

GENERAL
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PLENARY MEETING

SEVENTH SESSION

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President: Mr. Lester B. PEARSON (Canada).

Installation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

The Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly and Chairmen of the Main Committees, Mr. João Carlos Muniz, Mr. Jiri Nosek, Mr. Tingju Tsiang, Mr. Ahmed Galal Eldine Abdelrazek, Mr. Henri Hoppenot, Mr. Tiburcio Carías Jr., Mr. Andrei Y. Vyshinsky, Sir Gladwyn Jebb, Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., Mr. Rodolfo Muñoz, General Carlos P. Rómulo and Mr. Alexis Kyrrou, took places on the platform.

The Secretary-General, Mr. Trygve Lie, conducted Mr. Hammarskjöld to the platform.

1. Mr. TRYGVE LIE, SECRETARY-GENERAL: Mr. President, Vice-Presidents and distinguished representatives to the seventh session of the General Assembly, I have the great honour to introduce to you Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, the new Secretary-General of the United Nations.

2. The PRESIDENT: I ask Mr. Hammarskjöld to repeat after me the oath of office.

3. Mr. HAMMARSKJÖLD: I, Dag Hammarskjöld, solemnly swear to exercise in all loyalty, discretion and conscience the functions entrusted to me as Secretary-General of the United Nations, to discharge these functions and regulate my conduct with the interests of the United Nations only in view, and not to seek or accept instructions in regard to the performance of my duties from any government or other authority external to the Organization.

The President and the Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarskjöld, took their places on the podium.

4. The PRESIDENT: I feel sure that on this occasion I speak for every member of the Assembly in extending our congratulations to our new Secretary-General. We welcome him warmly and we wish him well as he undertakes his new and internationally important duties. But we do more: we pledge him our co-operation and our support. As chief administrative officer of the United Nations, with all the prestige and authority vested in that office by the Charter, he has great and heavy responsibilities in carrying out the resolutions and decisions of our world Organization, in giving leadership and inspiration to our international

civil service, and in assisting delegations and governments to develop and strengthen international co-operation for peace, progress and greater human welfare.

5. Our Secretary-General will not be able to discharge these responsibilities as he would wish, and as we would wish, unless we back him up in every possible way.

6. Mr. Hammarskjöld has served his country with loyalty and distinction in many responsible posts over many years. He has also given many proofs of his devotion to the cause of better relations among States and peoples in the economic, social and political spheres. The experience, knowledge and ability which he has given to one country he now puts at the disposal of many. I am sure that he will find it somewhat more difficult to serve sixty masters than one, but I hope that he may also find it even more stimulating, more challenging and more satisfying.

7. I know Mr. Hammarskjöld well enough to give you the assurance that, like his predecessor to whom we paid such sincere tribute on Tuesday last [423rd meeting], he will do his best in the service of the United Nations, and that his best will be very good. I think I know my colleagues in the Assembly well enough to give our new Secretary-General the assurance that, in his work in the days ahead, he will have our good wishes, our encouragement and our wholehearted assistance.

8. The SECRETARY-GENERAL: May I first of all thank you, Mr. President, for your kind and encouraging words of welcome? In the message by which the President of the Security Council informed me of the decision to recommend me as Secretary-General of the United Nations, he drew attention to "the immense importance of this post, especially at the present time". With humility I accept an election expressing a confidence in me which I have still to justify—with humility inspired as much by my knowledge of personal limitations as by my awareness of the extraordinary responsibility which you impose on me by your election.

9. My background is, as you know, the civil service of my country—a civil service strengthened by a long tradition and firmly founded on law. It is in the bodies by which the nations of Europe are trying to shape

the future of that part of the world that I have gathered the experience I have of international co-operation. There I have learned the vital importance of loyalty, devotion and integrity in those engaged in the work.

10. I bring to this task a firm will to devote myself, without any reserve, to the work carried out by the United Nations in pursuit of its high aims. I am here to serve you all. In so doing, I shall count on your understanding, on your advice and on your will to give to what I have to say, the attention that it may deserve. I am animated by a desire to meet all problems with an open mind. It is for you to judge how I succeed, and it is for you to correct me if I fail. Ours is a work of reconciliation and realistic construction. This work must be based on respect for the laws by which human civilization has been built. It likewise requires a strict observance of the rules and principles laid down in the Charter of this Organization. My work shall be guided by this knowledge.

11. This great Organization grew out of the pain and turmoil of the last war. It welded together in what should be a continued co-operation for world peace all those who had fought against oppression. By all who have sacrificed themselves and by all sacrificing themselves in the fight for freedom and peace this Organization has, in the words of one of the great leaders of democracy, been "consecrated . . . far above our poor power to add or detract". May I quote also these other words from the Gettysburg Address:

"The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did . . . It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they . . . have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us . . ."

12. In concluding, may I remind you of the great memory just celebrated by the Christian world? May I do so because of what that memory tells us of the redeeming power of true dedication to peace and good-will towards men? We are of different creeds and convictions. Events and ideas which to some of us remain the very basis of our faith are elements of the spiritual heritage of man which are foreign to others. But common to us all, and above all other convictions, stands the truth once expressed by a Swedish poet when he said that the greatest prayer of man does not ask for victory but for peace.

