

Chapter I

PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The present chapter contains material pertaining to the practice of the Security Council in relation to its provisional rules of procedure, with the exception

of those rules that are dealt with in other chapters, as follows: rules 6-12, in chapter II, "Agenda"; rule 28, in chapter V, "Subsidiary organs of the Security Council"; rules 37-39, in chapter III, "Participation in the proceedings of the Security Council"; rule 40, in chapter IV, "Voting"; rules 58-60, in chapter VII, "Practice relative to recommendations to the General Assembly regarding membership in the United Nations"; and rule 61, in chapter VI, "Relations with other Organizations".

The major headings under which the material is

on the successive chapters of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council.

adopted amendments to its provisional rules of procedure on one occasion, when rules 41 and 42 were amended to include Arabic among the working languages of the Council (case 21). The rest of the material in this chapter is concerned with questions that arose regarding the application of a certain rule, especially when there was a discussion regarding

case histories presented here are not meant to be listed by the Council, but to indicate special prob-

**Part I

**MEETINGS (RULES 1-5)

Part II

NOTE

Since 1948, the reports of the Secretary-General on

an Council members and, in the absence of a request that they be considered by the Council have been

however, the credentials under rule 13 have been submitted and reported on by the Secretary-General only at times when changes in the representation of members of the Council have been made and when

during the period under review.

In one instance during the period under review, concerning the credentials of a Member State that

the provisional rules of procedure (case 1). Following a brief suspension of the meeting, the President

report on the matter and the meeting proceeded. The Secretary-General subsequently submitted a report

**A. CONSIDERATION OF THE ADOPTION OR AMENDMENT OF RULES 13-17

B. SPECIAL CASES CONCERNING THE APPLICATION

CASE 1

connection with the situation in Grenada, the representative of the United States of America raised a

which he understood the President of the Council to

procedure. He suggested that the Secretary-General be requested to submit a report on the matter.¹

The President stated that he had received a communication from the Governor-General of Grenada, although it should have been addressed to the Secretary-General, who was concerned with credentials. He noted that there remained some question as

that the matter was still under consultation between

the meeting he informed the Council that the Secre-

order that had been raised.

In his report² dated 31 October 1983, the Secre-

General stated that the President of the Council representative of Dominica conveying the text of a communication from the Governor-General of Grenada authorized to speak before the United Nations without the expressed permission of the Governor-General or until a new Ambassador is appointed for

eral. He noted that under rules 13 and 14 of the trials of representatives were to be issued by the head of State or Government concerned as by its function the function of head of State in Grenada. According to his understanding, the Governor-General had not removed the Permanent Representative of Grenada

Part III
PRESIDENCY (RULES 18-20)

NOTE

Part III of the present chapter deals with proceedings of the Council directly related to the office of the President.

During the period under review, there was one case of special interpretation of rule 18 which deals with

cases 5 and 7, and one case relating to rule 20, which deals with the temporary session of the chair (case 5).

occasion during the period under review when the representative of Iran, in a note verbale³ enclosing an explanation of his Government's position regarding

the communication had been addressed to the Secre-

in the war

instances, the President presented the results of such consultations to the Council in the form of a statement of consensus⁴ or as a draft resolution which the Council then adopted without further debate.⁵ In other instances, the President announced the agree-

Material relevant to the exercise by the President of his functions in connection with the agenda in

dent's functions in the conduct of a meeting is present chapter

**A. CONSIDERATION OF THE ADOPTION OR AMENDMENT OF RULES 18-20

B. SPECIAL CASES CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF RULES 18-20

Rule 18

CASE 2

On 13 August 1984, the President of the Council issued a note⁶ stating that, following the official

tion of rule 18 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure and had announced in formal communication

office for the month of August and would hold the presidency again in October 1984.

Rule 19

of his right of reply but the President, noting that

would, with the consent of the Council, adjourn the meeting, and that the time of the next meeting would

Israel maintained that the President should normally have announced that the Council would reconvene

stated that, to the best of his knowledge, no consultations had taken place until he had approached the current President upon his assumption of the Presidency.⁸

which the representative of Israel referred, the meeting, and he pointed out that the Council had

matters.⁸

The representative of Jordan noted that the 2480th meeting had been adjourned at 1.55 a.m. and asserted that the adjournment of the meeting had been in

