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President: Prince WAN WAITHAYAKON
(Thailand).

Statement by the President

1. The PRESIDENT: First of all, I have to announce that the consideration of agenda item 20 entitled "Election of a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. G. J. van Heuven Goedhart", is postponed until Monday.

2. There are a number of reports of the main Committees listed on the agenda for today's meeting. Before calling on the Rapporteur of the Second Committee to present the first of these reports, I should like to inquire, in view of the provisions of rule 68 of the rules of procedure, whether there is a proposal to the effect that discussion should take place on any of the reports which are before the Assembly at this time.

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the reports of the Second, Third and Fifth Committees.

3. The PRESIDENT: In this connexion, it might be appropriate to remind Members that it is a general practice in the Assembly to limit explanations of vote to approximately seven minutes.

AGENDA ITEM 26

Programmes of technical assistance:

(b) Confirmation of allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE (A/3421)

Mr. Bannier (Netherlands), Rapporteur of the Second Committee, presented the report of that Committee, and then spoke as follows:

4. Mr. BANNIER (Netherlands), Rapporteur of the Second Committee: This same item was decided upon last year without a report by the Second Committee. May I, therefore, explain very briefly the origin and meaning of the action required?

5. The present system of allocation of funds was recommended by the Technical Assistance Committee (TAC) to the Economic and Social Council at its eighteenth session, providing for an elaborate system of programming at a national level. The examination of requests both by the participating organizations and by the Technical Assistance Board (TAB), the approval of the over-all programme by the TAC and, finally, the authorization of funds for the ensuing year by TAC to the participating organizations—these recommendations were approved by the Council in its resolution 42 B II (XVIII).

6. The General Assembly, in its resolution 831 B (IX), approved financial arrangements forming part of the system. The one financial arrangement annually requiring action by the Assembly is the confirmation of the allocation of funds authorized by TAC. It is this act of confirmation that is now being asked of the General Assembly.

7. The Second Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General containing a draft resolution which TAC had requested should be transmitted to the General Assembly. The Second Committee approved the draft resolution and decided to recommend it for adoption by the Assembly. The provisions

of the draft resolution speak for themselves and I submit that they do not require further explanation.

8. The PRESIDENT: In view of the decision of the Second Committee to recommend, without vote, the adoption of the draft resolution contained in the Committee's report [A/3421], I shall assume, if there is no objection, that the draft resolution is adopted by the General Assembly.

The draft resolution was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 29

Report of the Agent General of the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE (A/3408)

Mr. Bannier (Netherlands), Rapporteur of the Second Committee, presented the report of that Committee, and then spoke as follows:

9. Mr. BANNIER (Netherlands), Rapporteur of the Second Committee: The Committee had the advantage of hearing the Agent General, Mr. J. B. Coulter, who introduced his report for the period from 1 July 1955 to 30 June 1956 [A/3195]. In considering that report, members of the Committee expressed their views on the results achieved by the Agency in pursuing the aims for which it was established. Thereafter the Committee adopted a draft resolution wherein, *inter alia*, the Agent General was commended for the progress made by the Agency and for the expeditious way in which he implemented the approved programmes of the Agency to the maximum extent possible within available funds. Moreover, the decision was taken, in conformity with recommendations by the Economic and Social Council, to discontinue the annual review of the work of the Agency by the Council and to amend General Assembly resolution 410 (V) accordingly.

10. The PRESIDENT: If no representative wishes to explain his vote at this time, we shall now proceed to the vote on the draft resolution contained in the report of the Second Committee [A/3408]. Separate votes have been requested on the first paragraph of the preamble and on paragraph 1 of the operative part.

The first paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 51 votes to 7, with 5 abstentions.

Paragraph 1 was adopted by 49 votes to 9, with 9 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 54 votes to none, with 13 abstentions.

11. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) (*translated from Spanish*): The delegation of the Dominican Republic had particular satisfaction in voting in favour of this resolution, which reaffirms the moral duty of the Members of the United Nations to assist in the relief and rehabilitation of Korea.

12. Korea was the victim of unjustified aggression and all States conscious of their responsibility supported the United Nations resolutions and protested against that attack on the fundamental freedoms of a traditionally heroic and civilized people.

13. In voting for this resolution, I wish to announce, on behalf of the Dominican Republic, that only three days ago, in compliance with the recommendations of the General Assembly, the Government of my country, on direct instructions of its Chief Executive, presented to the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency the sum of \$10,000 as the Dominican Republic's con-

tribution to that fund. Our contribution is intended as a gesture of encouragement to the work of the United Nations, and as a demonstration of our support of the great country which withstood the attack of international communism.

