



General Assembly

Seventy-eighth session

45th plenary meeting
Thursday, 7 December 2023, 10 a.m.
New York

Official Records

President: Mr. Francis (Trinidad and Tobago)

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

Reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

The President: The General Assembly will now consider the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) on agenda items 46 to 58, 120 and 135.

I request the Rapporteur of the Committee, Ms. Mariska Dwianti Dhanutirto of Indonesia, to introduce the reports of the Committee in one intervention.

Ms. Dhanutirto (Indonesia), Rapporteur of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee): I have the honour to introduce to the General Assembly the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) submitted under agenda items 46 to 58, 120 and 135. These reports, contained in documents A/78/417 to A/78/431, include the texts of draft resolutions and decisions recommended to the Assembly for adoption. For the convenience of delegations, a checklist prepared by the Secretariat of action taken by the Committee is contained in A/C.4/78/INF/3.

During the main part of the seventy-eighth session, the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) held a total of 26 formal meetings, in the course of which it adopted 33 draft resolutions and three draft decisions, including its proposed programme of work for the seventy-ninth session.

The first report, submitted under agenda item 46, “Assistance in mine action”, is contained in document A/78/417. The draft resolution submitted under this agenda item is contained in paragraph 8 of the Committee’s report.

The second report, submitted under agenda item 47, “Effects of atomic radiation”, is contained in document A/78/418. The draft resolution submitted under this agenda item is contained in paragraph 8 of the Committee’s report.

The third report, submitted under agenda item 48, “International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space”, is contained in document A/78/419. The draft resolution submitted under this agenda item is contained in paragraph 8 of the Committee’s report. During its consideration of this agenda item, the Committee held a number of meetings of the Working Group of the Whole, chaired by the delegation of the United Arab Emirates.

The fourth report, submitted under agenda item 49, “United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East” (UNRWA), is contained in document A/78/420. In connection with this agenda item, the Committee considered the report of UNRWA (A/78/13) and other relevant reports, after hearing introductory statements by the Director of the UNRWA Representative Office in New York on behalf of the Commissioner-General of UNRWA and by the Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA. The Committee adopted three draft

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resolutions relating to various aspects of the work of UNRWA, as contained in paragraph 13 of its report.

The fifth report, submitted under agenda item 50, “Israeli practices and settlement activities affecting the rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories”, is contained in document A/78/421. In connection with this agenda item, the Committee considered the fifty-fifth report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (A/78/553) and other reports by the Secretary-General on the agenda item, after hearing the introductory statements by the Chair of that Special Committee and by the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights. The Fourth Committee proposes for adoption three draft resolutions, as contained in paragraph 13 of its report.

The sixth report, relating to agenda item 51, “Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects”, is contained in document A/78/422. Under this agenda item, the Fourth Committee heard introductory statements by the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support, the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions on behalf of the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, and the Director of the Administrative Law Division of the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance on behalf of the Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance. Many of the issues raised during the general debate under this agenda item will be further considered by the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations at its 2024 session, the report of which will be considered by the Fourth Committee at a resumed session to be held in the first half of 2024.

The seventh report of the Committee, relating to agenda item 52, “Comprehensive review of special political missions”, is contained in document A/78/423 and contains a draft resolution in paragraph 8. Under this agenda item, the Assistant Secretary-General for Europe, Central Asia and the Americas in the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations introduced, on behalf of the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, the report of the Secretary-General on overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions (A/78/307). The Committee also heard a statement by the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support.

The eighth report, submitted under agenda item 53, “Questions relating to information”, is contained in document A/78/424. Under this item, the Fourth Committee considered the report of the Committee on Information (A/78/21) and the related report of the Secretary-General (A/78/294). It was also briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications about her Department’s efforts to promote the message of the United Nations around the world. The Fourth Committee proposes for adoption two draft resolutions contained in paragraph 9 of its report.

Consistent with its methods of work, with regard to agenda items 54 to 58, the cluster of items on non-self-governing territories and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Committee considered these five items together, holding a joint general debate on them and hearing 158 petitioners on issues relating to various non-self-governing territories. It also heard statements by the Premier of the British Virgin Islands, the President of French Polynesia, the Deputy Chief Minister of Gibraltar and representatives of the Governor of Guam and of the Government of New Caledonia. Under these items, the General Assembly has before it five reports as follows.

Under item 54, “Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations”, the Committee’s report is contained in document A/78/425. The draft resolution submitted under this item is contained in paragraph 8 of the report.

The Committee’s report on item 55, “Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories”, is contained in document A/78/426. The draft resolution submitted under this item is contained in paragraph 8 of the report.

With regard to item 56, “Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations”, the Committee’s report is contained in document A/78/427. The draft resolution submitted under this item is contained in paragraph 8 of the report.

