracles was past. We are happy that this unspoken wish we made at the end of the seventeenth session has come true today. Allow us to express to you our congratulations on this well-deserved confidence which the Assembly has again placed in you. We are convinced that, thanks to your well-known qualities, the work of the present session will be guided with your usual efficiency towards the happy conclusion called for by the problem which is the reason for our present meeting.

91. I am equally happy to carry out the agreeable task of conveying to the delegation of the State of Kuwait, which we have just admitted to our midst, the greetings and warm congratulations of the delegations of the African States which have commissioned me so to do, and the greetings and congratulations of the Federal Republic of Cameroon.

92. It is indeed always a great day for the United Nations when a new Member crosses the threshold of this Hall and takes its place in this Areopagus which foreshadows our common ideal: to bring together a peaceful and harmonious assembly of the universal community of man. Does not the Book of Genesis tell of the command which was given to man at the moment of his creation, to increase and multiply, as a sign of his vitality and survival? Yes, each new Member entering here testifies to our Organization's vitality and to the expansion of its audience in the world. Each new Member brings us closer to the day when, finally embracing the whole world, our Charter will become the credo of all the nations, thereby reducing the risks of armed conflict.

93. The excellent speakers who preceded me have rightly extolled the merits of the State of Kuwait. I shall confine myself to expressing my satisfaction at the thought of the great positive contribution which the delegation of Kuwait will bring to the life and effectiveness of the Assembly. Long life and prosperity to the people of Kuwait!

94. Mr. BITSIOS (Greece) (translated from French): Mr. President, I should like first to associate myself with the congratulations which have been addressed to you on the occasion of your election to the presidency. The fourth special session of the General Assembly is scarcely one hour old and already the sure hand with which you know how to guide our debates has made itself felt, promising us rapid and effective progress in our work.

95. The delegations of Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and Yugoslavia have done me the honour of asking me to congratulate Kuwait, on their behalf, on its admission as the 111th Member of the United Nations. It is with the greatest pleasure that I discharge this pleasant duty on their behalf and on behalf of the Greek Government.

96. The most eloquent praise of the country whose delegation has just taken its place among us was the unanimous acceptance of its candidature. On this occasion, it has been rightly pointed out that Kuwait possesses all the attributes required under Article 4 of the Charter for admission to our Organization. A sovereign State, it has stated that it accepts the obliga-

tions of the Charter; and, in the judgement of the Organization, it is both able and willing to carry them out. Kuwait has more than these formal claims to our welcome. By its active participation in the work of the many international organizations to which it belongs, it has displayed a lively interest in co-operation among all countries and in all fields. By its liberal government, it has placed itself among the countries devoted to social progress, which is one of the noblest objectives of the United Nations. Its peaceful policies are a precious pledge of the contribution it will be able to make to our efforts for the maintenance of peace. It has generously used its immense resources to improve the living conditions of its people and to put into effect a vast programme of social services. The establishment by Kuwait of a Fund for Arab Economic Development demonstrates its feeling of brotherhood and solidarity towards its neighbours.

97. The principle of universality lies at the base of our Organization. But what gives us particular satisfaction is the idea that the admission of Kuwait will serve to strengthen still further the presence in the United Nations of that Arab world which rightly and successfully aspires to make its voice heard with an ever-growing unity in our counsels.

98. In conclusion, I should like to express, on behalf of the delegations which have so commissioned me and on behalf of my own delegation, our sincere congratulations and good wishes to the Government and people of Kuwait.

99. Mr. ZEA (Colombia) (translated from Spanish): I should like first of all to congratulate the President once again on the high honour conferred on him today by the General Assembly, and at the same time to express our deep satisfaction that the Assembly's work will again proceed under his wise and skilled guidance.

100. At this moment I am in the grip of two feelings of which I am extremely proud. The first is my pleasure in representing the countries of Latin America and the delegations of Jamaica and of Trinidad and Tobago, and the second is the joy that I feel in exercising this representation on the occasion of the admission of Kuwait as a Member of the United Nations.

101. Our countries feel profound satisfaction whenever a nation proclaims its independence and whenever it brings its resources in human intelligence to help in the world Organization's gigantic task of solving the grave problems which mankind must confront daily.

102. We too have passed through a protracted colonial stage and we too have progressed gradually, with much hardship and effort but also with profound satisfaction, in shaping our national destiny in such a way as to obtain peace and social justice.

103. We think that this accelerated progress of mankind to a point where the peoples achieve their own forms of government, chosen by themselves, and are absolutely independent in the choice of their own destiny, is the only way of ensuring well-being and tranquillity for the race in the future and is the only one which can, in the final instance, consolidate the peace which we all desire.

104. In the case of Kuwait, in particular, as previous speakers have already said, we have a country which is fully qualified to become a Member of the Organization. It has proved this continuously throughout the years, it has proved this recently by its political

maturity, by the skill with which it has managed its domestic affairs and by the generosity with which it has used its resources, not only for its own needs but in giving assistance to its friends.

105. That is why we are giving it such a warm welcome. In expressing the satisfaction of the delegations of Latin American and of Trinidad and Tobago at the admission of Kuwait, I should like very respectfully to ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the new Member State to inform his Government of our satisfaction and of our hope that the presence of his great country will be of happy augury for the work which the United Nations has to accomplish.

106. Mr. PAZHAWAK (Afghanistan): On behalf of the delegations of Burma and Afghanistan, Mr. President, I wish to congratulate you on your election as President of the fourth special session of the General Assembly. Your election is obviously a result of your success as President of the last regular session. Therefore, all that I have to do on this occasion is simply to wish you continued success.

107. No one can speak better for the qualifications of a State for admission to membership of the United Nations than the unanimous decision of the General Assembly itself. The admission of Kuwait to membership has been thus applauded today.