AGENDA ITEM 68

Election to fill a vacancy in the membership of the Security Council resulting from the withdrawal of Yugoslavia (A/3332)

14. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly has before it document A/3332, containing a note from the Secretary-General by which he transmits a letter received from the permanent representative of Yugoslavia, stating that the seat at present occupied by Yugoslavia in the Security Council will become vacant as of 1 January 1957.

15. I might point out that in addition to the five permanent members of the Security Council, the following countries are at present represented on the Council: Australia, Belgium, Cuba, Iran, Peru and Yugoslavia, whose seat it is the purpose of this election to fill, for the remaining period of one year commencing 1 January 1957.

16. Rule 94 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that the election shall be by secret ballot and that there shall be no nominations. Accordingly I request the General Assembly to proceed directly to the vote.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Gripenberg (Finland) and Mr. Carias (Honduras) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	75
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	75
<i>Abstentions:</i>	1
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	74
<i>Required majority:</i>	50
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Philippines	51
Czechoslovakia	20
Afghanistan	1
Spain	1
Yugoslavia	1

The Philippines having obtained the required two-thirds majority was elected a non-permanent member of the Security Council.

17. The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of the USSR on a point of order.

18. Mr. KUZNETSOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*translated from Russian*): The USSR delegation feels obliged to make the following statement regarding the results of the voting, which have just been announced. The election of the Philippines to take the place of Yugoslavia in the Security Council is a flagrant violation of the legitimate rights of the countries of Eastern Europe in the United Nations.

19. Article 23, paragraph 1, of the Charter provides that the non-permanent members of the Security Council shall be elected with due regard to geographical distribution. As everyone knows, in pursuance of this Article, a gentlemen's agreement was reached in 1946 concerning the distribution of the seats of non-

permanent members of the Security Council, due regard being paid to equitable geographical distribution. In accordance with that agreement, of the six seats for non-permanent members in the Council one was to be reserved for the countries of Eastern Europe. Yet in clear violation of the principles of the United Nations the Philippines, which has no connexion whatever with Eastern Europe, has just been elected to the seat which belongs to those countries.

20. Consequently, one whole area of the world has been arbitrarily and illegally excluded from the most important organ of the United Nations.

21. The vote which has just taken place merely illustrates the regrettable fact that the United Nations is steadily dwindling in importance as a centre of co-operation between nations with equal rights. The vote shows that the activities of the United Nations are increasingly being directed and governed not by the principles of the Charter but by considerations of expediency and by the designs of a group of countries, foremost among them the United States, which is using this Organization for its own selfish purposes.

22. This radically undermines the authority of the United Nations and the Soviet Union delegation wishes, therefore, to voice a vigorous protest against the discrimination shown towards the countries of Eastern Europe.

In the absence of the President, Mr. Vitetti (Italy), Vice-President, took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 41

Financial reports and accounts, and reports of the Board of Auditors:

- (a) United Nations, for the financial year ended 31 December 1955
- (b) United Nations Children's Fund, for the financial year ended 31 December 1955
- (c) United Nations Refugee Fund, for the financial year ended 31 December 1955

REPORTS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3416, A/3417, A/3148)

AGENDA ITEM 47

United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3420)

AGENDA ITEM 42

Supplementary estimates for the financial year 1956

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3419)

AGENDA ITEM 52

System of travel and subsistence allowances to members of organs of the United Nations

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/3426)

Mr. Forteza (Uruguay), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, presented the reports of that Committee.

23. The PRESIDENT: We will start with item 41 which concerns the reports contained in documents A/3416, A/3417 and A/3418. As no Member wishes to explain his vote on any of the three draft resolutions

recommended by the Fifth Committee in these reports, we will proceed to the vote.

24. I shall first put to the vote the draft resolution relating to item 41 (a) [A/3416, para. 6].

The draft resolution was adopted by 62 votes to none, with 9 abstentions.

25. The PRESIDENT: In connexion with the draft resolution relating to item 41 (b) [A/3417, para. 7], the Fifth Committee has unanimously recommended its adoption. I take it that the General Assembly unanimously adopts this draft resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

26. The PRESIDENT: I now ask the Assembly to vote on the draft resolution relating to item 41 (c) [A/3418, para. 4].

The draft resolution was adopted by 59 votes to none, with 11 abstentions.