The Committee’s report relating to item 57, “Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories”, is contained in document A/78/428. The draft resolution

submitted under this item is contained in paragraph 8 of the report.

The report submitted under agenda item 58, “Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples”, is contained in document A/78/429. Under this item, the Committee adopted a number of draft resolutions and a draft decision on matters relating to the implementation of the Declaration and the Non-Self-Governing Territories, as contained in paragraphs 33 and 34 of its report.

With regard to item 120, “Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly”, the draft decision containing the proposed programme of work and timetable of the Fourth Committee for the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly is contained in paragraph 6 of document A/78/430. The Committee recommends this draft decision to the Assembly for adoption.

The need did not arise for the Committee to take up item 135, “Programme planning”, as indicated in the report of the Committee contained in document A/78/431.

I have the honour to submit to the General Assembly for its consideration and adoption the draft resolutions and draft decisions recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in its reports, contained in documents A/78/417 to A/78/431.

Before concluding, I would like to commend the high level of cooperation prevailing in the Committee, which enabled it to fulfil the mandate entrusted to it by the Assembly and to complete its work effectively and constructively well ahead of the proposed deadline. On behalf of the Bureau of the Committee, I should like to express our sincere appreciation to all delegations for their constructive participation throughout the main session. I would like to pay particular tribute to the Chair of the Fourth Committee, Ambassador Mathu Joyini of South Africa, whose knowledge, experience and consummate diplomatic skills enabled the Committee to consider in depth all the agenda items allocated to it. The other members of the Bureau — Mr. Joaquín Alberto Pérez Ayestarán of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Ms. Sara Rendtorff-Smith of Denmark and Mr. Patryk Jakub Woszczek of Poland, with whom I had the pleasure of working closely — also contributed greatly, individually and collectively, to the successful conclusion of the Committee’s work.

I would also like to place on record our thanks to the secretariat of the Fourth Committee, located in the Disarmament and Peace Affairs Branch of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, for its competent and valuable assistance.

The President: I thank the Rapporteur of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records. If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall therefore take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Fourth Committee that are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote or position.

I would like to remind members that, in accordance with decision 34/401,

“a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation’s vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee.”

I also want to remind delegations that explanations of vote or position are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

When there are multiple proposals under an agenda item, statements in explanation of vote before the voting on any or all such proposals should be made in one intervention, followed by action on all of them one by one. After that, there will also be an opportunity for statements in explanation of vote after the voting on any or all of the proposals in one intervention.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), I would like to advise representatives that we will proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Committee, unless the Secretariat is notified otherwise in advance. This means that where recorded votes were taken, we will do the same. I therefore hope that we may proceed to adopt without a

vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Committee.

The results of the votes will be uploaded on the e-DeleGATE portal under plenary announcements.

I would like to draw the attention of members to a note by the Secretariat, in English only, entitled “Proposals contained in the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for consideration by the General Assembly”, which has been circulated as document A/C.4/78/INF/3.

Members are reminded that additional sponsors are no longer accepted now that draft resolutions and decisions have been adopted by the Committee. Any clarifications about sponsorship should be addressed to the Secretary of the Committee. Furthermore, any corrections to the voting intentions of delegations after the voting has concluded on a proposal should be addressed directly to the Secretariat after the meeting. I count on members’ cooperation in avoiding any interruptions to our proceedings in that regard.

Agenda item 46

Assistance in mine action

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/417)

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 8 of its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/70).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 46?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 47

Effects of atomic radiation

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/418)

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 8 of its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/71).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 47?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 48

International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/419)

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 8 of its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/72).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 48?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 49**United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East****Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/420)**

The President: The Assembly has before it three draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 13 of its report.

We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I to III, one by one.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled “Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East”.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama,

Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against:

Canada, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Guatemala, Kiribati, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu

Draft resolution I was adopted by 165 votes to 4, with 6 abstentions (resolution 78/73).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Nigeria informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled “Assistance to Palestine refugees”.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia,

Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Guatemala, Kiribati, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Paraguay, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

Draft resolution II was adopted by 168 votes to 1, with 10 abstentions (resolution 78/74).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Nigeria informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against:

Canada, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Guatemala, Kiribati, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Togo, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

Draft resolution III was adopted by 163 votes to 5, with 9 abstentions (resolution 78/75).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Nigeria informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 49?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 50

Israeli practices and settlement activities affecting the rights of the Palestinian People and other Arabs of the occupied territories

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/421)

The President: The Assembly has before it three draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 13 of its report.

