

# UN-Secretariat matters A-Pe: UN-Secretariat matters A-Pe - 59

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9-th Session - General Assembly

29 March

Eelco van Kleffens for President of the Gen. Assembly.

(Some facts about him)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 29, 1954

Acting upon instructions from the Netherlands Government, the Netherlands Permanent Representative to the United Nations today informed the other Permanent Delegations to the United Nations that The Netherlands proposes to seek the election to the Presidency of the General Assembly during its Ninth Session of Dr. E.N. van Kleffens, Minister of State, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, former Ambassador to the United States, former Netherlands Representative to the United Nations, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, etc. etc., at present Her Majesty's Minister to Portugal.

The Netherlands Government considers that, since with the exception of the First Session of the General Assembly, the Presidency has been held consecutively by representatives of non-European nations, it would seem to be justified that, after a lapse of seven years, the Presidency at the forthcoming Ninth Regular Session should be entrusted to a representative of a European country. In the opinion of the Netherlands Government, Dr. van Kleffens would be particularly well qualified to assume the responsibilities evolving from the high office of President of the General Assembly, because of his long and outstanding experience in the field of international relations. (See attached curriculum vitae.)

The Netherlands Government expresses the hope that the candidacy of Dr. van Kleffens will be favorably considered and that general support will be given to him at the forthcoming election.

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Enclosure

Dr Eelco Nicolaas van Kleffens

Born at Heerenveen (Netherlands) on 17 November 1894.  
Minister of State; Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

- 1918: Doctor of law at the State University at Leyden on a thesis entitled: "The international law relations between the Netherlands and Japan (1605 up to the present)".
- 1919-1921: attached to the Secretariat of the League of Nations.
- 1921-1922: attached to the Secretariat of the managing board of the Royal Netherlands Petroleum Co. (London).
- 1922: Assistant-Director of the Legal Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Secretary to the Board of the Hague Academy of International Law.
- 1927: Assistant-Director of the Diplomatic Affairs Department. Registrar of the arbitration court for the interpretation of the Dawes and (afterwards) Young Plans.
- 1929: Director of the Diplomatic Affairs Department.
- 1939-1946: Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 1945: Conference at San Francisco: chairman of the Netherlands Delegation.
- 1946-1947: Minister without portfolio.
- 1946-1947: Permanent Representative to the United Nations; Netherlands representative to the Security Council and afterwards to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.
- 1946: First part of the First Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations: Chairman of the Netherlands Delegation.
- 1946: Second part of the First Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations: Vice-Chairman of the Netherlands Delegation.
- 1946-..... Member of the Board of Governors of the Hague Academy of International Law.
- 1947-1950: Her Majesty's Ambassador to the United States.
- 1950: Minister of State (honorary appointment for life).
- 1950-..... Her Majesty's Minister to Portugal.