

General Conference

GC(55)/OR.8

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Plenary

Record of the Eighth Meeting

Held at Headquarters, Vienna, on Thursday, 22 September 2011, at 3.30 p.m.

President: Mr FERUTA (Romania)

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¹ GC(55)/25.

8. Election of Members to the Board of Governors (GC(55)/3 and 26)

1. The PRESIDENT recalled that in 1989 the General Conference had approved a procedure whereby, when there was agreement regarding the candidate or candidates from a particular area, no secret ballot would be held. Balloting would take place only in respect of those areas for which there was no agreed slate. That procedure considerably facilitated the rational use of the General Conference's time.
2. However, Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure, which provided that elections to the Board should be by secret ballot, would need to be suspended in respect of the areas for which no secret ballot was to be held. If there was no objection, he would proceed with the election of Members to the Board of Governors in the manner outlined.
3. It was so agreed.
4. The PRESIDENT drew attention to document GC(55)/3, containing the names of the Members which the Board of Governors had designated to serve on the Board from the end of the fifty-fifth (2011) session of the Conference until the end of the fifty-sixth (2012).
5. Recalling that, under Rule 83 of the Rules of Procedure, the presiding officer must indicate to the General Conference those elective places on the Board which must be filled, he referred the Conference to document GC(55)/26, paragraph 2 of which indicated, for each of the geographical areas, the number of Members which must be elected so as to ensure that the Board would be constituted in accordance with Article VI.A. of the Statute.
6. There were 11 seats to be filled: 2 for Latin America, 2 for Western Europe, 2 for Eastern Europe, 2 for Africa, 1 for the Middle East and South Asia, 1 for the Far East and 1 — the so-called floating seat — which it was the turn of a Member State in South East Asia and the Pacific to fill.
7. Paragraph 3 of that document contained a list of 24 Member States which had been either designated by the Board of Governors the previous June for membership of the Board pursuant to Article VI.A.1 of the Statute or elected by the General Conference in 2010 in accordance with Article VI.A.2 of the Statute and which would therefore be serving on the Board during the year 2011–2012.
8. In order to facilitate the election, delegates had been furnished with a note showing the results of consultations among the area groups regarding their candidates for the vacant seats as far as they were known. The note was purely informal in character and provided information insofar as it had been made available to him and to the Secretariat.
9. Agreement had been reached in respect of all areas listed in Article VI except for Africa; there would have to be balloting in order to fill the two vacant seats for that area.
10. He suggested first taking up the areas in respect of which there was agreement and formally electing Members for those areas by suspending Rule 79 in order to dispense with the need to hold a ballot.
11. It was so agreed.

12. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect Cuba and Mexico to the two vacant seats for Latin America.

13. Cuba and Mexico were duly elected.

14. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect Italy and Sweden to the two vacant seats for Western Europe.

15. Italy and Sweden were duly elected.

16. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect Bulgaria and Hungary to the two vacant seats for Eastern Europe.

17. Bulgaria and Hungary were duly elected.

18. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect Saudi Arabia to the one vacant seat for the Middle East and South Asia.

19. Saudi Arabia was duly elected.

20. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect the Republic of Korea to the one vacant seat for the Far East.

21. The Republic of Korea was duly elected.

22. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect Indonesia to the floating seat, which it was the turn of a Member State in from South East Asia and the Pacific to fill.

23. Indonesia was duly elected.

24. The PRESIDENT recalled that there were two seats to filled in respect of Africa. While agreement appeared to have been reached in the African Group that one of the vacancies should be filled by the United Republic of Tanzania, there appeared to be no agreement on the second vacancy, in respect of which a secret ballot would therefore have to be held.

25. Ms FEROUKHI (Algeria), Chair of the African Group, said that, in order to preserve the unity of the African Group, Algeria had decided to withdraw its candidature for a seat on the Board for the period 2011–2013. The African Group had endorsed Algeria's decision and had, in line with a decision of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union taken at their summit in January 2011, decided to endorse the candidature of the United Republic of Tanzania to fill one of the vacant seats for Africa on the Board for the period 2011–2013. She thanked those delegations which had supported Algeria's candidature.

26. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect the United Republic of Tanzania to one of the vacant seats for Africa.

27. The United Republic of Tanzania was duly elected.

28. The PRESIDENT said that a ballot would be needed in order to fill the remaining seat. As the election was to fill one elective place, Rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure applied. In addition, Rule 79 provided that the election of Members to the Board of Governors "shall be by secret ballot. There shall be no nominations." In accordance with Rule 74 of the Rules of Procedure, explanations of vote would not be allowed before or after the vote. The relevant Rules governing voting rights of Member States applied.