The representative of Israel asserted that the customary respect shown to the President of the Council was predicated on reciprocity, and the President owed the same courtesy to representatives

representatives of every country except Israel for the

At the 2495th meeting (see case 3 above), the representative of Israel stated that the President for

gent, moreover, could not have made the statement he had just cited as the representative of Jordan,

the Israeli delegation. He related that at the 2480th meeting, on 18 October 1983, the Israeli representative had made a statement in which he had congratulated the President upon his assumption of the

tice of waiting until the end of the debate to make a statement as the representative of his own country, nor had he, in accordance with the accepted procedure, indicated at the beginning of his statement that

the hope that the two countries would soon estab-

country and indicated at the end that he was

responded as follows:

Rule 20

CASE 5

"The Council has heard the statement of the representative of Israel. I should like to point out

At the 2495th meeting, on 11 November 1983, the

especially as regards his country's alleged love of peace. I think it my duty as representative of Jordan to remind the Council that Israel, which arrogantly speaks of peace, has occupied Jerusalem, the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights for more than 16 years, in addition to its occupation of southern Lebanon, its refusal to be inclined towards peace ever since it was established, its

Council's 2480th meeting, on 18 October 1983 (see cases 3 and 4 above), cited as an example of proper conduct the decision by the President of the Council for the month of January 1954, to remove himself from the presidency in accordance with rule 20 of the provisional rules of procedure, even though his country had not been a direct party to the dispute under consideration.⁸

Part IV

SECRETARIAT (RULES 21-26)

21-26. The Secretariat shall be responsible for the functioning of the Council, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Rules of Procedure, which determine the specific functions and powers of the Secretary-General under

offices in connection with the question concerning

meetings of the Council.

Hoc Committee established by resolution 507 (1982)

ment of Lebanon in ensuring the full protection of the civilian population;²³ (p) to consult with the Government of Lebanon on ways and means of ensuring the full implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNI-

with the parties concerning ways to sustain and verify the cessation of hostilities and to consult with the parties regarding the immediate and effective implementation of resolution 540 (1983);³⁰ (w) to follow the situation in northern Lebanon, to consult with

United Nations to ensure the welfare of refugees in Lesotho;³¹ (x) to continue his efforts in cooperation

resolutions 545 (1983) and 546 (1984);³² (y) to continue consultations with the Government of

tion with the parties concerned, with a view to achieving a peaceful settlement;³⁶ (z) to conduct investigations and inquiries into the reported cases of mass poisoning in the occupied West Bank;³⁷

mentation of resolutions 549 (1984) and 555 (1984);³³ and (z) to promote the urgent implementation of resolution 563 (1985), to undertake new efforts to attain an overall solution to the Cyprus

situation in Namibia with the parties to the proposed cease-fire with a view to securing the speedy imple-

resolution 550 (1984).³⁴

tion with the situation between Iran and Iraq with a view to achieving a comprehensive, just and honour-

In a number of instances, the Secretary-General was requested to follow the implementation of

During the period under review,

Part V

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS (RULES 27-36)

NOTE

24. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

the Security Council during the period under

the Council had adopted a draft resolution and heard

cases assembled here are indicative of the special problems that arose in the application of the rules on

had been invited to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The representative of

(a) Rule 27, on the order of intervention in the debate (case 6);

speak before the vote. He noted that he had informed the President of his objection before the meeting had been convened and stated that his delegation found

submission to proposed resolutions and amend-

point of order during the statement by the representative

(d) Rule 32, on the order of precedence of principal motions and draft resolutions (case 17);

address issues that were external to the matter under

the representative of Israel resumed his statement. A short time later the President interrupted the representative of Israel to request, again, that he address the item on the agenda. The representative of Israel

exercise of his right of reply, to point out to the

Council the qualifications of those who spoke about
negotiation in international relations and their contri

On a point of order and inquired how many times the
right of reply could be exercised. He expressed the

CASE 8

rather than statements in exercise of the right of reply

connection with the situation in the occupied Arab

and he heard at another meeting. However, it was for

Israel resumed his statement, and he continued to
refer to the "Palestinian Arab State of Jordan". The
representative of Jordan insisted that it was out of
order to address representatives by anything other

reply.⁴¹

CASE 11

At the 2357th meeting, on 20 April 1982, in

sent. The President stated that the Council should

territories, the representative of Jordan speaking on

should be addressed by the proper names of the
countries they represented. The representative of

tatives should be addressed using the proper names
of their countries, and he requested that the Presi-

CASE 9

At the 2255th meeting, on 16 April 1982, in
connection with the situation in the occupied Arab
territories, the representative of Israel requested as a
representative of Jordan to refer to a State Member of the
admitted to the Organization. The President asked
the representative of Jordan to continue his state-
ment, but the representative of Israel continued to

continue his statement.