We will now take decisions on draft resolutions I to III, one by one.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled “Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories”.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua,

Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against:

Australia, Austria, Canada, Czechia, Guatemala, Hungary, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Papua New Guinea, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu

Draft resolution I was adopted by 86 votes to 12, with 75 abstentions (resolution 78/76).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Nigeria informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled “The occupied Syrian Golan”.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh,

Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining:

Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Georgia, Guatemala, Haiti, Kiribati, Madagascar, Malawi, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, South Sudan, Togo, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Vanuatu

Draft resolution II was adopted by 151 votes to 2, with 23 abstentions (resolution 78/77).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Nigeria informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against:

Canada, Hungary, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Georgia, Guatemala, Haiti, Kiribati, Malawi, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, South Sudan, Togo, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Vanuatu

Draft resolution III was adopted by 149 votes to 6, with 19 abstentions (resolution 78/78).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Nigeria informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: I shall now call on those representatives who wish to speak in explanation of vote on the resolutions just adopted.

Mr. Rae (Canada): While Canada did not support resolution 78/78, which was just adopted, we consider it essential that we signal our heightened concern about the extremist violence of terror attacks against Israeli civilians and the ongoing fighting in Gaza, with its tragic consequences. The continued growth of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and the rise in extremist violence deeply undermine the prospects for peace between Israelis and Palestinians, and it is peace that should be at the forefront of our minds and our work.

On 7 October, an ongoing ceasefire between Hamas — a terrorist group controlling the Gaza Strip — and the State of Israel was shattered when Hamas launched an unprecedented and brutal attack on Israel, killing more than 1,200 children, women and men, most of whom were civilians. The victims of that attack were subject to rape, torture, murder and desecration of their bodies. The brutality of the attack has been revealed by evidence that the perpetrators recorded themselves and cannot be denied. More than 200 people were kidnapped. Some have been released as a result of negotiations, but many remain captured in Gaza, and we call once again today for the release of all hostages taken on that day.

(spoke in French)

At the same time, we fully recognize that there has been a sharp increase in violence by extremist settlers in the West Bank since the terrorist attacks of 7 October, and the perpetrators have not been held accountable. That is part of a wider trend of worrisome

developments linked to Israeli settlements over the past year, during which the Israeli Government has taken several measures that have accelerated and consolidated the growth of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. This year, the Israeli Government approved thousands of new settlement projects. It sought out and legalized illegal outposts and placed the administration of the settlements under the authority of a civilian minister. Those actions, which Canada considers violations of international law, have served only to further complicate the prospects for a negotiated two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

(spoke in English)

Nevertheless, Canada did not vote in favour of resolution 78/78, owing to its long-standing position that, frankly, there are too many resolutions related solely to the Arab-Israeli conflict that continue to single out Israel, and no other country, for criticism. We have long advocated a fair-minded approach in the General Assembly and at the United Nations, and we will continue to vote against draft resolutions that do not address the complexities of the issues, or do not seek to address the actions and responsibilities of all the parties, including the destructive role of terrorist organizations such as Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad in the current conflict.

We cannot simply debate abstract principles year after year, or spend all our time litigating the past. Two States means clear borders and clear boundaries. It means mutual respect. It means an end to violence. And it means an end to terror. It means ensuring that States have the capacity to govern themselves. It means ensuring that States are viable, which is why we have drawn attention to the issue of the settlements today. There is no point in signing agreements that any reasonable person would know cannot be sustained, supported, observed or respected, which is why negotiations have been difficult — but let us remember, they have been taking place for many years.

The path to two States living side by side will require difficult compromises. Negotiating cannot simply mean dusting off old arguments, or the ritual repetition of formulas that cannot achieve the necessary political support to enable them to work. There is no point in asking someone to do something that they simply cannot do. Above all, it means a common fight against extremism and a common fight for democracy and respect for law and human dignity. The path will

be difficult, but not nearly as difficult as the road that we are now on.

Canada is deeply committed to the goal of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, including the creation of a Palestinian State living side by side in peace and security with Israel. Canada stands ready to support all efforts to achieve the two-State solution, as the basis for lasting peace in the region.

Mr. Ray (Nepal): I take the floor to explain my delegation's vote on resolution 78/77, entitled "The occupied Syrian Golan", and resolution 78/78, entitled "Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan".

Peaceful coexistence, respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aggression, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, are among the fundamentals of our foreign policy. The security and stability of one and all countries are founded on those principles. Nepal reiterates its call for creating the conditions for dialogue and diplomacy, which are the only pathways for a lasting political solution and resolving conflicts and disagreements in the Middle East region.

Since the beginning, Nepal has been in favour of the two-State solution, with Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace and security with their neighbours, within internationally recognized borders, based on international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions. Therefore, based on Nepal's long-standing principled position on the inviolability of sovereignty, territorial integrity and the political independence of all States, as well as its unwavering respect for international law, the rules-based multilateral system and the United Nations Charter, my delegation voted in favour of resolutions 78/77 and 78/78. However, the Government of Nepal strongly condemned the terrorist attack by Hamas on Israel, which resulted in the loss of the precious lives of hundreds of people, including 10 Nepalese.