29. Mr MENESI (Libya), recalling General Assembly resolution A/RES/66/1, said that the General Assembly had accepted the credentials of Libya's National Transitional Council. In addition, the

African Union had recently recognized the National Transitional Council as the legitimate representative of the Libyan people and had unanimously adopted a clear resolution nominating Libya and the United Republic of Tanzania to fill the vacant seats for Africa on the Agency's Board of Governors. He hoped that the Conference would respect the decision of the African Union reflected in that resolution.

30. Mr SHAMAA (Egypt) said that his country was a candidate for the one remaining vacant seat for Africa.

31. The PRESIDENT, having thanked the two previous speakers, again drew attention to Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure, which stated that there should be no nominations in elections to the Board. Delegations were free to vote for any eligible Member State in the area of Africa.

32. He invited the Conference to proceed to a vote by secret ballot for the one remaining vacant seat for Africa, noting that, in accordance with Rule 85 of the Rules of Procedure, the two outgoing Board members from the area of Africa, Cameroon and Kenya, were ineligible under Article VI.A.2 of the Statute for re-election, and votes for Niger, Tunisia and South Africa, and for Member States that were not in the area of Africa, would also not be valid.

33. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

34. At the invitation of the President, Mr Camara (Brazil) and Ms Crowley (New Zealand) acted as tellers.

The meeting was suspended at 4.10 p.m. and resumed at 4.35 p.m.

35. The PRESIDENT announced the result of the ballot to the Conference.

36. In the election of Members to the one vacant seat for Africa, the result of the vote was as follows:

Ballot papers returned: 125

Invalid votes: 0

Abstentions: 8

Valid votes: 117

Required majority: 59

Votes obtained:

Egypt: 87

Libya: 28

Algeria: 1

Mauritania: 1

37. Ms FEROUKHI (Algeria), speaking on a point of order, said she was surprised that her country had received a vote given her earlier comments regarding the withdrawal of Algeria's candidature.

38. The PRESIDENT recalled that, in accordance with Rule 79, the vote had been taken by secret ballot and that delegations had been free to vote for any eligible Member State in Africa.

39. Having obtained the required majority, Egypt was duly elected.

11. Appointment of the External Auditor (GC(55)/6)

40. The PRESIDENT said that the tenure of the Agency's present External Auditor would end with the completion of the audit of the Agency's accounts for the financial year 2011. It would therefore be necessary to appoint an External Auditor to audit the Agency's accounts for the financial years 2012 and 2013. The Board had considered the matter in June, but it had not been in a position to make a recommendation to the Conference. The three remaining candidates for the post of External Auditor were the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, the Chairperson of the Philippine Commission on Audit and the President of the Spanish Court of Audit.

41. Ms BUJÁN FREIRE (Spain) said that her Government believed that the External Auditor should continue to be appointed by consensus and that a vote would set a bad precedent. In the interests of reaching a consensus, it had therefore decided to withdraw the candidature of the President of the Spanish Court of Audit for the post of External Auditor of the Agency for the period 2012–2013.

42. She thanked the many States that had supported the Spanish candidate and urged them to give their support to whichever candidate was appointed. If a vote were taken, Spain would abstain.

The meeting was suspended at 4.50 p.m. and resumed at 4.55 p.m.

43. The PRESIDENT, noting that two candidates remained for the post of External Auditor, said that there was no other option but to appoint the External Auditor by election, which, pursuant to Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure, would be by secret ballot. He drew attention to the fact that Rule 79 provided that there should be no nominations.

44. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

45. At the invitation of the President, Mr Camara (Brazil) and Ms Crowley (New Zealand) acted as tellers.

The meeting was suspended at 5.15 p.m. and resumed at 5.45 p.m.

46. The PRESIDENT announced the result of the ballot to the Conference.

47. In the election of the candidate for the post of External Auditor, the result of the vote was as follows:

<u>Ballot papers returned:</u>	124
<u>Invalid votes:</u>	1
<u>Abstentions:</u>	6
<u>Valid votes:</u>	117
<u>Required majority:</u>	59

Votes obtained:

India: 91

Philippines: 26

48. Having obtained the required majority, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India was duly elected.

49. Ms YPARRAGUIRRE (Philippines) thanked those Member States which had supported the candidature of the Chairperson of the Philippine Commission on Audit. She congratulated the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on his appointment and assured him of the Philippines' support in helping to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Agency.

50. Mr KHULLAR (India) thanked those Member States which had supported the candidature of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and commended the President on his highly constructive role in the election process.

The meeting rose at 5.50 p.m.