27. The PRESIDENT: The draft resolutions relating to item 47 [A/3420, para. 8] were adopted unanimously by the Fifth Committee. If there is no objection, I shall take it that they are adopted unanimously by the Assembly.

The draft resolutions were adopted unanimously.

28. The PRESIDENT: The General Assembly will now vote on the draft resolution relating to item 42 [A/3419, para. 18].

The draft resolution was adopted by 60 votes to 8, with 2 abstentions.

29. The PRESIDENT: I now put to the vote the draft resolution relating to item 52 [A/3426, para. 30].

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 12

Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapter VI, section II)

REPORT OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE (A/3397)

Mrs. Quan (Guatemala), Rapporteur of the Third Committee, presented the report of that Committee (A/3397).

30. Mr. ROSSIDES (Greece): I should like to explain my delegation's vote on the draft resolution contained in the report of the Third Committee [A/3397], with regard to the United Nations Children's Fund.

31. My delegation voted for this draft resolution in the Committee, and will vote for it here in the plenary meeting. We should like, however, to state—as we have already stated in the Third Committee—that our vote in favour of the draft resolution should be interpreted as meaning that we think that UNICEF's assistance should also be extended to the Island of Cyprus. The Island of Cyprus is certainly in great need of UNICEF's assistance. This is evident from the letters and official reports which I cited in the Third Committee—namely, letters from British officials on the Island of Cyprus, and official reports of the British Government in Cyprus.

32. I do not wish to take up the Assembly's time, but I should like to quote a few passages from a circular letter written by A. H. Pemberton, a doctor in the service of Cyprus; he directs a hospital on the Island. What he says is significant in demonstrating that conditions of poverty exist on the Island:

"Unfortunately, there are many sick people in the district who cannot afford to leave the work to visit

a doctor, and when such patients do come for advice, they have to be treated as out-patients, whereas they ought to be in hospital. It might happen that an X-ray is ordered, and there is no money available for transportation to Nicosia where this has to be done. In some cases, extra food has to be obtained after discharge. This applies usually to widows and fatherless children."

33. Cannot these children and so many other children be helped by UNICEF? I continue the letter:

"However, we think a case of the most glaring poverty which has recently come to our notice is that of a woman who came in to have her baby. Twins were born, and there was, of course, no layette for the second infant. The mother confessed that she was entirely penniless, and, as garments had to be procured, the onus was put on the hospital staff."

34. This shows that there is a great need for UNICEF aid on the island, not only for infant feeding, pre-school feeding and school feeding, but also in regard to tuberculosis, which is spreading in that part of the world. I should like to quote now from a letter from a British executive official. Mr. M. R. Popham, who is an official in one of the towns in Cyprus. He states:

"Funds were insufficient to meet the needs of even the most deserving cases. At present, the Committee has practically no money left with which to help those people who are unable to provide for themselves, while the breadwinner is absent in a sanatorium or hospital. Many of these families have young children who, inadequately fed and clothed, run greater risks of themselves contracting the disease."

35. These children could be fed through the assistance of UNICEF. It is of particular note that the official report of the medical authorities in Cyprus shows that the sanatoria on the island are insufficient to meet the requirements and that therefore many tuberculosis sufferers have to stay at home without the necessities of life and without the means of providing the necessary food for themselves and their children, thereby contributing to the spread of the disease.

36. We raised this issue in the Third Committee this year, saying that the object was not merely to criticize the Administration but to call attention to the necessity of having UNICEF aid in Cyprus. The Executive Director, Mr. Pate, stated in reply that UNICEF would be ready to consider assistance in Cyprus and to make the necessary survey, if requested. He said it had already assisted in many other territories and that it had the fullest co-operation of the Powers responsible for their administration. That is very satisfactory, but there has not been any invitation to UNICEF during the past ten years when UNICEF has been functioning. We have made requests, but I am sorry to say that the reply given by the United Kingdom representative was not satisfactory.

37. The United Kingdom representative, in the Third Committee [688th meeting], regretted the implication in the Greek representative's statement that her country was not extending the necessary humanitarian services to one of its colonial territories. The United Kingdom had always endeavoured to make such services available to the population of all the territories for which it was responsible.

38. The fact remains that no explanation was given as to why UNICEF aid was not extended to Cyprus; nor have we had any promise that there would be an

attempt to inquire into the matter and remedy the omission.

39. In the circumstances, I think I must emphasize the urgent need for the services of UNICEF to be extended to the island of Cyprus.