With equal gravity, we are against the indiscriminate use of force against civilians by both parties involved in the conflict, which have killed hundreds of people, including children, women, the elderly, medical personnel and patients. Nothing can justify inflicting suffering on and killing innocent people, whether Palestinians or Israelis.

We are deeply concerned about our missing student, Mr. Bipin Joshi, and we request all those concerned to ensure his safety and unconditional release. We also encourage the unconditional release of all hostages. To that end, Nepal supports the efforts of the Secretary-General to de-escalate the war, open humanitarian corridors and allow unrestricted humanitarian relief.

The President: We have heard the last speaker in explanation of vote. May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 50?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 51

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/422)

The President: May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) contained in document A/78/422?

It was so decided (decision 78/512).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 51.

Agenda item 52

Comprehensive review of special political missions

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/423)

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 8 of its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/79).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 52?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 53

Questions relating to information

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/424)

The President: The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions, A and B, recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 9 of its report. We will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions, one by one.

Draft resolution A is entitled “Information in the service of humanity”. The Committee adopted draft resolution A without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/80 A).

The President: Draft resolution B is entitled “United Nations Global Communications policies and activities”. The Committee adopted draft resolution B without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/80 B).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 53?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 54

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/425)

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in

paragraph 8 of its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining:

France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The draft resolution was adopted by 174 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions (resolution 78/81).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Nigeria informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 54?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 55**Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories****Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/426)**

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 8 of its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia,

Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining:

Central African Republic, France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The draft resolution was adopted by 172 votes to 2, with 3 abstentions (resolution 78/82).

[Subsequently, the delegations of Namibia and Nigeria informed the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 55?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 56**Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations****Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/427)**

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 8 of its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay,

Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Central African Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The draft resolution was adopted by 126 votes to 2, with 51 abstentions (resolution 78/83).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Nigeria informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour and the delegation of Bulgaria informed the Secretariat that it had intended to abstain.]

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 56?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 57**Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories****Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/428)**

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 8 of its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/84).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 57?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 58

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/429)

The President: The Assembly has before it 17 draft resolutions and a draft decision recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraphs 33 and 34 of its report. We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I to XVII and on the draft decision, one by one.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Question of Western Sahara". The Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 78/85).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Question of American Samoa". The Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 78/86).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Question of Anguilla". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 78/87).

The President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Question of Bermuda". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 78/88).

The President: Draft resolution V is entitled "Question of the British Virgin Islands". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 78/89).

The President: Draft resolution VI is entitled "Question of the Cayman Islands". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution VI was adopted (resolution 78/90).

The President: Draft resolution VII is entitled "Question of French Polynesia". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution VII was adopted (resolution 78/91).

The President: Draft resolution VIII is entitled "Question of Guam". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution VIII was adopted (resolution 78/92).

The President: Draft resolution IX is entitled "Question of Montserrat". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution IX was adopted (resolution 78/93).

The President: Draft resolution X is entitled "Question of New Caledonia". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution X was adopted (resolution 78/94).

The President: Draft resolution XI is entitled "Question of Pitcairn". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XI was adopted (resolution 78/95).

The President: Draft resolution XII is entitled "Question of Saint Helena". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XII was adopted (resolution 78/96).

The President: Draft resolution XIII is entitled "Question of Tokelau". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XIII was adopted (resolution 78/97).

The President: Draft resolution XIV is entitled “Question of the Turks and Caicos Islands”. The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XIV was adopted (resolution 78/98).

The President: Draft resolution XV is entitled “Question of the United States Virgin Islands”. The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XV was adopted (resolution 78/99).

The President: We now turn to draft resolution XVI, entitled “Dissemination of information on decolonization”.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua

New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

France

Draft resolution XVI was adopted by 173 votes to 3, with 1 abstention (resolution 78/100).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Nigeria informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: We now turn to draft resolution XVII, entitled “Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples”.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq,

Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine

Draft resolution XVII was adopted by 133 votes to 3, with 42 abstentions (resolution 78/101).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Nigeria informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: We shall now take action on the draft decision entitled "Question of Gibraltar". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/513).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 58.

Agenda item 120 (continued)

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/430)

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Committee in its report. We will now take action on the draft decision, entitled "Proposed programme of work and timetable of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly". The Committee adopted it without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/514).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 120.

Agenda item 135 (continued)

Programme Planning

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/78/431)

The President: May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Committee?

It was so decided (decision 78/515).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 135.

The General Assembly has concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) before it for this meeting.