CASE 12

At the 2388th meeting, on 4 August 1982, in
connection with the situation in the Middle East, the
representative of Israel requested that the representative of Israel call the
adjectives, because such use of adjectives was in
violation of the Charter of the United Nations. The
President stated that, as President, he had neither the
authority nor the right to discipline speakers.

Council's provisional rules of procedure, he had

to his country.

members of the Council and others participating in

speakers that the item on the agenda was the

The President asked that speakers address their remarks through him, in accordance with the normal practice. The representative of Israel resumed his statement and was once again interrupted on a point of order, this time by the representative of the Soviet Union, who sought the President's opinion as to

stressed that it was the tradition and practice of the Council to allow speakers complete freedom of speech but at the same time he reminded speakers of

as possible on the agenda item. The President noted

representative of Poland raised a point of order and cited Article 31 of the Charter as obliging representatives to speak only on the question before the Council, which was not incompatible with freedom of the item on the agenda. The President called on the

CASE 14

referred to a draft resolution⁴⁶ which his delegation had circulated the day before and reported that, while his delegation had wanted the draft resolution voted upon yesterday, it had responded to a sugges-

his way to address the Council, and since he had not asking them to vote on a draft resolution, he had willingly acceded to the President's request that the

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Panama asked that the Council heed what the representative of the not proceed to a vote in accordance with rule 31 of

CASE 15

At the 2371st meeting, on 2 June 1982, in connection with the question concerning the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), the representative of Spain read out the text of a draft resolution⁵⁰ sponsored by

order that it might be put to the vote that same day. The representative of Panama confirmed that his delegation had submitted the draft resolution in the

representatives of Spain and Panama had expressed

on the following day in order to be allowed some time, but not more than 24 hours, for reflection. He suggested that the vote on the draft resolution be five of Spain acknowledged that it was usual to have

expressed before the text of the draft resolution had

resolution had been voted upon on the day of its submission, in view of the urgent nature of the draft resolution he urged that the Council consider voting that day, unless the President decided otherwise.

since both his Prime Minister and his Minister for Foreign Affairs were in flight towards Paris at that following day, though not necessarily a full 24 hours

At the 2385th meeting, on 29 July 1982, in representative of Spain orally introduced a draft

in order to allow for consultations on the draft

suspension of the meeting and a delay in the voting,

At the 2350th meeting, on 3 April 1982, during the

question to a vote. The representative of the United States, on a point of order, clarified that the United

1982 from the representative of the United Kingdom, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Panama

hours to allow for consultations with Governments. The President stated that it had been his understand-

Government and requested that the meeting be suspended so that the Secretariat could translate and distribute the draft resolution.

suspension of two hours. The representative of

speaker in the debate and requested that the Council

immediately vote on the Spanish draft resolution.

Panama. The representative of the Soviet Union

vote. It was not adopted, having failed to receive the draft resolution submitted by Spain.

remained on the list of speakers, but since a motion to suspend the meeting had priority, in accordance with

Following the vote, the representative of the United States stated that her delegation had not found it

The representative of Ireland, on a point of order, asked for clarification as to whether the Council

which had been employed and suggested that it members were not to be provided with an opportunity to consult with their Governments.⁵⁴

Council could hear the rest of the speakers. The President stated that, as he understood it, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Panama had proposed a suspension of the meeting for purely practical reasons and confirmed that the Council could continue the debate later, should it decide upon a suspension of the meeting. He again proposed to put the motion

Rule 32

CASE 17

connection with the situation in the Middle East, the

The representative of Spain asked how much time

representative of Spain orally presented a draft resolution⁵⁶ submitted by his Government that was concerned with urgent humanitarian matters and was not to be taken to the Council with the draft resolution presented by Egypt and France. He noted that the representatives of Egypt and France had stated

the meeting. The President acknowledged that the Secretariat might need two hours and, recalling that the provisional rules of procedure required that a motion for the suspension of the meeting be decided immediately, he put the motion to the vote. The motion failed of adoption and the Council continued

requesting that the meeting be suspended for all

ernments. The President asked if there was any objection to the request by Jordan. The representa-

that the proposal by the representative of Jordan

if what the representative of Spain had proposed was

paragraph 1, it should indeed be decided without debate; however, since it fixed a certain day or hour, it seemed to come under rule 33, paragraph 3, which was not decided without debate. The representative

authorize a longer suspension. The representative of Spain reminded the Council that the only reason the

amendments be placed before the representatives in

which would allow the present debate. The President

the representative of Spain asked that the Council vote instead on the proposal by the representative of Jordan to suspend the meeting until 5 p.m. The President put Jordan's proposal to the vote and it