40. Mr. RODRIGUEZ-FABREGAT (Uruguay) (*translated from Spanish*): I should like to explain the vote of my delegation on the draft resolution which was recommended by the Third Committee and is now before this plenary meeting. This draft resolution would have the effect of introducing essential, substantial changes in the membership of the Executive Board of UNICEF. It is proposed that as from 1 January 1957 the Executive Board shall consist of the representatives of thirty States, that these thirty States shall be Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies, and that these Members shall be designated by the Economic and Social Council in keeping with the terms of the draft resolution.

41. During the discussion in the Third Committee I had the honour on behalf of my delegation to express the views of my Government not only on the draft resolution but also on the underlying principles on which the United Nations Children's Fund was established, organized and is now operating.

42. In the Fund we have not only an organization which is doing most valuable work in the sphere of social solidarity but an institution which enjoys the greatest, widest and most well-earned prestige of all the useful institutions established by resolutions of the General Assembly or, as in this case, of the Economic and Social Council.

43. As I said in the Third Committee, not so long ago, until UNICEF began its activity, the term "UNICEF" was only a group of meaningless letters of the alphabet. Now, more than ever before, the work it has done has had the effect of combining those letters, of making them inseparable, of changing them into a word, a new vocable which has entered the language of every people on earth just as it has entered the heart of every man and woman in every clime.

44. The term UNICEF everywhere means mutual support, and hope for children, against whom there is no room for discrimination, for social, racial, religious, geographical, economic or any other kind of discrimination. When we say the word "children" and when we realize that we, the General Assembly of the United Nations, are here convened in this plenary meeting for the sake of those tiny and sacred beings called "children", our work becomes immediately meaningful and we see that we are treading the positive path of social solidarity.

45. In explaining the vote of our delegation at this plenary meeting I can say something else that I said in the Third Committee. Our country, together with the whole of our region in America, has given particular attention to this problem. I had the occasion and the honour, by virtue of my office, by virtue of the course to which I am devoted, to inaugurate at Montevideo the American International Institute for the Protection of Childhood. And in mentioning this Institute, which, as in the past, continues to marshal the efforts of the whole of our continent of America for the cause of children, I take the liberty of citing, as I did in the Third Committee, some names in order to show how great has been the support, and how famous the names of the workers for the cause of children on our continent.

46. The first President of the American International Institute for the Protection of Childhood was Dr. Luis Morquio; his collaborators were the Argentine Aráoz Alfaro, the Brazilian Olinto de Oliveira, and, finally, the man who until a few weeks ago was the President of the Institute, my illustrious compatriot, Dr. Roberto Berro, well-known in the United Nations and in UNICEF for his dedication and heart-felt devotion to the cause of children. All four of them are no longer in the world of the living. However, in pronouncing these names in this plenary meeting of the General Assembly and in honouring my words by mentioning them, I can say that Dr. Roberto Berro, who was the last to leave us, Aráoz Alfaro, Luis Morquio and Olinto de Oliveira were worthy representatives of the scientific, economic, political and social fighters—whose name is legion in our continent—for the values represented by the fight for children's rights, which are indispensable for the dignity of peoples and the greatness of nations; we are thereby expressing our complete adherence to the democratic principles which enter into the work of solidarity each and every one of us is performing and into the contribution we are making in the United Nations.

47. For these reasons and for the other reasons I mentioned in the Third Committee, in view of our dedication, in view of our laws and our way of life, of our Uruguayan customs, in view of our statistical contributions towards progress in dealing with social problems, for all these reasons, my delegation will vote in favour of the Third Committee's draft resolution, which is now before this plenary meeting.

48. Mrs. ELLIOT (United Kingdom): I wish to make a very short intervention on this very important subject, simply to say once again what I said in the Third Committee and what has already been referred to by one representative this morning.

49. The United Kingdom welcomes all the work that is done by UNICEF throughout the world. We are very grateful for the work it has done in the dependent territories for which the United Kingdom has responsibility. There are none of those territories into which the work of UNICEF cannot come or from which it could be excluded, and I regret very much that any reference has been made to the possibility of any exclusion of the workers and the admirable work done by UNICEF from any of the territories for which the United Kingdom has responsibility. I can assure the General Assembly that there is no reason at all for any such proposal or suggestion, because we are enthusiastic supporters of this great work. More than once, I myself have been privileged to speak about the work in the Third Committee. I cannot stress too strongly how much we support it, how greatly we admire what is being done, how anxious we are to see that everything possible is done to enable the work to expand and continue, and that we are co-operating with the workers and the helpers in UNICEF throughout our country. I should therefore like to assure the General Assembly that there is no question at all of any exclusion of UNICEF from any of the territories for which we have responsibility and that we enthusiastically support, throughout the whole of the United Kingdom and our dependent territories, the work of UNICEF.