On behalf of the General Assembly, I would like to thank Her Excellency Ms. Mathu Joyini of South Africa, Chair of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), the members of the Bureau, as well as the delegates and the Committee Secretary for a job well done.

Reports of the Sixth Committee

The President: The General Assembly will now consider the reports of the Sixth Committee on agenda items 76 to 79, 81 to 87, 109, 120, 135 and 161 to 171.

I request the Rapporteur of the Sixth Committee, Mr. Moussa Mohamed Moussa of Djibouti, to introduce the reports of the Committee in one intervention.

Mr. Moussa (Djibouti), Rapporteur of the Sixth Committee (*spoke in French*): I have the honour and privilege to present the conclusions and recommendations of the Sixth Committee on its work during the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly.

The General Assembly allocated to the Committee 25 substantive and three procedural agenda items. With the exception of the item relating to the election of officers, all those agenda items fall under three of the headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, namely: “Promotion of justice and international law”, “Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations” and “Organizational, administrative and other matters”.

Under the first heading, “Promotion of justice and international law”, the Sixth Committee considered 12 agenda items and adopted 14 draft resolutions recommended to the General Assembly for adoption.

I first invite the General Assembly to consider agenda item 76, “Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission”. Document A/78/432 contains the report on this agenda item, and the draft resolution recommended to the General Assembly for adoption is reproduced in paragraph 8 thereof. Under the draft resolution, the Assembly would affirm and elaborate on the various measures aimed at ensuring the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission and set out a variety of mechanisms intended to increase and enhance the information enabling Member States to address the topic.

The report on agenda item 77, “Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-sixth session”, is contained in document A/78/433. The Sixth Committee recommends four draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly, which are reproduced in paragraph 13 of the report.

In draft resolution I, the Assembly would commend the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) on the finalization and adoption of a number of documents and note with interest the progress made by the Commission in its work in several areas and the decisions taken by the Commission as regards its future work.

In draft resolution II, which relates specifically to the UNCITRAL Model Provisions on Mediation for International Investment Disputes, the Assembly would recommend the use of those Model Provisions and Guidelines.

In draft resolution III, the Assembly would recommend the use of the UNCITRAL code of conduct for arbitrators and the code of conduct for judges in international investment dispute resolution.

In draft resolution IV, the Assembly would request the Secretary-General to publish the UNCITRAL Guide on access to credit for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and to make it available to Governments and other interested bodies.

The report on agenda item 78, “United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law”, is contained in document A/78/434, and in the associated draft resolution reproduced in paragraph 7 thereof the Assembly would, *inter alia*, authorize the Secretary-General to carry out the activities specified in his report under this item, to be financed from provisions in the regular budget, and would also authorize the Secretary-General to further expand those activities, to be financed through voluntary contributions.

The report on agenda item 79, “Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions”, is contained in document A/78/435. In paragraph 11 thereof, the Sixth Committee recommends two draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly in connection with this agenda item.

In draft resolution I, the Assembly would express its appreciation to the International Law Commission for the work accomplished at its seventy-fourth session, recommend that the Commission continue its work on the topics in its current programme of work and decide the date of the seventy-fifth session of the Commission. The Assembly would also endorse the request of the Commission that the Secretariat proceed

with the necessary administrative and organizational arrangements to facilitate the holding of the first part of the seventy-seventh session of the Commission in New York.

In draft resolution II, which pertains to the topic “Peremptory norms of general international law (jus cogens)”, the Assembly would take note of the draft conclusions on the identification and legal consequences of peremptory norms of general international law, as well as the annex and comments relating thereto. It would also note the range of comments and observations on the draft conclusions presented in writing by Governments or made during the debates of the Sixth Committee, as well as the annexes and comments related thereto, including those made at the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly.

The report on agenda item 81, “Expulsion of aliens”, is contained in document A/78/437. In paragraph 7 of the report, the Sixth Committee would invite the Assembly to include the item in the provisional agenda of its eighty-first session, with a view to examining, *inter alia*, the form that might be given to the articles or any other appropriate action. It would also invite Member States to further engage on the subject and to address in their interventions not only the question of form but also their views on the content of the articles.

The report on agenda item 82, “Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization”, is contained in document A/78/438. In the draft resolution contained in paragraph 10 of the report, the Assembly would request the Special Committee to continue its consideration of the questions of the maintenance of international peace and security and to keep on its agenda the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States. It would also invite Member States to focus their comments during the thematic debate at the next session of the Special Committee on the subtopic “Exchange of information on State practices regarding the use of good offices”.

The report on agenda item 83, “The rule of law at the national and international levels”, is contained in document A/78/439. In the draft resolution contained in paragraph 8 thereof, the Assembly would, *inter alia*, reaffirm the imperative of upholding and promoting the rule of law at the international level in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, stress the importance of adherence to the rule of law at the

national level and invite Member States to focus their comments during the next Sixth Committee debate on the subtopic “The full, equal and equitable participation at all levels in the international legal system”.

