FIFTEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIFTH MEETING

Held in New York on Wednesday, 18 August 1971 at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. Piero VINCI (Italy)

Present: The representatives of the following States: Argentina, Belgium, Burundi, China, France, Italy, Japan, Nicaragua, Poland, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Syria, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Provisional agenda (S/Agenda/1575)

1. Adoption of the agenda.

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2. Admission of new Members:

Report of the Committee on the Admission of New Members concerning the applications of Oman and Bahrain for membership in the United Nations (S/10294).

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Admission of new Members

Report of the Committee on the Admission of New Members concerning the applications of Oman and Bahrain for membership in the United Nations (S/10294)

The PRESIDENT: In accordance with the decision taken at our last meeting, the Committee on the Admission of New Members has met and has submitted a report to the Council [S/10294]. It is my understanding that the Council is prepared to act on the draft resolution which is contained in paragraph 4 of the Committee's report and which reads as follows:

"The Security Council,

"Having examined the application of Bahrain for admission to the United Nations [S/10291],

"Recommends to the General Assembly that Bahrain be admitted to membership in the United Nations."

If no one wishes to speak at this stage, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote.

2. Mr. TOMEH (Syria): I wish to propose that the operative paragraph of the draft resolution be amended to read as follows:

"Welcomes the application of Bahrain and recommends to the General Assembly that Bahrain be admitted to membership in the United Nations."

3. The PRESIDENT: The representative of Syria has proposed an amendment to the operative paragraph of the draft resolution that I have just read out. With that amendment the text would read as follows:

"The Security Council,

"Welcomes the application of Bahrain and recommends to the General Assembly that Bahrain be admitted to membership in the United Nations."

- 4. Mr. FARAH (Somalia): My delegation wishes to support the amendment proposed by the representative of Syria.
- 5. The PRESIDENT: Are there any objections to that amendment? As there are none, I take it that the amendment is adopted by the Council.
- 6. We shall now proceed to the vote on the draft resolution as amended.

The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted unanimously. 1

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- matist and high official of this Organization, Ambassador Vittorio Winspeare Guicciardi, was entrusted with the important mission of ascertaining the will of the people of Bahrain. While my delegation draws sincere satisfaction from this happy circumstance, I, personally, feel most fortunate to be in the Chair when this historic event in the life of Bahrain is taking place.
- 84. The admission to our Organization of a newly independent country represents, in our view, a further step towards the fulfilment of the objective of universality, an objective which, we believe, is consistent with the spirit of the Charter and, at the same time, meets the expectations and the needs of mankind at this stage in its history. A more open discourse between peoples of different races, religions and cultures, the efforts by peoples to understand each other and to look at what they have in common rather than at what separates them, the acknowledgement by mankind that only by working together can we face the global challenges of our times—these seem to be the main features, the imperative of our shrinking world.
- 85. In that light, the decision that we have just taken becomes all the more significant. As we are the product of our own history, of past generations, let me say that long-lasting ties have connected the Italian people and the people of Bahrain. Pliny and Strabo have described the customs, the virtues, the history, of the people now ready to join us, and through centuries this relationship started by the Romans and continued through the Renaissance will no doubt develop to the mutual advantage of our two countries.
- 86. For cultural, economic and geographical reasons, the Republic of Italy feels very close to the countries of the Near East. The Italian Government has therefore consistently contributed, to the extent of its capacities, to the development and progress of the friendly neighbouring countries situated in that most important area of the world. Italy has supported and will continue to support their well-founded aspiration to shape their future of their own free will, to play again a role in international affairs on an equal footing, and to make their own, original contribution to the advance of mankind.
- 87. In the light of those considerations the Italian Government is confident that the work and the performance of this Organization will benefit by the membership of Bahrain.
- 88. For all those reasons the Italian delegation voted in favour of the resolution which has just been adopted unanimously and will be most happy to co-operate with the Bahrain delegation for the achievement of the purposes enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.
- 89. Before concluding I should like to state that the report of the Committee on the Admission of New Members mentions two applications and that my delegation looks forward to the speedy completion of the consideration of Oman's application for membership of the United Nations so that Oman may be admitted in the course of the twenty-sixth session of the General Assembly.
- 82. The PRESIDENT: Now that all members of the Council except one have spoken, in accordance with tradition I shall make a statement as representative of ITALY.
- 83. By a happy coincidence—a rare thing in man's life—it has fallen to me to convene the Council and preside over its meetings at which we have considered the application for admission to the world Organization of the State of Bahrain. It is a happy coincidence since, if I may say so, Italy in a sense has been instrumental in bringing about the final process towards the independence of Bahrain. In fact, as is well known to all members of the Council—indeed it has been mentioned by previous speakers—an Italian diplo-