13. I have not gone into any of the specific problems facing this Organization, some of them now harassing all minds, but I have tried to indicate the spirit in which I shall go to work when called upon to take part in the efforts of the United Nations to justify the hopes of all its Members.

14. Mr. ABDELRAZEK (Egypt) (*translated from French*): On behalf of the Egyptian delegation I welcome the new Secretary-General of the United Nations, whose prestige and meritorious career are now crowned by this appointment.

15. Since the peoples of the United Nations, in signing the Charter, have resolved "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind," and since, for these ends, they have determined to

maintain international peace and security and to promote social and economic progress, we all hope from the bottom of our hearts that the new Secretary-General will be a great symbol of peace and of economic and social development.

16. We hope that he will be a great symbol of peace, because he is a member of the noble Scandinavian race, which loves peace, believes in it and has shown the world the true meaning of co-operation, both in the national and international spheres and in the political, economic and social fields.

17. We hope that the new Secretary-General is convinced that the political problems raised by the national aspirations of the peoples of Africa and Asia, as also the economic and social problems of the underdeveloped countries, are as great as, and even greater than those caused by the conflict between the major Powers, which I hope will prove merely transitory and temporary.

18. We hope that the new Secretary-General has already formed the opinion that it is impossible to preserve peace either simply by disarmament or simply by an armaments race, but first and foremost by the recognition of the aspirations to freedom, human dignity and equal rights among nations, and by respect for human rights, as also by sincere co-operation with a view to reviving the hopes of the two-thirds of the world's population who still live in poverty and wretchedness and who are now resolved to put an end to this state of affairs and to take their rightful place in the international community, basing their stand on the fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter.

19. The road may be long, but the task will not be too arduous if we are constantly guided by an honest spirit of true solidarity, of sacrifice and of respect for rights. This spirit of honesty should be the symbol of a free world. It was the lack of such a spirit that hastened the collapse of the League of Nations. Today it should be the foundation of the consolidation of the United Nations.

20. From the depths of my heart I hope that, through very close and very sincere co-operation between all the delegations and the new Secretary-General, the United Nations may always be equal to its task, and may become a force truly capable of ensuring peace, freedom for the oppressed peoples and prosperity for the poor and hungry. That will be the greatest satisfaction that the new Secretary-General—and, indeed, all of us—will ever experience.

21. Mr. KYROU (Greece): On behalf of my Government, I wish Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld complete success in his most important assignment. This is much more than a platonic expression, for it implies a pledge on our part to lend him our unreserved support in the discharge of his heavy responsibilities.

22. The circumstances in which the new Secretary-General of the United Nations was recommended by the Security Council for nomination augurs well for the future. Furthermore, the near unanimity with which this recommendation was adopted by the General Assembly three days ago [423rd meeting] is a measure of the fund of good-will and co-operation on which Mr. Hammarskjöld will be able to draw in the years to come.