With regard to the report on agenda item 84, “The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction”, contained in document A/78/440, in the draft resolution reproduced in paragraph 8 thereof, the General Assembly would establish a working group of the Sixth Committee at its seventy-ninth session to continue the discussion on the topic. That working group would consider and comment on the relevant elements of a working concept of universal jurisdiction. The Assembly would also invite Member States and relevant observers to submit information and observations on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction, including, where appropriate, information on the relevant applicable international treaties and on their national legal rules and judicial practice. Lastly, the Assembly would request the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to it, at its seventy-ninth session, a report reviewing all the submissions of Member States and relevant observers and the views expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee since the sixty-second session of the Assembly, while also identifying possible convergences and divergences on the definition, scope and application of universal jurisdiction for the consideration of the Sixth Committee.

The report on agenda item 85, “Responsibility of international organizations”, is contained in document A/78/446, and the draft resolution is reproduced in paragraph 8 thereof. In the draft resolution, the General Assembly would, *inter alia*, request the Secretary-General to update the compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies referring to the articles, and would invite Governments and international organizations to submit information on their practice in that regard well in advance of its eighty-first session. The Assembly would also invite States to engage in substantive dialogue on the topic on an informal basis during the intersessional periods. The Assembly would decide to include the item in the provisional agenda of its eighty-first session with a view to further examining the recommendations of the Commission on the topic or to taking any other appropriate action. Lastly, the Assembly would invite the Sixth Committee to consider at a later stage the framework, if any, in which it could continue its examination of the topic.

The report on agenda item 86, “Protection of persons in the event of disasters”, is contained in document A/78/441. The Sixth Committee concluded its consideration of the item without taking action, on the understanding that the agenda item will be included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly on the basis of resolution 76/119 of 9 December 2021.

The report on agenda item 87, “Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework”, is contained in document A/78/442, and the draft resolution is reproduced in paragraph 6 thereof. In the draft resolution, the General Assembly would recall, *inter alia*, Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, and would reaffirm the importance of the registration, publication and accessibility of treaties. The Assembly would also decide to undertake a regular thematic debate in the Sixth Committee to foster a technical exchange of views on practice relating to the strengthening and promoting of the international treaty framework. The topic of the strengthening and promoting of the international treaty framework concludes our report on various issues related to the promotion of justice and international law.

I now turn to the second priority topic for our Organization, namely, “Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations”, under which the Sixth Committee considered agenda item 109, “Measures to eliminate international terrorism”. The relevant report is contained in document A/78/443 and a draft resolution is reproduced in paragraph 9 thereof, in which the Assembly would, *inter alia*, decide to recommend that the Sixth Committee, at the seventy-ninth session, establish a working group with a view to finalizing the process on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and consider the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

With regard to the agenda items under the third and final priority topic for our Organization, “Organizational, administrative and other matters”, the Sixth Committee considered 12 substantive and two procedural items.

Among the procedural items, the Committee considered agenda item 144, “Administration of justice at the United Nations”, which was allocated to the Fifth and Sixth Committees. The views of the Sixth

Committee on this item were transmitted to the Fifth Committee through a letter from the President of the General Assembly dated 17 November 2023 and are annexed to document A/C.5/78/20.

The report on agenda item 161, “Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country”, is contained in document A/78/447. In the draft resolution recommended reproduced in paragraph 8 of the report, the Assembly would, *inter alia*, strongly urge the host country to remove all travel restrictions imposed by it on staff of certain missions and Secretariat staff members of certain nationalities, and would express serious concern regarding multiple cases of denial and non-issuance of entry visas, including in particular for representatives participating in high-level events and in the work of the Main Committees at the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly. Lastly, the Assembly would anticipate that the host country will ensure the timely issuance of entry visas to all representatives of all Member States and members of the Secretariat pursuant to the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, and would once again reiterate its request to the Secretary-General to give the most serious consideration, effective immediately, to adopting and implementing the measures set out in section 21 of the United Nations Headquarters Agreement and to intensify efforts to expedite the resolution of those issues.

During the current session, the Sixth Committee considered 10 requests for observer status in the General Assembly. Under agenda item 171, in a request contained in paragraph 7 of document A/78/457, it recommended that the Assembly grant observer status in the General Assembly to the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture.

The Committee also recommended that the Assembly defer to the seventy-ninth session a decision on the requests for observer status in the General Assembly for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States, the Eurasian Economic Union, the Community of Democracies, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat, the Global Environment Facility, the International Organization of Employers, the International Trade Union Confederation, the Boao Forum for Asia, and the International Parliamentarians’ Congress, under the respective agenda items 162 to 170. The reports on those requests are contained in documents A/78/448 to A/78/456. The relevant draft

decisions are reproduced in paragraph 7 of documents A/78/448 to A/78/455 and in paragraph 8 of document A/78/456.

