

Press Release for the Eighth Special Session
of the UNCC Governing Council

The Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission held a special session on 21 January 1999 for the purpose of electing a new president and one of the two vice-presidents of the Council. The meeting was chaired by the Vice-President of the Governing Council, the Permanent Representative of Slovenia, Ambassador Gregor Zore.

The Council elected the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands, Ambassador Hans Heinemann, as President and the Permanent Representative of Argentina, Ambassador Guillermo Enrique González, as a Vice-President of the Governing Council.

It has been the practice of the Council to elect the President and Vice-Presidents from the incoming members for a two year period. As of 1 January 1999 the new members of the Governing Council - its membership mirrors that of the United Nations Security Council - are Argentina, Canada, Malaysia, Namibia and the Netherlands. They have replaced Costa Rica, Japan, Kenya (served as a Vice-President of the Governing Council in 1997-1998), Portugal (President) and Sweden.

In the past, the Presidency of the Governing Council was held by Belgium, Spain, Italy and Portugal.