

Considering it desirable to bring to the notice of the international community the work done in the field of peace research by national and international institutions and to promote on a permanent basis, in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter, a recording of the studies devoted to this subject,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare every other year an informative report on scientific works produced by national and international, governmental and non-governmental, public and private institutions in the field of peace research;

2. Invites the Governments of Member States and the

institutions referred to in paragraph 1 above to provide the Secretary-General, to the best of their ability and competence, with all the information he may require;

3. Requests the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and those specialized agencies which are active in the field of peace research to lend their assistance in the drafting of the report referred to above;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at the beginning of its twenty-eighth session, the first report prepared under paragraph 1 above.

Proposal by Cuba concerning Puerto Rico

In a letter dated 17 August 1971 to the Secretary-General, Cuba requested the inclusion of an item entitled "The colonial case of Puerto Rico" in the provisional agenda of the 1971 session of the General Assembly. Attached to the letter was an explanatory memorandum stating that the people of Puerto Rico had an inalienable right to independence and that the United Nations had the unavoidable duty to take all necessary steps to

ensure that those people achieved the full exercise of their national rights.

On 24 September 1971, the General Assembly decided, by a roll-call vote of 57 to 26, with 38 abstentions, not to include the item on its agenda. It did so on the recommendation of its General Committee, which had taken its decision on the matter on 23 September by 10 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions.

DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES

General Assembly—26th session
General Committee, meeting 192.
Plenary meetings 1937, 1938.

A/8441. Letter of 17 August 1971 from Cuba (request for inclusion in agenda of item entitled: "The colonial case of Puerto Rico").

A/8441/Add.1. Letter of 20 August 1971 from Cuba.

A/8500. First report of General Committee, para. 17, recommendation, adopted by Assembly on 24 September 1971, meeting 1938, by roll-call vote of 57 to 26, with 38 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Ceylon, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Iran, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar,* South Africa, Sweden,

Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Zaire.

Against: Albania, Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Chile, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Hungary, Iraq, Libyan Arab Republic, Mali, Mongolia, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Poland, Romania, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian SSR, USSR, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia.

Abstaining: Argentina, Bahrain, Barbados, Bolivia, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Cyprus, Dahomey, Egypt, El Salvador, Gabon, Gambia, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Kuwait, Laos, Mauritius, Mexico, Nepal, Panama, Peru, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

*Subsequently, Qatar advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote against.

Proclamation of United Nations Day as an international holiday

Believing that the anniversary of the United Nations should be an occasion for Governments and peoples to reaffirm their faith in the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the General Assembly, on 6 December 1971, declared that 24 October—United Nations Day—should be an international holiday. It recommended that the day should be observed as a public holiday by all States Members of the United Nations.

The Assembly took this action with the adoption of resolution 2782(XXVI), by 63 votes to 6, with 32 abstentions, on the basis of a text sponsored by Barbados, Burundi, Cyprus, Greece, Guyana, the Khmer Republic, Liberia, Mauritius, the Philippines, Swaziland, Yugoslavia and Zambia. (For text of resolution, see DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES below.)

The question was discussed at a plenary meeting at the suggestion of Zambia.

DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES

General Assembly—26th session
Plenary meeting 2000.

A/8393. Letter of 20 July 1971 from Zambia (request for inclusion

in agenda of item entitled: "Proclamation of United Nations Day as an international holiday").

A/L.646 and Add.1.2. Barbados, Burundi, Cyprus, Greece, Guyana, Khmer Republic, Liberia, Mauritius, Philippines, Swazi-