The two procedural items fall under two agenda items. The first procedural item relates to agenda item 120, "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly". Pursuant to the report, to be found in document A/78/444, the Sixth Committee transmitted its provisional programme of work for the seventy-ninth session to the Assembly for adoption, and the draft decision, by which the Assembly would take note of the provisional programme of work, is reproduced in paragraph 6 of the report. The second procedural item refers to agenda item 135, "Programme planning". The report on that agenda item is contained in document A/78/445, and no further action by the Assembly is recommended. The draft resolutions and draft decisions relating to the agenda items under all three headings were adopted by the Sixth Committee without a vote, and we hope that the General Assembly will do the same.

Finally, I wish to inform the Assembly that there is no report on agenda item 5, "Election of officers of the Main Committees". Consistent with previous practice, the election of officers of the Sixth Committee for the seventy-ninth session will be taken up at a later stage in the course of the current session. In addition, there is not yet a report regarding agenda item 80, "Crimes against humanity", as pursuant to resolution 77/249. The Sixth Committee will continue its consideration of the item in the resumed part of the seventy-eighth session in April 2024. The Sixth Committee will report on the agenda item 80 following the conclusion of its consideration of the item.

The first part of the work of the Sixth Commission was particularly rich in terms of countries' contributions to the issues on the agenda of the current session. Discussions on international law require a harmonious symphony of ideas, in which every Member State's voice plays its part in composing a balanced melody. The solid nature of a consensus serves as the bedrock on which the principles of international law. It is built on mutual understanding and shared respect for the collaboration among all United Nations States Members. In maintaining the practice of consensus, we are also fostering the legitimacy and credibility of the international system, which will strengthen trust among States in the implementation of the commitments that have been made. Only through all parties' adherence to

the rules of international law will we be able to support the development of the multilateral system.

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Chair of the Sixth Committee, Ambassador Suriya Chindawongse of Thailand, for his dedicated work and commendable leadership of the Committee and to the other members of the Bureau, namely, Ms. Alis Lungu of Romania, Mr. Jhon Guerra Sansonetti of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and my friend Mr. Enrico Milano of Italy, for their cooperation. I would also like to thank all delegations and colleagues for their valuable contributions to making this session a success. Finally, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to the secretariat of the Sixth Committee and the Codification Division of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, for their constructive support and for the valuable advice that they provided us with throughout the session.

Mr. Seah (Singapore), Vice-President, took the Chair.

I am from an old continent and a small country and region. I should like to conclude by sharing the following proverb from the African continent: When the baobab of the rule of law is planted, its shade will provide justice to the entire community.

The Acting President: I thank the Rapporteur of the Sixth Committee.

The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Sixth Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records. Therefore, if there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Sixth Committee that are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The Acting President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote or position. May I remind members that, in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, that is, either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's position in plenary meeting is different from its position in the Committee, and that explanations are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

When there are multiple proposals under an agenda item, statements in explanation of vote before the voting on any or all such proposals should be made in one intervention, followed by action on all of them, one by one. Thereafter, there will be an opportunity for statements in explanation of vote after the voting on any or all the proposals in one intervention.

Before we proceed to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Sixth Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we will proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Committee, unless the Secretariat is notified otherwise in advance. I therefore hope that we may proceed to adopt without a vote the recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Committee.

Members are reminded that additional sponsors are no longer accepted now that draft resolutions and decisions have been adopted by the Committee. Any clarification about sponsorship should be addressed to the Secretary of the Committee.

Agenda item 76

Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/432)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Sixth Committee in its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted
(resolution 78/102).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 76?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 77

Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-sixth session

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/433)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it four draft resolutions recommended by the Sixth Committee in its report.

We will now take decisions on draft resolutions I to IV, one by one.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled “Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-sixth session”.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted
(resolution 78/103).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled “Model Provisions on Mediation for International Investment Disputes and Guidelines on Mediation for International Investment Disputes of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law”.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted
(resolution 78/104).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled “Code of Conduct for Arbitrators in International Investment Dispute Resolution and Code of Conduct for Judges in International Investment Dispute Resolution with respective commentary of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law”.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted
(resolution 78/105).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled “Guide on Access to Credit for Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law”.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/106).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 77?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 78

United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/434)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution entitled “United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law”. The Sixth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/107).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 78?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 79

Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/435)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Committee in paragraph 11 of its report. We will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions, one by one.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled “Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-fourth session”. The Committee adopted the

draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 78/108).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled “Peremptory norms of general international law (jus cogens)”. The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 78/109).

