

provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks, including summary records of its meetings;

8. *Decides* to include the item entitled "Question of Palestine" in the provisional agenda of its thirty-second session.

*77th plenary meeting  
24 November 1976*

### 31/21. Admission of new Members to the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Having examined* the special report of the Security Council to the General Assembly,<sup>38</sup>

*Taking note* of the letter of 18 November 1976 from the Permanent Observer of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly,<sup>39</sup>

*Convinced* of the ability and willingness of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to carry out the obligations of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reiterating* its conviction that the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam is fully qualified for membership in the United Nations in accordance with Article 4 of the Charter,

*Recalling* that resolution 3366 (XXX) of 19 September 1975, in which the General Assembly requested the Security Council to reconsider immediately and favourably the application of Viet Nam, was adopted by 123 votes in favour and none against,

*Noting* that in the general debate of the current session of the General Assembly the admission of Viet Nam to membership in the United Nations received the unequivocal and widespread support of the Members of the Organization,

*Expressing deep regret and concern* that, on 15 November 1976,<sup>40</sup> one negative vote by a permanent member of the Security Council prevented the adoption of the draft resolution supported by fourteen members of the Council recommending the admission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to membership in the United Nations,

1. *Considers* that the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam should be admitted to membership in the United Nations;

2. *Accordingly recommends* that the Security Council should reconsider the matter favourably in strict conformity with Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations.

*80th plenary meeting  
26 November 1976*

### 31/44. Admission of the People's Republic of Angola to membership in the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Having received* the recommendation of the Security Council of 22 November 1976 that the People's Re-

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-first Session, Annexes*, agenda item 26, document A/31/330.

<sup>39</sup> A/31/349.

<sup>40</sup> See *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-first Year, 1972nd meeting*.

public of Angola should be admitted to membership in the United Nations,<sup>41</sup>

*Having considered* the application for membership of the People's Republic of Angola,<sup>42</sup>

*Decides* to admit the People's Republic of Angola to membership in the United Nations.

*84th plenary meeting  
1 December 1976*

### 31/60. Appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Acting* in accordance with the recommendation contained in Security Council resolution 400 (1976) of 7 December 1976,<sup>43</sup>

*Expressing its appreciation* for the effective and dedicated service rendered to the United Nations by Mr. Kurt Waldheim during his first term of office,

*Appoints* Mr. Kurt Waldheim Secretary-General of the United Nations for a second term of office beginning on 1 January 1977 and ending on 31 December 1981.

*93rd plenary meeting  
8 December 1976*

### 31/61. The situation in the Middle East

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 3414 (XXX) of 5 December 1975 and noting with concern that no progress has been achieved towards the implementation of that resolution, in particular its paragraph 4,

*Recalling* the debate held in the Security Council in January 1976<sup>44</sup> on the Middle East problem including the Palestinian question, in implementation of subparagraph (a) of Council resolution 381 (1975) of 30 November 1975,

*Deeply concerned* at the increasing deterioration of the situation in the Middle East due to continued Israeli occupation and Israel's refusal to implement United Nations resolutions,

*Reaffirming* the necessity of establishing a just and lasting peace in the region based on full respect for the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as for the resolutions concerning the problem of the Middle East and the question of Palestine,

1. *Affirms* that the early resumption of the Peace Conference on the Middle East with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3375 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, is essential for the realization of a just and lasting settlement in the region;

<sup>41</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Annexes*, agenda item 26, document A/31/340.

<sup>42</sup> A/31/85-S/12064. For the printed text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-first Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1976*.

<sup>43</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Annexes*, agenda item 17, document A/31/393.

<sup>44</sup> See *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-first Year, 1870th to 1879th meetings*.

2. *Condemns* Israel's continued occupation of Arab territories in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and repeated United Nations resolutions;

3. *Reaffirms* that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the attainment by the Palestinian people of their inalienable rights, which are the basic prerequisites enabling all countries and peoples in the Middle East to live in peace;

4. *Condemns* all measures taken by Israel in the occupied territories to change the demographic and geographic character and institutional structure of these territories;

5. *Requests once again* all States to desist from supplying Israel with military and other forms of aid or any assistance which would enable it to consolidate its occupation or to exploit the natural resources of the occupied territories;

6. *Requests* the Security Council to take effective measures, within an appropriate time-table, for the implementation of all relevant resolutions of the Council and the General Assembly on the Middle East and Palestine;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform the Co-Chairmen of the Peace Conference on the Middle East of the present resolution and to submit a report on the follow-up of its implementation to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session.

*95th plenary meeting  
9 December 1976*

### 31/62. Peace Conference on the Middle East

*The General Assembly,*

*Having discussed* the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

*Noting* the report of the Secretary-General on this item<sup>45</sup> and his initiative of 1 April 1976,<sup>46</sup>

*Gravely concerned* at the lack of progress towards the achievement of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East,

*Convinced* that any relaxation in the search for a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem to achieve a just peace in the area constitutes a grave threat to the prospects of peace in the Middle East as well as a threat to international peace and security,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To resume contacts with all the parties to the conflict and the Co-Chairmen of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, in accordance with his initiative of 1 April 1976, in preparation for the early convening of the Peace Conference on the Middle East;

(b) To submit a report to the Security Council on the results of his contacts and on the situation in the Middle East not later than 1 March 1977;

<sup>45</sup> A/31/270-S/12210. For the printed text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-first Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1976*.

<sup>46</sup> A/31/270-S/12210, para. 8. For the printed text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-first Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1976*.

2. *Calls* for the early convening of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, under the auspices of the United Nations and the co-chairmanship of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, not later than the end of March 1977;

3. *Requests* the Security Council to convene subsequent to the submission by the Secretary-General of the report referred to in paragraph 1 (b) above, in order to consider the situation in the area in the light of that report and to promote the process towards the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the area;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to inform the Co-Chairmen of the Peace Conference on the Middle East of the present resolution.

*95th plenary meeting  
9 December 1976*

### 31/63. Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea<sup>47</sup>

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 3067 (XXVIII) of 16 November 1973, 3334 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 and 3483 (XXX) of 12 December 1975,

*Noting* the letter dated 20 September 1976 from the President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea to the President of the General Assembly<sup>48</sup> regarding the decisions reached at the fifth session of the Conference, held in New York from 2 August to 17 September 1976,

*Having considered* the decision of the Conference, as conveyed in the letter of its President, that its sixth session should be convened in New York on 23 May 1977 for a period of seven weeks, with a possible extension to eight weeks should the Conference so decide,

*Bearing in mind* the request of the Conference, referred to in the letter from its President, that the Secretary-General should provide the necessary facilities for private consultations between sessions among Governments and delegations,

*Taking into account* the recommendation made by the Conference that the General Assembly should study measures to ensure stability and continuity for the secretariat personnel recruited for the Conference,

1. *Approves* the convening of the sixth session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea in New York for the period from 23 May to 8 July 1977, with a possible extension to 15 July should the Conference so decide;

2. *Reiterates* its decision at its thirtieth session<sup>49</sup> to accord priority to the Conference in relation to other United Nations activities, except those of organs established by the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to make available, as appropriate, the necessary facilities for private consultations between sessions among Governments and delegations;

4. *Further authorizes* the Secretary-General to continue to make the necessary arrangements originally provided under paragraph 9 of General Assembly

<sup>47</sup> See also sect. X.B.6 below, decision 31/407.

<sup>48</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Annexes*, agenda item 30, document A/31/225.

<sup>49</sup> Resolution 3483 (XXX), para. 2.