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Sixty-eighth session

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Summary record of the 1st meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 18 September 2013, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Mr. Ashe (President of the General Assembly) (Antigua and Barbuda)

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Organization of the sixty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Organization of the sixty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (A/BUR/68/1)

Memorandum by the Secretary-General

1. **The Chair** drew attention to the memorandum by the Secretary-General regarding the organization of the sixty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (A/BUR/68/1).

Chapter II. Organization of the session

2. **The Chair** drew attention to paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's memorandum and said that he trusted that he would shortly receive from each of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly a letter concerning the designation of a liaison person for the duration of the session. He also drew attention to paragraph 23 of the memorandum, in which the Secretary-General recommended that the general debate should continue on Saturday, 28 September 2013, in order to maximize the number of speakers during that week.

3. *The Committee took note of all the relevant information contained in chapter II of the memorandum. It decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to all the necessary information and to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take action on all the proposals contained in that chapter. It also decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to the information contained in paragraph 46 of the memorandum concerning the timely submission of draft proposals for the review of their programme budget implications, and to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take action on all the proposals contained in that chapter. It also decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to the information contained in paragraph 50 of the memorandum on the views of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the use of the phrase "within available resources" and on the responsibility of the Secretariat to inform the General Assembly thoroughly and accurately as to the availability of resources to implement a new activity. The Committee further decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the general debate should continue on Saturday, 28 September 2013.*

Chapter III. Adoption of the agenda

4. **The Chair** informed the Committee that, in accordance with paragraph 2 (a) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the draft agenda was organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization as contained in every medium-term plan, or in the strategic framework, with an additional heading for "Organizational, administrative and other matters".

Paragraphs 56 to 58

5. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraphs 56 to 58 of the memorandum.*

Inclusion of items

6. **The Chair** said that, since the agenda was organized under nine headings, the Committee might wish to consider the inclusion of items under each heading as a whole. However, it might wish to take separate decisions on certain items, where it was deemed appropriate, including in some cases the placement of items under appropriate headings.

7. The draft agenda contained seven new items, namely item 19 (j) under heading A (Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences), item 54 under heading B (Maintenance of international peace and security), and items 132 (d) and 171 to 174 under heading I (Organizational, administrative and other matters).

Paragraph 59

Items 1 to 8

8. **The Chair** drew attention to paragraph 59 of the memorandum. Items 1 to 8 were not under any heading. The General Assembly had already dealt with items 1 and 2. Items 3 to 8 related to organizational matters.

9. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of items 1 to 8.*

Heading A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

Item 19 (j). The role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia

10. **The Chair** said that the inclusion of item 19 (j) had been requested by Kyrgyzstan (A/68/143).

11. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 19 (j) under heading A.*

12. *The Committee also decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading A, taking into account the decision taken regarding item 19 (j).*

Heading B. Maintenance of international peace and security

Item 54. Comprehensive review of special political missions

13. **The Chair** said that item 54 had been included in the provisional agenda pursuant to General Assembly resolution 67/123, tentatively under heading B.

14. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 54 under heading B.*

Item 39. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte

15. **The Chair** said that the General Assembly, at the 99th plenary meeting of its sixty-seventh session, had decided to include item 39 in the provisional agenda for its sixty-eighth session.

16. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 39 under heading B, on the understanding that there would be no consideration of the item until further notice.*

Item 61. Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India

17. **The Chair** said that the General Assembly, at the 2nd plenary meeting of its sixty-seventh session, had decided to include item 61 in the provisional agenda for its sixty-eighth session.

18. **Mr. Menan** (Togo) proposed that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of item 61 should be deferred to its sixty-ninth session.

19. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of item 61 should be deferred to its sixty-ninth session and that the item should be included in the provisional agenda for that session.*

20. *The Committee also decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading B, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 39, 54 and 61.*

Heading C. Development of Africa

21. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the item listed under heading C.*

Heading D. Promotion of human rights

22. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading D.*

Heading E. Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts

23. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading E.*

Heading F. Promotion of justice and international law

24. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading F.*

Heading G. Disarmament

25. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading G.*

Heading H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

26. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading H.*

Heading I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

27. **Mr. Panin** (Russian Federation), recalling General Assembly resolution [66/255](#) on civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict, said that a footnote should be added to item 125 of the agenda, “Strengthening of the United Nations system”, which might read thus: “The plenary discussion of the sub-item of the present item on civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict shall take place only after the consideration of this sub-item and approval of appropriate recommendations in the Fifth Committee, the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and the Peacebuilding Commission.”

28. **Mr. Simonoff** (United States of America) said that it was the first time his delegation had heard of the proposed amendment and would be unable to join a consensus without further study. It would be preferable for the Committee to return to the issue in the near term if necessary.

29. **Ms. Le Fraper du Hellen** (France) said that her delegation should like to examine the language of the proposed draft in more detail.

30. **Mr. Botnaru** (Director of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division) said that item 125 of the agenda currently had no sub-items. The Committee was merely discussing the inclusion of that item in the agenda, and not the report of the Secretary-General on civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict.

