



General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session

Agenda item 61

Strengthening of the United Nations system

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Amendment to rule 1 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997, by which it adopted the recommendations of the Open-ended High-level Working Group on the Strengthening of the United Nations System as contained in the annex to the resolution,

Recalling in particular paragraph 17 of the annex to resolution 51/241, in which it decided, *inter alia*, that the plenary meetings of the General Assembly should be formally opened every year on the first Tuesday following 1 September,

Noting that the Monday immediately preceding the first Tuesday following 1 September falls on a United Nations holiday at Headquarters,

Mindful that, for practical reasons, the closing of the regular sessions of the General Assembly should be on a Monday, which should not be a holiday, and the opening of the regular sessions should be on the following day, that is to say, on a Tuesday,

Recalling its resolutions 52/232 of 4 June 1998, 53/224 of 7 April 1999 and 53/239 of 8 June 1999, by which it took ad hoc decisions concerning the opening and/or closing dates of the fifty-second, fifty-third, fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions of the General Assembly,

Recalling also paragraph 2 of resolution 52/232, by which it decided that the International Day of Peace would continue to be observed on the opening day of regular sessions,

1. *Decides* to amend rule 1 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly to read: "The General Assembly shall meet every year in regular session commencing on the Tuesday following the second Monday in September";

2. *Also decides* that this amendment shall take effect as from the year 2001 and that, therefore, for that year, the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly shall close on Monday, 10 September 2001, and the fifty-sixth session of the Assembly shall open on Tuesday, 11 September 2001.