The Acting President: I give the floor to the representative of Mexico, who wishes to speak in explanation of position on resolution 78/109.

Mrs. Jiménez Alegría (Mexico) (*spoke in Spanish*): As we stated in the Sixth Committee, Mexico decided to dissociate itself from resolution 78/109, entitled “Peremptory norms of general international law (jus cogens)”. In my delegation’s view, the resolution did not demonstrate a balance between the different positions in the room; it was the result of a negotiating environment in which it was impossible to find common ground.

Mexico understands that certain issues can be controversial. The case of *jus cogens* is not the first, and will not be the last. However, the precedent that resolution could set, which would minimize the outcomes of years of hard work by the International Law Commission, is worrisome. From Mexico’s perspective, there can be no selectivity when it comes to the work of the Commission. Every State must be treated equally and given the same consideration, with respect for its independence and its national positions on specific issues. We reiterate that we must act in a unified manner and work to address the demands of the current global context.

The delegation of Mexico reaffirms its commitment to the codification and progressive development of international law, and in line with that commitment, will continue to always work towards strengthening the relationship between the Sixth Committee and the International Law Commission.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 79?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 81**Expulsion of aliens****Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/437)**

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/110).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 81?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 82**Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization****Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/438)**

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Committee in paragraph 10 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/111).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 82?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 83**The rule of law at the national and international levels****Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/439)**

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/112).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 83?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 84**The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction****Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/440)**

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/113).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 84?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 85**Responsibility of international organizations****Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/446)**

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/114).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 85?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 86

Protection of persons in the event of disasters

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/441)

The Acting President: The General Assembly will now consider the report of the Sixth Committee on agenda item 86, entitled "Protection of persons in the event of disasters".

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Committee?

It was so decided (decision 78/516).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 86?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 87

Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/442)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

Before proceeding further, I should like to inform members that action on the draft resolution is postponed to a later date to allow time for the review of its programme budget implications by the Fifth Committee. The Assembly will take action on the draft resolution as soon as the report of the Fifth Committee on its program budget implications is available.

The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 87.

Agenda item 109

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/443)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Sixth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/115).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 109?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 120

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/444)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision, entitled "Provisional programme of work of the Sixth Committee for the seventy-ninth session". The Sixth Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/517).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 120.

Agenda item 135

Programme planning

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/445)

The Acting President: May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Sixth Committee?

It was so decided (decision 78/518).

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 135.

Agenda item 161

Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/447)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before a draft resolution recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Sixth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted
(resolution 78/116)

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 161?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 162

Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/448)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before a draft decision recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision. The Sixth Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/519).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 162?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 163

Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Union in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/449)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before a draft decision recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision. The Sixth Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/520).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 163?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 164

Observer status for the Community of Democracies in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/450)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision. The Sixth Committee adopted the draft decision without the vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/521).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 164?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 165

Observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/451)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision. The Sixth Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/522).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 165?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 166

Observer status for the Global Environment Facility in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/452)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision. The Sixth Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/523).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 166?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 167

Observer status for the International Organization of Employers in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/453)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision. The Sixth Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/524).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 167?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 168

Observer status for the International Trade Union Confederation in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/454)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision. The Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/525).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 168?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 169

Observer status for the Boao Forum for Asia in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/455)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision. The Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/526).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 169?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 170

Observer status for the International Parliamentarians' Congress in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/456)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision. The Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 78/527).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 170?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 171

Observer status for the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/78/457)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft resolution. The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 78/117).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 171?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Sixth Committee before it for this meeting.

On behalf of the General Assembly, I would like to thank Ambassador Suriya Chindawongse, Permanent Representative of Thailand and Chair of the Sixth Committee, the other members of the Bureau, representatives and the Committee Secretary for a job well done.

Agenda items 7 (continued)

Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items

The Acting President: I now invite the attention of the General Assembly to draft decision A/78/L.23, circulated under sub-item (b) of agenda item 20, entitled “Participation of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector in the third United Nations Conference on the Landlocked Developing Countries”.

Members will recall that, at its 2nd plenary meeting, on 8 September 2023 (see A/78/PV.2), the General Assembly decided to allocate sub-item (b) of agenda item 20 to the Second Committee. To enable the Assembly to take action expeditiously on the document, may I take it that the Assembly wishes to consider sub-item (b) of agenda item 20 directly in plenary meeting and proceed immediately to its consideration?

It was so decided (decision 78/504).

Agenda item 20

Groups of countries in special situations

(b) Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

Draft decision (A/78/L.23)

The Acting President: The Assembly will take action on draft decision A/78/L.23, entitled “Participation of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector in the third United Nations Conference on the Landlocked Developing Countries”.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft decision A/78/L.23?

Draft decision A/78/L.23 was adopted (decision 78/528).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 20.

The meeting rose at 12.05 p.m.