31. **Mr. Panin** (Russian Federation) said that his delegation could not agree with item 125 as it stood. The Russian Federation deemed civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict a concrete and rather complex issue which could not be considered in plenary meeting without first being considered in the relevant Committees. Nonetheless, as the aim was not to exclude any items from the agenda, but rather to explain the sequence of proceedings, his delegation was prepared to redraft the proposed amendment and circulate it to the Secretariat and any interested delegations.

Item 132 (d). United Nations Capital Development Fund

32. **The Chair** said that the inclusion of item 132 (d) had been requested by the Secretary-General ([A/68/142](#)).

33. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 132 (d) under heading I.*

Item 171. Observer status for the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law in the General Assembly

34. **The Chair** said that the inclusion of item 171 had been requested by Italy ([A/68/141](#)).

35. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 171 under heading I.*

Item 172. Observer status for the International Anti-Corruption Academy in the General Assembly

36. **The Chair** said that the inclusion of item 172 had been requested by Austria ([A/68/144](#)).

37. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 172 under heading I.*

Item 173. Observer status for the Pan African Intergovernmental Agency for Water and Sanitation for Africa in the General Assembly

38. **The Chair** said that the inclusion of item 173 had been requested by Burkina Faso ([A/68/145](#)).

39. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 173 under heading I*

Item 174. Observer status for the Global Green Growth Institute in the General Assembly

40. **The Chair** said that the inclusion of item 174 had been requested by Cambodia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ethiopia, Guyana, Mongolia, Norway, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Viet Nam ([A/68/191](#)).

41. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 174 under heading I.*

42. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading I, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 132 (d) and 171 to 174 and to revert to item 125 as necessary, bearing in mind the concerns expressed by the Russian Federation.*

Chapter IV. Allocation of items

Paragraphs 60 to 62

43. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraphs 60 to 62 of the memorandum.*

Paragraph 63

44. **The Chair** said that, in paragraph 63 of his memorandum, the Secretary-General had listed items of the draft agenda which had not been considered previously by the General Assembly. If the members of the Committee agreed, he would first request the Committee to decide on the recommendation it should make regarding the allocation of those items, which it had just recommended for inclusion in the agenda of the sixty-eighth session.

45. *It was so decided.*

Item 19 (j). The role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia

46. **The Chair** said that Kyrgyzstan, which had requested the inclusion of item 19 (j), had also requested that it should be allocated to the Second Committee.

47. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 19 (j) should be allocated to the Second Committee.*

Item 54. Comprehensive review of special political missions

48. **The Chair** said that, owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General had suggested that it should be allocated to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

49. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 54 should be allocated to*

the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

Item 132 (d). United Nations Capital Development Fund

50. **The Chair** said that, owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General had suggested that it should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

51. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 132 (d) should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.*

Item 171. Observer status for the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law in the General Assembly

Item 172. Observer status for the International Anti-Corruption Academy in the General Assembly

Item 173. Observer status for the Pan African Intergovernmental Agency for Water and Sanitation for Africa in the General Assembly

Item 174. Observer status for the Global Green Growth Institute in the General Assembly

52. **The Chair** recalled that, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution [54/195](#), any request by an organization for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly would be considered in plenary meeting after consideration of the issue by the Sixth Committee. The Committee would therefore proceed accordingly with the consideration of items 171 to 174.

53. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 171 to 174 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Item 9. Report of the Economic and Social Council

54. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 68 and decided to recommend that the General Assembly, when considering item 9 in its entirety in plenary meeting, should take note of the clarification that, in implementing resolution [58/316](#), the relevant parts of chapter I of the report of the Economic and Social Council would be considered by the Main Committees concerned, under agenda items already allocated to them, for final action by the Assembly.*

Item 14. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

55. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 69.

Item 119. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

56. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 70.

Item 18. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference

57. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 71.

Item 21 (e). International migration and development

58. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 72.

Item 27 (b). Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

59. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 73.

Item 65. Report of the Human Rights Council

60. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 74.

Item 100. General and complete disarmament

61. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the relevant paragraphs of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of item 100.

Item 100 (aa). Nuclear disarmament

62. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 76.

Item 112. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

63. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 77.

Item 123. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

64. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 123 should be allocated to all the Main Committees for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on their respective tentative programmes of work.

Item 136. Programme planning

65. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 136 of the draft agenda should be allocated to all the Main Committees and to the plenary Assembly to enhance discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports.

Item 144. Administration of justice at the United Nations

66. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 144 should be allocated to the Fifth Committee and to the Sixth Committee in the light of resolution [67/241](#).

Plenary Assembly

67. The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 9 and 136.

First Committee

68. The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 89, 123 and 136.

Special Political and Decolonization Committee

69. The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 54, 123 and 136.

Second Committee

70. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 19 (j), 123 and 136.*

Third Committee

71. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 123 and 136.*

Fifth Committee

72. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 123, 132 (d), 136 and 144.*

Sixth Committee

73. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 123, 136, 144 and 171 to 174.*

The meeting rose at 11.05 a.m.