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ENGLISH

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE TWO THOUSAND
EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETIETH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 7 November 1989, at 4.15 p.m.

President: Mr. LI LUYE

(China)

Members: Algeria
Brazil
Canada
Colombia
Ethiopia
Finland
France
Malaysia
Nepal
Senegal
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland
United States of America
Yugoslavia

Mr. BENDJAMA
Mr. ALENCAR
Mr. FORTIER
Mr. PEÑALOSA
Mr. GOSHU
Mr. TORNUDD
Mr. BLANC
Mr. RAZALI
Mr. RANA
Mrs. DIALLO
Mr. BELONOGOV

Mr. RICHARDSON
Mr. WATSON
Mr. PEJIC

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The meeting was called to order at 4.20 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

CENTRAL AMERICA; EFFORTS TOWARDS PEACE

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (S/20895)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Chinese): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Security Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them the report of the Secretary-General contained in document S/20895. They also have before them document S/20951, which contains the text of a draft resolution that has been prepared in the course of the Council's consultations.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. If I hear no objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection it is so decided.

I put to the vote the draft resolution contained in document S/20951.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour: Algeria, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Malaysia, Nepal, Senegal, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Chinese): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 644 (1989).

(The President)

Following consultations of the Council I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The members of the Security Council reaffirm their full support for the Secretary-General's efforts to assist the Central American Governments in their efforts to achieve the goals set forth in the Guatemala Agreement of 7 August 1987 and in the Joint Declarations subsequently signed in pursuance of it. In any consideration of the renewal of the mandate of ONUCA, they will wish to assure themselves that the presence of the observer group is continuing to contribute actively to the achievement of a firm and lasting peace in Central America."

The Secretary-General wishes to make a statement, and I now call on him.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL (interpretation from Spanish): I wish to express to the Security Council my satisfaction at its decision to authorize me to proceed, in conformity with the proposal which I made to it on 11 October, to establish the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA). With this decision the United Nations is taking a concrete, important step towards the impartial verification of compliance with the undertakings of the Central American Presidents in the security area. But I am convinced that, in addition to fulfilling this practical need, ONUCA can play a political role of considerable significance, since its establishment in itself constitutes a confidence-building measure which can contribute to restoring and strengthening stability in the region.

Today's decision can also help in recovering the vigorous momentum which the peace process had gathered since the Tela agreements but which seemed to flag in the last few weeks. The need for ONUCA in this context is, if anything, greater now than before and I can assure the Security Council that I shall take all necessary steps to deploy it within the timetable laid down in my report.

(The Secretary-General)

ONUCA is a complex and innovative operation which is being set in motion in a region characterized in recent years by its volatility. This circumstance justifies my proposal that its deployment be carried out incrementally. We need to have the possibility to ascertain in greater detail on the ground the requirements of the operation which have not been clarified by the reconnaissance mission. Although we propose to remain within the terms of the report, we might well discover, as we proceed, that the personnel and material-resource needs originally foreseen require adjustment or reconfiguration in order to carry out effectively the mandate of ONUCA. I would therefore intend to monitor carefully each stage of the implementation of ONUCA and to be in frequent contact with the Council, particularly when the time comes to go from phase III to phase IV, at which point I foresee the need to examine carefully the operation of ONUCA in co-operation with the Council.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Chinese): The Security Council has concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 4.25 p.m.