108. As far as the delegations of Burma and Afghanistan are concerned, I wish to state that on all occasions we have been most concerned with the basic ideal of us all, that is to say, increasing the membership of the United Nations and thus strengthening the Organization on the basis of the principle of universality. Believing in this principle, we are proud to say that we have placed on record here our welcome to all new Members with all sincerity and without any prejudice at all. Today, I am happy to have the opportunity once again to voice the pleasure of the Governments and the peoples of Burma and Afghanistan on the occasion of the admission of Kuwait to membership of the United Nations.

109. To us, Kuwait is not only a land of either sand or oil. To us, it is a link in the golden chain of culture which binds us to the Arab world, and it is a peace-loving country. We request the delegation of Kuwait to convey to its Government and people the most sincere congratulations of the Afghan and Burmese missions, Governments and peoples.

110. The PRESIDENT: I invite the representative of Kuwait to address the Assembly.

111. Mr. AL-SABAH (Kuwait): ^{1/} It is an honour and a pleasure for me to stand today in this great Assembly, which represents the conscience and aspirations of mankind, in order to present the thanks of the Government and people of Kuwait for this overwhelming and unanimous response to Kuwait's request to be admitted to membership of the United Nations.

112. My country, which is small in population but staunch in faith in the eternal human values, is happy to join the world Organization at a time when many areas in Asia and Africa have achieved their dream of freedom and participation in building a world where peace with justice, friendship and prosperity will triumph.

^{1/} Mr. Al-Sabah spoke in Arabic. The English version of his statement was supplied by the delegation.

113. The State of Kuwait achieved the fully independent status it now enjoys on 19 June 1961. It was with deep gratification that, in the short interval preceding its admission to the United Nations, Kuwait was able to win the confidence of, and to be recognized by, practically all the Members of the world Organization. It has joined several international bodies and acceded to approximately twenty treaties and regional organizations.

114. Kuwait's participation in these international activities clearly indicates that it does not look on independence and membership of the United Nations as ends in themselves. It considers them rather as a means of sharing in the responsibility of securing a better life for its people and for the people of other nations.

115. Kuwait's constructive efforts in the national as well as the international fields of activity have become an accomplished fact well known to all of you. Kuwait's achievement in free education, health and social welfare to all its inhabitants is the object of universal appreciation.

116. While Kuwait was exerting all its activities in its own territory, it was also mindful of its duties towards its less favoured neighbours. It was natural, however, that Kuwait should first turn to its sister Arab countries. It instituted the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development with a capital of approximately \$280 million. That Fund shares in meeting the needs of Arab countries. But Kuwait's participation in that effort is not restricted to the activities which the Fund is undertaking. It also extends direct material aid in funds and in kind to help in the progressive evolution of that area.

117. Furthermore, my Government, in co-operation with the Kuwait Investment Corporation, is studying ways and means of broadening the bases of its economic co-operation with other newly emerging States.

118. In the field of international endeavour, Kuwait has been anxious to participate in the world effort of economic development. It has contributed more than \$120 million to international economic and financial institutions. Over and above this, it has subscribed to 1 million dollars of United Nations bonds.

119. Kuwait has hitherto depended to a large extent on one single source of income, namely, oil. This course is fraught with danger. In view of this, Kuwait has instituted a board of economic and social planning to devise projects which aim at the diversification and development of other sources of national income.

120. The foreign policy of my country springs from one historic fact which was clearly emphasized in its Constitution. This fact is that Kuwait is an indivisible part of the Arab homeland, that its people are part of the Arab nation. For this reason it is anxious to develop and strengthen its political, economic and cultural relations with its sister Arab nations within the framework of the League of Arab States.

121. Kuwait realizes the close ties which bind it to the rest of the Arab world. It confirms its full support of Arab unity. Kuwait is deeply convinced that its destiny is intimately connected with the destiny of the Arab nation.

122. The Arab homeland, in its turn, is a large and important segment of the Asian and African world, that world which has only recently achieved its independence. Developing countries realize that their

progressive evolution can only be achieved under conditions of peace and international co-operation. Consequently, Kuwait's policy is based on the principle of non-alignment with either camp against the other. This does not mean, however, that Kuwait shall not have its own view on world events. Kuwait believes that the voice of truth and justice should prevail over all other voices. For this reason, Kuwait's neutrality is not negative but positive. Its aim is to seek what is true and fair.

123. Pursuant to this policy, my country is greatly concerned about the destiny of nations which are still struggling for their freedom and independence. Kuwait, therefore, declares that it upholds the resolution [1514 (XV)] of the General Assembly of the United Nations of 14 December 1960 to the effect that nations still groaning under the yoke of colonialism should be granted their freedom.

124. Kuwait, which wants to go on record as giving its full support to the legitimate demands of countries and nations which are still suffering under colonialism, equally feels deep anxiety and profound regret for the tragic sufferings of the Palestinian Arabs. Passage

of time cannot deprive the people of Palestine of their legitimate right to return to their homeland. From this rostrum, Kuwait appeals to the conscience of the world in the name of humanity and the rights of man to view this problem in the light of the lofty principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations.

125. Kuwait is proud to join the United Nations. It will always respond to the aspirations of the peoples of the world. It has faith in the final and inevitable triumph of truth and justice among men.

126. In conclusion, may I express, on behalf of the Government and people of Kuwait to you, Mr. President, and to the Members of the United Nations, my warmest thanks and deep appreciation for the kind and generous sentiments which have been expressed in this august Assembly toward my country.

127. The PRESIDENT: I wish to inform my colleagues that the ceremony of raising the flag of Kuwait among the flags of the Members of the United Nations will be performed at 10.15 a.m. tomorrow, 15 May 1963.

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.