50. The PRESIDENT: As there are no more speakers on the list, we shall now proceed to vote on the draft resolution contained in the Committee report [A/3397]. A roll-call vote has been requested.

A vote was taken by roll-call.

Pakistan, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 56

Question of amending the United Nations Charter, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, to increase the number of non-permanent members of the Security Council and the number of votes required for decisions of the Council (A/3138)

51. The PRESIDENT: It will be remembered that according to a recommendation of the General Committee, this is one of the two items with which the Assembly decided to deal directly, in plenary meeting.

52. Mr. TRUJILLO (Ecuador) (*translated from Spanish*): The majority of the Latin American delegations have taken the initiative in putting forward the first proposal to amend the United Nations Charter. In doing so, they have had recourse to one of the two procedures mentioned in the Charter, namely, the inscription of the question for discussion as a regular item of the agenda and its subsequent adoption and ratification by two-thirds of the Members of the United Nations. We have also proposed two similar items, relating to the Economic and Social Council and the International Court of Justice.

53. The first of these items, item 56 concerning the question of amending the provisions of the Charter relating to the composition of the Security Council, is now up for discussion.

54. Although the draft resolution which we are considering presenting to the General Assembly is not yet in final form and the chairman of our group, who was asked to deal with the matter, has not yet completed his work, I should like to submit a few preliminary points for the information of the General Assembly, which would then be better prepared to discuss the substance of the question.

55. The majority of the Members of the General Assembly present, including those who were not at San Francisco, at the time of the founding of this Organization, agreed that certain Member States might be vested by the Charter with an exceptional power that would prevent the adoption of a proposal they did not approve. This power has been called a veto and we are interested in modifying it in order to make the United Nations a truly democratic organization. However, at the present stage, we are not in a position to deal with this question.

56. On behalf of my own delegation I should like to state—and I feel that virtually all the other Latin American delegations hold this view—that if we accepted this right of the veto, we did so simply in order that this Organization might live. Nevertheless, we are not in sympathy with this undemocratic right of veto for the five great Powers and we have to continue our efforts, without jeopardizing the existence of this Organization, to persuade those who use it, sometimes without sufficient justification, to accept a modification of their privilege.

57. I must state for the record that the proposal to amend Article 23 and the voting procedure provided for in Article 27 of the Charter does not deal with the abolition of the veto, not because we do not wish to deal with it or because we have ceased to study the problem, but because we do not think the situation sufficiently ripe for successful effort on our part and we prefer to leave this great defect in the Charter in order that the United Nations may continue to exist, until the time comes when those who enjoy this privilege will listen to reason and be convinced that its use is more to the detriment than to the benefit of the United Nations.

58. Our amendment, therefore, is confined purely and simply to the composition of the Security Council, and is a fore-runner of the series of amendments which will follow the complete review of the Charter by the conference to be called for that purpose whenever the committee set up last year by the General Assembly decides.

59. At the present time, we wish to make room in the main bodies of the United Nations for the greatest number of Members, and especially the new Members, who under the present composition of these bodies would be excluded. The election of members to the

Security Council must be based not only on their contribution to the maintenance of peace but also on equitable geographical distribution, and, in our view, these requirements cannot be fairly met if there are only six non-permanent members.

60. We have discussed this problem at length; we have had conversations with the five permanent members of the Security Council and with virtually all delegations; and everyone has shown the greatest good will towards our proposals on the understanding that it was limited exclusively to changing the number of non-permanent members of the Council and the number of votes required for a majority.

61. As I have said, we are still studying the draft resolution we intend to submit and we have not completed our consultations with some delegations, it being our desire to present the draft resolution as a proposal not merely of the Latin American group and Spain, but of all who might wish to join in sponsoring it.

62. In the circumstances, I shall take the liberty of asking, on behalf of the Latin American group, for the postponement of further consideration of agenda items 56, 57 and 58 to the next plenary meeting, at which time we will present a draft resolution for consideration.

63. I hope that the President will agree to this postponement, which will enable us to have a full discussion of one of the most interesting questions before the General Assembly.

64. The PRESIDENT: I wish to inform the Assembly that there are no speakers on the list and I would therefore suggest that we postpone the debate on items 56, 57 and 58 until Monday morning.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.