

have drawn attention to the fact that postponement of a decision will only prolong unnecessarily the inevitably deliberate procedures of Charter amendment.

In this connection, I should like to call attention to the suggestion of my distinguished colleague from Argentina that, since Article 108 of the Charter comprises a two-stage procedure for amendments, we in the Assembly should get on with the first stage without delay and adopt an amendment acceptable to all parties. Then will be the time to concern ourselves over obtaining ratifications, when we are halfway to our goal. In this respect, Article 69 of the Charter could perhaps be of aid in bridging the interim period between voting and ratification, by enabling additional representatives from the now under-represented areas to participate in the deliberations of ECOSOC prior to their formal election.

It is quite clear from the statements made so far on this item that it is generally recognized that the African and Asian areas are at present seriously under-represented on the Security Council and ECOSOC, and that additional seats should be provided for these areas. I think that the statements have also reflected a primary interest in the enlargement of ECOSOC which, as a functional body, is of very immediate practical value in assisting the development of new states. Also, because the membership of ECOSOC is not restricted by specific Charter rules or other formal conventions regarding membership, it may be less complicated to adapt to present-day political realities.

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We are then agreed that the African and Asian areas are inadequately represented on the Councils. Since it has also been,

I think, demonstrated that we must make real progress at this session, I suggest we should proceed first in the direction where the obstacles or possible areas of disagreement are least evident. If politics is the art of the possible, we should then perhaps not try to solve both