Part VI

VOTING (RULE 40)

NOTE

Rule 40 of the provisional rules of procedure

changes of the vote or the majorities by which the Council decides, the Council should conform to the relevant Articles of the Charter and of the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

In addition to the case history presented below

statement enclosed in a note verbale⁶⁴ dated 5 October 1982, cited Article 27, paragraph 3 of the Charter as having required the representatives of Jordan and Egypt to abstain in the voting at the Council's 2399th meeting, on 4 October 1982, in connection with the situation

On certain occasions, as in the past, members of the Council have voted on resolutions declared to have been adopted.

At its 2396th meeting, on 3 April 1982, in the

dom, the Council was ready to commence the voting procedure on a revised draft resolution⁶⁵ sponsored by the United Kingdom when the Minister for

recalled that under Article 27, paragraph 3, of the

on decisions under Chapter VI of the Charter, and he asked the President to rule on whether the draft resolution fell under Chapter VI or Chapter VII, in order that it might be clear whether the resolution

ment related to a breach of the peace and had been

United Kingdom would vote, in accordance with the Charter and the consistent practice of the Council. The President invited the members of the Council to decide whether or not the resolution

Spain expressed the view that the explanation offered by the representative of the United Kingdom had

matter fell under Chapter VII, and that the United

no further comments, the Council would go on to the

Part VII
LANGUAGES (RULES 41-47)

NOTE

During the period under review, the Council amended rules 41 and 42 of its provisional rules of procedure to include Arabic among the working languages of the Council (Case 21).

During this period the practice of waiving the right consistently followed by Members of the Council.

General Assembly resolution 35/219, in which the Assembly, *inter alia*, stated that Arabic should be accorded the same status as the other official and working languages of the Council, and asked the Council to include the item in its agenda.

At its 2410th meeting, on 21 December 1982, the the official and working languages of the Council. The President drew the Council's attention to a draft resolution⁶⁸ submitted by Lebanon in the same

RULES 41 AND 42

CASE 21

By a letter⁶⁷ dated 17 December 1982, the represen

528 (1982) included an amendment of rules 41 and 42 of the provisional rules of procedure.

APPENDIX TO THE PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE

Part VIII**PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS, RECORDS (RULES 48-57)****NOTE**

In accordance with rule 49, the verbatim records of each meeting are made available in the working languages to the representatives of the Council, as

date of distribution. Corrections are requested in writing, in quadruplicate, within three working days, to be submitted in the same language as the text to

which they refer. These corrections are included, in the absence of any objection, in the *Official Record* of the meeting, which is printed and distributed as soon as possible after the time limit for correction. During the period under review, the Council held eight

procedure. There were no special instances of the application of rules 48-57 during the time period covered by the present *Supplement*.

****Part IX******APPENDIX TO THE PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE**

without change as resolution 521 (1982); S/15446, adopted 19 June 1982, 515 (1982) of 29 July 1982, 516 (1982) of 1 August

without change as resolution 524 (1982); S/15523, adopted 1982, 523 (1982) of 18 October 1982, 524 (1982) of 29 November

without change as resolution 526 (1982); S/15524, adopted 1982, and 530 (1983) of 18 January 1983, presidential statement

without change as resolution 527 (1982); S/15573, adopted of 1 April 1983, S/15600, OR, 37th yr., Resolutions and Decisions

without change as resolution 531 (1982); S/15803, adopted of the Security Council, 1983, resolutions 531 (1983) of 26 May

without change as resolution 532 (1982); S/16020, adopted 1982, 532 (1982) of 27 November 1982, 533 (1983) of 27 November 1982

without change as resolution 536 (1983); S/16046, adopted 1984, in connection with the complaint by Iraq, resolution 487

without change as resolution 538 (1983); S/16179, adopted (1981) of 19 June 1981; in connection with the situation in

without change as resolution 543 (1983); S/16217, adopted December 1981, 510 (1982) of 15 June 1982, 526 (1982) of 14

without change as resolution 544 (1983); S/16275, adopted December 1982, 534 (1983) of 15 June 1983, 541 (1983) of 18

without change as resolution 547 (1984); S/16491, adopted November 1983, 544 (1983) of 15 December 1983, 550 (1984) of

without change as resolution 549 (1984); S/16592, adopted 11 May 1984, 553 (1984) of 14 June 1984 and 559 (1984) of 14

without change as resolution 551 (1984); S/16770, adopted December 1984, in connection with the situation in the Middle East,

without change as resolution 557 (1984); and S/16862, adopted 1982; in connection with the situation between Iran and Iraq, 0 T D 3

without change as resolution 559 (1984). resolutions 514 (1982) of 12 July 1982, and 522 (1982) of 4