23. Yesterday, on landing at Idlewild Airport, Mr. Hammarskjöld declared that the qualities we all needed today were "perseverance and patience, a firm grip on realities, careful but imaginative planning, a clear awareness of the dangers, but also of the fact that fate is what we make it and that the safest climber is he who never questions his ability to overcome all difficulties". These can be the words only of a man who has his feet firmly planted on the ground and who knows that initiative and inspiration, no matter how creative they may be, cannot bear rich fruit unless they are followed up by the solid qualities of perseverance and patience. In an imaginative language, stripped of superfluous periphrasis, Mr. Hammarskjöld disclosed his belief that nothing should be taken for granted and that peace, like war, must be waged. Fate, he said, is what we make it, for where there is a will there is a way.
24. Such words, as well as the statement to which we have just listened today, are bound to bring into sharp relief the main moral traits of the man who uttered them. In their light, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld appears as a true scion of the noble and sturdy Swedish people, who so happily combine an unobtrusive idealism with a clear sense of reality. The United Nations has on many occasions in the past benefited by these Nordic qualities, with which our out-going Secretary-General, Mr. Trygve Lie, is so abundantly provided. Members of this Organization will keep forever in fond memory the late Count Folke Bernadotte, in whose person these qualities were most heroically incarnated.
25. A new chapter in the life of our Organization is about to open. One cannot imagine that any Member State would be unwilling to co-operate in the general interest of peace, even at the sacrifice of some particular and transient interest.
26. On behalf of my Government, I wish Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld good luck, or, to say it in his beloved Swedish—and this is a word which is slightly less difficult for a non-Scandinavian to pronounce than Mr. Hammarskjöld's name—*lyckousparke*.
27. Mr. VAN LANGENHOVE (Belgium) (*translated from French*): I wish to associate myself with the congratulations which have just been extended to the new Secretary-General. In so doing, I am speaking not only for my own country; a group of friendly delegations has done me the honour of asking me to speak on their behalf. In addition to Belgium's congratulations, I am also voicing the congratulations of Denmark, Iceland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden.
28. All our countries attach great importance to the functions vested in the Secretary-General by the Charter. That is why, knowing the outstanding qualities of Mr. Hammarskjöld, we welcomed the Assembly's appointment with the greatest satisfaction and confidence.
29. It is in that spirit that we wish the Secretary-General every success in carrying out his noble task.
30. Mr. MUNIZ (Brazil): It is only fitting that the voice of Latin America should be heard on this occasion when the General Assembly has its first official contact with the new Secretary-General of our Organization.
31. It is my privilege and honour, on behalf of the Latin-American delegations, to extend to Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld our warmest greetings and to express to him our heartfelt wishes for his complete success in the complex and delicate task he is about to undertake.
32. The choice of Mr. Hammarskjöld by the Security Council was a happy one, and the General Assembly's overwhelming support of the recommendation further improves the favourable climate in which our new Secretary-General will begin his work. We all know Mr. Hammarskjöld's excellent qualifications for the post he is now assuming. His personal integrity, his ability in the diplomatic field, his familiarity with international and economic problems, his unswerving devotion to the ideals embodied in the United Nations Charter, certainly justify our conviction that we have selected an outstanding man to perform the duties of chief administrative officer of our Organization.
33. I can assure Mr. Hammarskjöld that the Latin-American delegations will do their utmost to support him, so that the heavy burden which now falls on his shoulders may be lightened.
34. We are fully cognizant of the circumstances which make the task of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in the present state of world tension, one of the most challenging tests ever entrusted to a human being. Mr. Trygve Lie is a living proof of this assertion, but Mr. Lie may rest assured that he will be remembered as a builder of the United Nations and its first organizer. He should have no doubt of the greatness of his achievement.
35. The general confidence of the Member States and the devoted and intelligent co-operation of the Secretariat, whose ability and whose loyalty to the United Nations have been tested by fire, will certainly enable a man with the outstanding qualifications of Mr. Hammarskjöld to meet that test with complete success. It is in this spirit of co-operation and hope that the Latin-American delegations extend their welcome to the new Secretary-General.
36. Sir Gladwyn JEBB (United Kingdom): My delegation is quite sure that the United Nations could have made no happier choice than that of Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld for the post of Secretary-General, left vacant by the resignation of Mr. Trygve Lie, to whom we all owe so much. Those of us here who have the honour of knowing him personally have always, I think, shared my own impression of a strong, clean-cut character, of a man of great power, wisdom and understanding and last, but by no means least, of a sympathetic and intelligent human being blessed with that supreme—and, alas, all too rare—gift, a civilized sense of humour.
37. We do not know exactly what Mr. Hammarskjöld's innermost thoughts may have been at being suddenly and, as I happen to know, completely unexpectedly pitchforked into this unruly political arena. Perhaps he even thought for a moment of refusing the honour, but if he did, I expect that, as an intelligent man, he reflected on the fate of that mediaeval monk who, unless I am wrong, refused to be Pope and was thereafter condemned by Dante to the lowest category of hell. I suspect indeed that, in some respects at least, his thoughts, when the telephone bell rang in

Stockholm on that fateful morning, were not unlike those of the prophet Daniel. However, if anybody can tame the lions which occasionally stalk through this building and all too frequently roar from this tribune—the lions, that is, of suspicion, of jealousy, of exclusive nationalism, of race prejudice, of ideology—beasts that, I am afraid, are latent to some extent in all of us—it is precisely the young prophet whom we have now chosen as our guide, counsellor and friend. Nobody can pretend that his task will not be supremely difficult and exacting. Nobody will expect him to please all of us all the time—indeed, unless he occasionally offends somebody, it may be that he will not really be doing his job. But what we can confidently expect is that Mr. Hammarskjold will bend his great intelligence and his admirable character to the task of perfecting a machine which will be for the service of all of us in our joint effort to arrive at lasting peace.

38. I know that everybody here present will join me in wishing the very best of luck to our new Secretary-General.

39. General ROMULO (Philippines): I should like to add my humble voice to the chorus of heartfelt welcome with which we are greeting today our new Secretary-General.

40. We have just heard the inaugural speech of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. It was a statement of principle and a pledge of faith and purpose which must hearten us all. I am sure we all agree that in the measure in which he fulfils his duties of office and the sound principles which he has just enunciated he will receive without stint or reserve the co-operation of all Member States. Further, in the measure in which he may stand in need of our co-operation in order to enable him to perform his duties under the Charter and in connexion with his other official duties, we trust that he will not hesitate to call upon us for such assistance as he may require and as may be in our power to give.

41. Fortunately, our new Secretary-General is not starting from scratch. He stands on the solid ground of results already achieved under the guidance of his distinguished predecessor. The basis for sound administration and for filling the office with the necessary prestige and authority has already been laid by Mr. Trygve Lie. There remain the objectives of making the United Nations an effective instrument for the maintenance of international peace and security, for the development of less-developed countries, and for the progress of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories towards self-government and independence. We look to our new Secretary-General to help to facilitate the fulfilment of these great initiatives of the United Nations.

42. For my part, I offer him unstintedly my co-operation and whole-hearted support.

43. Mr. LODGE (United States of America): It is a pleasure to welcome, on behalf of the United States, Mr. Dag Hammarskjold as Secretary-General. He is, of course, no stranger to the United Nations, having represented his Government here at this very session. He is also well and favourably known to many of my fellow citizens, and I may say that his quotation today from Abraham Lincoln has gone straight to our hearts.

44. We also pay our tribute to Mr. Trygve Lie, who leaves such a splendid monument behind him.

45. As Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarskjold will hold a key position in an organization to which the United States attaches the greatest importance. The Secretary-General, together with his staff, comprises what the Charter calls a "principal organ" of the United Nations.

46. Sweden has a great tradition of service by its citizens in international affairs. Mr. Dag Hammarskjold's father, in addition to serving his country as its Prime Minister and as a judge, has worked, written and taught in the field of international law and international organizations. His father is also the President of the Nobel Foundation, that body which carries on the aspirations of another great Swede, Alfred Nobel. We all here cherish the memory of Count Folke Bernadotte who, as a United Nations mediator, laid down his life in the service of the United Nations. In keeping with this tradition, it is most appropriate that Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, himself a most distinguished citizen of Sweden, should be Secretary-General of the United Nations.

47. The role of the United Nations—and therefore the role of the Secretary-General—is as broad as the entire field of human endeavour. We are fortunate that Mr. Hammarskjold brings to it not only his skill as a diplomat and as a Minister, but also his broad experience in economic and financial matters. All these talents directly relate to important fields of United Nations work.

48. As Mr. Hammarskjold takes up his duties, he becomes part of a living organization which has gone further towards organizing peace and organizing security than any other body in modern history, and this result has occurred at a time of great threats to the peace and security of the international community. Today no State can be a complete island. A web of interrelations must exist between it and other States. Today an international organization must represent different cultures and different races, unlike the Council of Europe which, more than a century ago, was conceived as a group of sovereigns, products of the same civilization and background, to maintain the stability of Europe. Today, as then, we must expect conflict among peoples and among States. But that does not mean that this conflict need be physical. Shifting tides of power among men and among nations can be tested and moderated by quick access to world public opinion. This the United Nations provides.

49. From his post, the Secretary-General will be able to see whether the technical advances of pure science can be balanced by corresponding advances in the means by which men and nations can live in peace with their neighbours. To this quest he can contribute.

50. No one would tell Mr. Hammarskjold that his work will be easy. His problems will be even more numerous than the sixty Members of the United Nations. As soon as one problem is solved, another will appear to take its place. As an experienced mountaineer—which I understand that he is—our new Secretary-General knows better than I that when one peak has been ascended, then one sees for the first time even higher peaks beyond.

51. Mr. Secretary-General, you, together with the staff which you lead, are the custodian of a centre for

many of the world's hopes. You are our watchman who may neither slumber nor sleep. The United States is happy to have cast its vote in favour of placing this Organization, this contrivance for peace and security, in your custody.

52. Mr. BAKR (Iraq): In the name of my Government, the Iraqi delegation wishes to extend to the new Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, the hand of welcome, friendliness and co-operation. He comes to preside over the greatest organization of its kind in the world—and perhaps in history. He also comes at a time when the Organization needs all his powers of fairness and justice to restore to it what it has lost in the past. We are sure that the new Secretary-General is fully conscious of his responsibilities under the Charter, and it is these powers, conceived by the makers of the Charter on the basis of strict neutrality and fairness, that he is now called upon to exercise. We venture to express the hope that he will use these powers, not as a politician, but as an administrator of integrity who puts the Charter and its ideals above all. It is our sincere hope that the new Secretary-General will avoid all prejudices and pitfalls, and by that serve the United Nations best as only a man in this position could.

53. At the time that he is taking up his new office, the new Secretary-General has, I am sure, the affection and blessings of all countries. We have great hopes in him, and we have great hopes in the United Nations under his administration. We are encouraged to know that Mr. Hammarskjold's career encompasses a business background. This should enable him to devote more attention to the administration and the business of the United Nations as such, and by that avoid giving undue emphasis to mere politics. There is a great deal in the United Nations that is not political, yet which is of the highest benefit to mankind. We feel sure that Mr. Hammarskjold will accord the economic, social and technical activities of the United Nations more importance than they have been accorded so far. The Secretariat itself is a full-time work of administration, and the members of the Secretariat must be given every opportunity and security to render their best to this great and unique Organization.

54. The Secretary-General, in our opinion, is in a special position to further the cause of peace and friendliness among nations. The Charter in no circumstances allows him to be swayed by one side to a dispute or the other, whether it be a major international dispute involving many nations, or a dispute involving only a few Member nations. Nor do the provisions of the Charter permit the Secretary-General to take into consideration the emotional aspects of one side of a dispute, ignoring valid aspects of the other side. Let emotions and misguided interpretations be kept out of the daily exercise of the Secretary-General's duties, lest he be drawn into taking sides, thus intensifying world disputes rather than diminishing them.

55. The whole Organization can only suffer from favouring certain groups against others; it can suffer infinitely more by submitting to the temptations and guiles of private organizations and pressure groups. And we are calling for equality and fairness to all, which will not fail to bestow on the position of the Secretary-General the respect and the dignity which are its due.

56. I turn to the new Secretary-General and say to him: We welcome you from the depth of our hearts, and you can count on our full co-operation. We wish you a happy beginning in your great responsibilities. May God bless you, and give you all the strength you need to be neutral and just and productive in an organization that holds sixty different viewpoints, an organization which you can serve best by these qualities under the precepts of the Charter.

57. Mr. HOPPENOT (France) (*translated from French*): The French delegation could not fail to associate itself today with all those delegations which have congratulated the new Secretary-General of the United Nations and expressed confidence in him.

58. In proposing Mr. Dag Hammarskjold to the Security Council, the French delegation felt that it was carrying out the general wish of all delegations rather than taking the initiative. His reputation had preceded him and we knew him to be a great civil servant, a leading diplomat and a gentleman. We were aware of the part he had played for a number of years in the economic councils of Europe. We knew the high esteem in which he was held, and the responsibilities which had been placed upon him by his own country. That country, let us remember, is liberal and peace-loving Sweden, in which the delicate balance between political and social democracy has been achieved in so happy and human a fashion.

59. The agreement reached on his nomination by the East and the West was greeted by the whole world as one of the first tangible signs of a new period of *rapprochement* and understanding which can and must be achieved among peoples. We must congratulate all those who, for the sake of unanimous agreement, gave up their own first, and perfectly legitimate, choice.

60. As he stands on the threshold of his mission, we are fully confident that, under his guidance, the prestige of the Secretariat will be enhanced and the admirable staff, of which he is to be the head, will feel reassured and encouraged in its international vocation and in its work for the community of nations.

61. We heartily welcome the Secretary-General, and wish him good luck.

62. Mr. JOOSTE (Union of South Africa): The President has already congratulated and welcomed our new Secretary-General on behalf of the whole Assembly. He has eloquently said most of what we all have in mind. However, I should like to add a few words, as was done by previous speakers.

63. The delegations of Australia, Canada and New Zealand have done me the honour of asking that I associate them with the warm welcome which I now extend to our new Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjold. It is therefore my privilege to convey to him the sincere good wishes of the delegations of Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa on his assumption of the high office of chief executive of the United Nations.

64. A few days ago, the General Assembly, when appointing Mr. Hammarskjold, paid its tribute to Mr. Trygve Lie on his retirement from an office which he held with such distinction. Today, Mr. Hammarskjold formally succeeds Mr. Lie and assumes the heav

burdens and responsibilities attaching to the office of Secretary-General.

65. As has already been pointed out by the representative of the Philippines, Mr. Hammarskjöld is fortunate in that, unlike his predecessor, he assumes office in an organization already established and experienced. On the other hand, our new Secretary-General takes over at a time when the promise of international harmony and co-operation which attended the birth of the United Nations has given way in large measure to the stresses and tensions which today characterize international relations. It is true, of course, that we are conscious of hopeful signs that these relations may improve and that the United Nations may well be enabled in the not too distant future to play the essential role for which it was created. Indeed, agreement on the appointment of Mr. Hammarskjöld, may possibly constitute a symbol of a new spirit which holds out promise for the future.

66. It is proper that I place on record here our gratification that it was possible to reach agreement on so important—and on what had become so complex—a problem as the selection of a secretary-general for the United Nations. We hope that the spirit of co-operation which made this possible will continue and develop in order that we may deal effectively with the many problems which continue to frustrate our efforts to establish healthy relations in the United Nations, and thus peace and security throughout the world.

67. The Secretary-General is enjoined by the Charter to dedicate himself to the great principles for which our Organization was established. His role in bringing about these healthier relations is therefore an important one. But the success of his efforts must inevitably also depend on the support which he will receive from all Member States. For our part, Mr. Hammarskjöld may be assured that he will have our support in the execution of his duties under the Charter.

68. I now repeat to our new Secretary-General our warm welcome and our sincere good wishes for his success and happiness in the difficult years that lie ahead.

69. Mr. ZEINEDDINE (Syria): The agreement in the Security Council to recommend Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld for the high office of Secretary-General of the United Nations and the vote of the General Assembly were received with very deep satisfaction in my country and in other Arab lands. That happy agreement and the wise choice both can be a good augury for more smooth and expeditious moves of our Organization in the pursuit of its high aims.

70. As a principal organ of the United Nations, the Secretariat under the Charter assumes the responsibilities which necessarily call for the unreserved goodwill, not only of the five big Powers but also of the smaller ones. We owe to Sweden, whose traditions are firmly based on respect of law, important contributions to the international activity of this Organization and to international co-operation at large. Indeed, its sons on many occasions have selflessly given themselves to their international responsibility and fully honoured this country. Above all, let us mention the name of Count Bernadotte.

71. Today, we welcome another son of Sweden, one noted for his objective outlook and for his great

experience and statesmanship. Our new Secretary-General can be assured that my country will join with the other countries in trying to give him all the support which its modest possibilities allow it to give in the exercise of his functions. Our new Secretary-General comes at a time when our world, tormented with distrust, is starting to regain confidence in the possibilities of peace and international co-operation. He brings with him the signs of fair weather. New winds may blow, and may the United Nations, as a ship on which we all stand, sail in peace towards its objective, which it should attain by the joint endeavour of all its organs—the Secretariat as well as each of the others.

72. Mrs. MYERSON (Israel): On behalf of the people and Government of Israel, I wish to congratulate Mr. Hammarskjöld whole-heartedly. I am sure that the difficulties and hardships that accompany his post are well known to him, since he has participated in the work of the General Assembly. His acceptance of this post, burdened with this knowledge, should serve as an encouragement to all of us. It is obvious that Mr. Hammarskjöld has faith in the effectiveness of our Organization. Optimism and faith in the best of mankind is necessary to all of us in this period of stress in international relations. We all know that what we individually and collectively want and need is real peace and mutual aid and respect.

73. I think it is right to tell Mr. Hammarskjöld, at the threshold of his most responsible post, that all the peace-loving nations of the world will be with him in the execution of his arduous task. I am happy to assure him of the utmost co-operation of my country and my delegation.

74. Mr. BOKHARI (Pakistan): I am sure that I do not have to remind the General Assembly that, as ringside spectators from many distant parts of the world, we have today witnessed a major event in modern history. We have seen seven long and distant years come to a close, years during which Mr. Trygve Lie was one of the major pioneering architects of this Organization. They were difficult years, and he was faced with many problems which were undreamt of when the Charter was signed. I am certain that, as time goes on and this Organization becomes stronger and stronger, his work will be remembered with greater and greater warmth. Certainly my country is happy to take this opportunity of again paying its tribute to him.

75. We have also seen the installation of his illustrious successor. By a happy accident, it was during the month when my delegation was presiding over the Security Council that this Organization, under the name of my delegation, sent the first warm invitation to Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, and received in reply his modest response, fraught with, and weighed down by the tremendous sense of responsibility which we are sure he feels.

76. Mr. Hammarskjöld comes to this Organization at a time which may be described as the period of dilemmas. He comes at a time when the engines of destruction and the instruments of killing, on the one hand, are more deadly than the world has ever known before, and, on the other hand, when there is a strong growing feeling and anguish for peace. He also comes at a time when the world has become more fully aware than ever in its history of the terrible economic dis-

equilibrium that exists in the world and is striving very hard and very anxiously, first of all, to study the possible evil effects of that disequilibrium and, secondly, to apply appropriate remedies and solutions.

77. Mr. Hammarskjold knows very well that the hope of the world in this Organization is growing every day. He also, I am sure, knows that those who have pinned their hopes perhaps most of all to this Organization are those who are not articulate in its halls today, and that millions of people in the world have not yet found a voice within this Organization, and yet they are the ones who hope this Organization will prove their salvation.

78. I am perfectly sure that he is fully sensible of the tremendous task that lies before this Organization, but, to compensate for all that, may I remind him that the desire of the world for the strengthening, the development, and the betterment of this Organization was never greater. Millions of people hope that in the times to come within these walls we shall see peaceful revolutions taking place under the vigilance of the world. They hope that new formulae of friendship and amity will be evolved as between stronger and weaker peoples.

79. I mention these things, not to depress him or ourselves. Indeed, the choice of the world has fallen upon him because we know he will not be depressed by these problems. The choice of the world has fallen upon him because we know that these problems only quicken his earnestness and zeal in the task. Every illustrious man who comes to occupy an exalted office raises expectations in the world, and so does the appointment of Mr. Hammarskjold. Expectations, I assure him, have been raised all over the world, together with the supreme confidence that, at this point in history, the world could hardly have made a better choice for the leadership that the United Nations requires.

80. On behalf of my country, I wish him the greatest success in the leadership which lies ahead of him for promoting world peace, world welfare, world culture, and world equality. We wish him the best success in his task.

81. Mr. MATES (Yugoslavia): I wish to express on behalf of my delegation and the Government of Yugoslavia the heartiest welcome to Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, the new Secretary-General of the United Nations. We congratulate Mr. Hammarskjold and the United Nations on his appointment, and we applaud the unanimity by which his appointment was made. We have full confidence in his ability to discharge his heavy responsibilities to the United Nations, in these crucial years of world history, with wisdom, with courage and with dedication to international co-operation and peace.

82. The past seven years of the existence of the United Nations have taught us the importance and, I wish to emphasize, the indispensability of this world Organization for the strengthening of international security and development of co-operation in all fields of international relations. We have also learned to appreciate the outstanding part which the Secretariat has played in the work of our Organization. We realize, however, that the role of the Secretary-General in this

field, in the developing and directing of this important organ of the United Nations, is neither easy nor simple.

83. He will be able to succeed in his efforts only if he has the necessary support from the Members of the United Nations, and it is in that spirit, with regard to all his activities, that I have the privilege to pledge to the new Secretary-General the fullest and most sincere co-operation and support of my country. We extend our best wishes for full success in his endeavours to serve humanity in his new and exalted function.

84. Mr. ENTEZAM (Iran) (*translated from French*): It is a great honour for me to offer to our new Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, the sincere congratulations of the Government of Iran and its delegation.

85. The Secretary-General belongs to a people whose loyalty, integrity and devotion to the cause of peace are exemplary. We are sure that he will be a credit to his people's reputation. His brilliant career as a loyal servant of Sweden is the best guarantee for us that he will serve the cause of the United Nations, which is the cause of peace, with the devotion he has shown in the service of his country.

86. While his task is a difficult one, he is at least fortunate in having at his side, in the Secretariat, distinguished and loyal associates to whom I wish to pay a tribute.

87. I wish to assure Mr. Hammarskjold of our support and co-operation in the accomplishment of his great mission, and to offer him our best wishes.

88. Mr. TSIANG (China): A few days ago, the President led the General Assembly in paying a tribute to the services of Mr. Trygve Lie to the United Nations. On that occasion I did not ask to speak, first, because the President, according to my opinion, expressed the universal sentiment of this Assembly, and, secondly, because any expression of appreciation of Mr. Lie on my part would be superfluous. Mr. Lie knows how deeply I have admired him in his courage and devotion to the purposes of the United Nations in recent years. I therefore wish him great happiness in what I would say is the even greater career ahead of him.

89. In participating in this ceremony of the installation of a new secretary-general, my delegation wishes to assure the Secretary-General of our loyal co-operation in the work of the United Nations. This assurance on my part may be necessary because of the circumstance that my delegation did not vote positively for Mr. Hammarskjold, either in the Security Council or in the General Assembly. Mr. Hammarskjold has been duly elected Secretary-General of the United Nations, in strict accordance with the Charter and the rules of procedure. As good democrats, we shall give to the new Secretary-General our utmost measure of co-operation.

90. The country which I have the honour to represent is one of the oldest countries of the world. In fact, several years ago, when the representative of Egypt came to Lake Success, we discussed a variety of matters, and we came to the conclusion that in no circumstances could a conflict arise between his country and my country. He and I agreed with that conclusion,

but then Nokrashy Pasha had a new idea and he said: "There is one conflict between you and me, that is, as to whether Egypt or China is the older country." I am not going to take the time of the General Assembly to present my case in that dispute. I am relating that little story merely to point out that, as an old country, we are not given to sudden bursts of optimism or sudden bursts of pessimism. As far as the United Nations is concerned, we do not expect miracles; we have no right to expect miracles. Neither do we despair. The problem of war and peace is as old as human history. It is too much to expect one institution, no matter what its constitution might be, no matter how large its power might be, to solve these old problems in a few years.

91. According to our judgment, the present is the time for all nations to invest more thought and care in the development of this great institution. It is not a time to expect early and plentiful harvests. In the development of the United Nations, the Secretary-General must necessarily play an important part. For his part, he owes to the membership loyal performance of duty, as set forth in the oath of office which he took before us a few minutes ago. For our part, we, all the Members, consisting of large and small countries, owe to him and to this great common enterprise of ours complete, loyal co-operation. That is what my delegation will give to Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld.

92. Mr. VYSHINSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*translated from Russian*): On the day when the General Assembly adopted the Security Council's recommendation to elect Mr. Hammarskjöld to the office of Secretary-General, the USSR delegation welcomed his election. We recalled then the great tasks and responsibilities confronting the United Nations as an international organization, the role and significance of which in the struggle for peace and international security and for co-operation among nations must not be either minimized or underestimated.

93. On behalf of the USSR delegation, I take this opportunity to welcome Mr. Hammarskjöld as Secretary-General of the United Nations and to express the hope that he will perform his duties as Secretary-General in a worthy manner. We would ask him to accept our best wishes as he assumes the office of Secretary-General of the United Nations.

94. Mr. MENON (India): In welcoming the new Secretary-General here and in speaking at the beginning of this meeting, the President of the General Assembly spoke for all of us and, indeed, for all those people who stand behind us in this United Nations Assembly.

95. I have the pleasure of associating myself with the expressions of welcome and good feeling which have been voiced from this rostrum during the last few minutes, on behalf not only of my Government and delegation, but also of the delegations of our neighbours and of those who are very near to us in other ways, namely, Indonesia, Liberia, Afghanistan, Ethiopia and Thailand.

96. Perhaps the mention of these countries and our coming here to express, in addition to the collective expression of the President, our welcome to the new Secretary-General, will serve to remind him of the

vast network of this Organization in the institutional sense. As Secretary-General, he is welcome not only here but also in all those other places where the institutions of the United Nations exist where the people are served by them.

97. We were impressed particularly by two words that appeared in the speech of the Secretary-General. The first word is "humility". No cause can be served except by people who approach it with humility. If that is so, it is much more so in the case of a man whom we can rightly call public servant No. 1, because he serves this Organization, which is a world organization. We were also impressed by the fact that he spoke quite spontaneously about "reconciliation". That is a task for which this institution was founded, and that is a task which faces it today more insistently than ever before.

98. Reference has also been made to the fact that our new Secretary-General is a mountaineer. It has already been mentioned that one factor about mountaineering that comes to mind is that there are peaks to conquer, and, what is more, that their numbers are unknown and their locations are undiscovered. But even apart from that, one should remember that, so far as we know, the activities of a mountaineer are selfless. He finds joy in the endeavour and, unlike other explorers, when he has reached the summit he does not take possession of that territory. He is delighted with the endeavour for its own sake. There are other qualities that come to one's mind. A mountaineer, I am told, takes a deep breath and sometimes he has to hold it. In this place, one sometimes has to hold one's breath.

99. The Secretary-General brings all these important qualities to the service of this great Organization. We welcome him here, and, in expressing our confidence in him, we note that while confidence is often something that has to be gained, it is also something that has to be given.

100. No man has ever been called to a greater service than to the service of this world Organization, and no one has received from the representatives of so many nations of various parts of the world, of different religions, races and beliefs, the degree of affection and confidence which now has been given to our Secretary-General in the great task that he undertakes.

101. On behalf of my Government and delegation, and of all the other delegations whose names I have mentioned, I extend to our Secretary-General a warm welcome and wish him very good fortune and success.

102. U KYIN (Burma): In the early 1920's, the national movement in my country was asserting itself and a multitude of people took to politics. Among them there were lawyers, teachers, agriculturists, business men, and even a few public servants who resigned from government service. Some of them were top-ranking, others were mediocre, and the rest were third-, fourth- or fifth-rate politicians. With this last group of leaders, the Burmese public in mass meetings and in open-air gatherings was not always tolerant. The humourists of the Burmese stage took it to heart and portrayed this category of political leaders by having someone on the stage take a few steps forward, as though he were walking to the rostrum, bow deeply

to the audience, mutter a few words, which were interpreted by another humourist to mean that after the previous speakers he had nothing more to say, then bow very respectfully to the audience again, and finally withdraw amidst acclamation.

103. For reasons of my own, I should like to do the same thing, with this little addition, that I am speaking on behalf of the people and Government of the Union of Burma, where I have seen the game of association football played by a Swedish team. In that game, I was greatly impressed by the Swedish players, particularly by their control of the football and their positional play. I know, of course, that Sweden is one of the leading countries in the world today in this game of association football, and not very many years ago they were the champions of the world. One of the most important qualifications of a good footballer is to be able to control the football and shoot it in the right direction at the right moment. If our new Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, is a true son of Sweden, I am sure that he will prove to be a good football player in his new career. In any event, whether or not he can do so on all occasions, the good wishes of my country and my Government are with him.

104. Mr. SKRZESZEWSKI (Poland) (*translated from Russian*): On behalf of the Polish delegation, I should like to welcome Mr. Hammarskjold to his new post as Secretary-General of the United Nations, to which he was elected unanimously.

105. As regards our co-operation with the new Secretary-General, I should like to repeat what we said immediately after the announcement that Mr. Hammarskjold had been elected to that responsible office. We feel sure that Mr. Hammarskjold, as Secretary-General of the United Nations, will apply all his efforts to strengthening peace and implementing the principles of the United Nations Charter. Mr. Hammarskjold may rely on our assistance and support in all his efforts to ensure the maintenance of peace and peaceful co-operation among peoples to apply the principles laid down in the United Nations Charter and to strengthen the authority of the United Nations as a really international organization.

106. Mr. SARPEN (Turkey): On the day of the election of Mr. Dag Hammarskjold as Secretary-General of the United Nations, I had occasion to state that the Turkish delegation was convinced that our former Secretary-General—my distinguished friend Mr. Trygve Lie—was leaving this Organization, which owes him a great deal, in good hands.

107. It is a pleasure for me to reiterate here our gratification at seeing Mr. Dag Hammarskjold take his place in this Assembly as Secretary-General of the United Nations. The past achievements of Mr. Hammarskjold in serving his country and his people with distinction and devotion are important factors which guarantee, I am sure, a successful and fruitful term as Secretary-General of the United Nations.

108. I shall not enumerate here what we expect from the Secretary-General. Neither do we set any conditions for our co-operation. Rather do we give every assurance that the Turkish delegation will always be ready and happy to bring its perhaps modest, but honest, contribution to help the Secretary-General in

the carrying out of his important functions—within the limits, of course, of our means and our possibilities.

109. I welcome the Secretary-General heartily on behalf of the Turkish Government.

110. Mr. BARANOVSKY (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) (*translated from Russian*): The delegation of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic has already had an opportunity to express its satisfaction at the unanimous election of Mr. Hammarskjold to the office of Secretary-General of the United Nations. I should like to convey to Mr. Hammarskjold personally the satisfaction felt by the Government of the Ukrainian SSR.

111. As the person entrusted with the practical organization of all the activities of the United Nations the Secretary-General has a particularly important role to play because he is responsible for implementing the United Nations Charter and the decisions of the General Assembly, the principal purpose of which is the maintenance of peace and international security and the development of friendly relations and co-operation among nations.

112. I should like to wish Mr. Hammarskjold success in all his activities which are directed towards attaining those high purposes. In this important and responsible work, Mr. Hammarskjold may rely unreservedly on the support of the Government of the Ukrainian SSR.

113. Mr. RIZK (Lebanon): It is with great pleasure that I extend, on behalf of the Government and delegation of Lebanon, as well as on behalf of the delegation of the Kingdom of Yemen, which has asked to be associated with us in this, a hearty welcome to our new Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjold. The whole-hearted and unanimous support which his nomination received in this Assembly is, I believe, as eloquent a tribute as anyone could ever pay him in the present circumstances.

114. We are confident that, in the performance of his duties, Mr. Hammarskjold will be guided by the high ideals and noble principles upon which our Organization is founded. We are confident that he will perform his duties with the same spirit of fairness, justice and integrity which characterized the work of his illustrious compatriot, Count Folke Bernadotte, who gave his life in the service of the United Nations. We are quite confident that he will carry out his responsibilities to the best of his ability.

115. For our part, we should like to pledge to Mr. Dag Hammarskjold our full support and our sympathetic co-operation with him in trying to attain that peace and friendship among nations to which our Organization is dedicated. Welcome, Mr. Hammarskjold, and the best of luck.

116. Mr. KISELYOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) (*translated from Russian*): The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR notes with great satisfaction the unanimous election of Mr. Dag Hammarskjold to the office of Secretary-General of the United Nations and congratulates him on his appointment.

117. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR expresses the hope that Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, in his

new post, will bend all his efforts to the strengthening of peace and security throughout the world and will tirelessly watch over the application of the United Nations Charter. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR promises to give the new Secretary-General its full support and co-operation in the performance of this noble task.

118. The PRESIDENT: In closing this meeting I need only add that I am sure that our Secretary-General will be encouraged and strengthened by the warm welcome and expressions of good wishes which he has received from us all this afternoon.

The meeting rose at 4.50 p.m.