⁶ For the texts of such notes or letters, see S/14850, OR, 37th yr., October 1982, presidential statement of 21 February 1983,

Suppl. for Jan. March 1982; S/14900, *ibid.*; S/15138, *ibid.*, Suppl. S/15616, OR, 38th yr., Resolutions and Decisions of the Security

Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1984. resolutions 527 (1982) of 15 December 1982 and 535 (1983) of 29

in connection with the complaint of Angola against South Africa,

15 June 1982, 526 (1982) of 14 December 1982, 534 (1983) of 15

Resolution 501 (1982) of 25 February 1982. Committee established by resolution 421 (1977).

¹⁴ Resolution 504 (1982) of 30 April 1982. ¹⁶ 2564th mtg.

¹⁵ Resolution 505 (1982) of 26 May 1982. ¹⁷ 2328th mtg., paras. 114-126.

¹⁶ Resolution 507 (1982) of 28 May 1982. ¹⁸ 2334th mtg., paras. 123-141.

¹⁷ Resolutions 508 (1982) of 25 June 1982 and 512 (1982) of 19 ¹⁹ 2355th mtg., paras. 50-62.

June 1982. ²⁰ *Ibid.*, paras. 85-88.

¹⁸ Resolution 513 (1982) of 4 July 1982. ²¹ 2356th mtg., paras. 117 and 118.

¹⁹ Resolution 514 (1982) of 12 July 1982. ²² 2357th mtg., paras. 51 and 52.

²⁰ Resolution 515 (1982) of 20 July 1982. ²³ 2360th mtg., paras. 127-133.

September 1982. ²⁶ S/14947, OR, 37th yr., Suppl. for April-June 1982.

²³ Resolution 521 (1982) of 19 September 1982. ²⁷ S/14947/Rev. 1, adopted without change as resolution 502

²⁴ Resolution 523 (1982) of 18 October 1982. (1982).

²⁷ Presidential statement of 4 April 1983, S/15680, OR, 38th yr., ³⁰ S/15156, OR, 37th yr., Suppl. for April-June 1982.

²⁸ Resolution 522 (1982) of 21 May 1982. ³¹ 2371st mtg., paras. 15-22.

Resolution 542 (1983) of 25 November 1983. ³⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 83.

³² Resolutions 545 (1983) of 21 December 1983 and 546 (1984) ³⁹ *Ibid.*, paras. 111-123.

of 6 January 1984. ⁴⁰ S/14950, OR, 37th yr., Suppl. for April-June 1982.

³³ Resolutions 549 (1984) of 19 April 1984 and 555 (1984) of 12 ⁴¹ 2350th mtg., paras. 136-145.

October 1984. ⁴² S/15156/Rev. 1, OR, 37th yr., Suppl. for April-June 1982.

³⁴ Resolution 550 (1984) of 11 May 1984. ⁴³ 2372nd mtg., paras. 3-31.

³⁵ In connection with the situation in the Middle East, resolu- ⁴⁴ S/15448, OR, 27th yr., Suppl. for Oct.-Dec. 1982.

(1981) of 17 December 1981, 498 (1981) of 18 December 1981, (1982).

501 (1982) of 25 February 1982, 506 (1982) of 26 May 1982, 508 ⁴⁶ 2350th mtg., paras. 189-202.

(1982) of 5 June 1982, 511 (1982) of 18 June 1982, 512 (1982) of ⁴⁷ S/15532, OR, 37th yr., Suppl. for Oct.-Dec. 1982.

2307th	17 November	Recommendation regarding the ap	2310th	17 November	Recommendation regarding the ap
2307th	27 October	Recommendation regarding the ap	2312th	11 December	Recommendation regarding the ap
2307th	26 October	Recommendation regarding the ap	2402th	24 November	Consideration of the draft report of
2305th	4 November 1981	Recommendation regarding the ap pointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations	2494th	11 November 1983	Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly
2308th	10 November 1981	Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly			