

Other questions relating to non-self-governing territories

Transmission of information

Territories on which information was submitted in 1972

In accordance with Chapter XI, Article 73e, of the United Nations Charter, Members responsible for the administration of territories whose peoples have not yet attained a full measure of self-government have the obligation to send each year to the Secretary-General information on economic, social and educational conditions in the territories for which they have responsibilities, subject to such limitations as security and constitutional considerations may require.¹

Australia, France, New Zealand, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States regularly include information on political and constitutional developments in the territories on which they transmit information. Additional information on political and constitutional developments in the territories under their administration is also given by Australia, New Zealand and the United States when the territories for which they have responsibility are discussed in the General Assembly's Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. Supplementary information is also made available by the United Kingdom concerning territories under its administration.

During 1972, information relating to 1971 was transmitted to the Secretary-General with respect to the following territories:

Australia: Cocos (Keeling) Islands; Papua New Guinea
France: New Hebrides (condominium with the United Kingdom)
New Zealand: Niue; Tokelau Islands
Spain: Spanish Sahara
United Kingdom: Bahamas; Bermuda; British Honduras; British Virgin Islands; Cayman Islands; Falkland Islands (Malvinas); Gibraltar; Gilbert and Ellice Islands; Hong Kong; Montserrat; New Hebrides (condominium with France); Pitcairn;

St. Helena; Seychelles; Solomon Islands; Southern Rhodesia; Turks and Caicos Islands
United States: American Samoa; Guam; United States Virgin Islands

The Secretary-General reported to the General Assembly at its 1972 session, which opened on 19 September, that he had received no information concerning territories under Portuguese administration, which the Assembly by a decision of 15 December 1960² considered to be non-self-governing territories within the meaning of Chapter XI of the Charter.

Nor had the Secretary-General received any information concerning Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia or St. Vincent. In that connexion, the United Kingdom had declared at previous sessions of the General Assembly that, having achieved the status of Associated States, those territories had attained a full measure of self-government.

On 18 September 1972, the United Kingdom informed the Secretary-General that it was ceasing to transmit information under Article 73e of the Charter on Brunei. The General Assembly on 14 December 1972, in adopting resolution 2978(XXVII), took note of the communication on Brunei and requested the Special Committee to submit appropriate recommendations for a decision by the Assembly. (See below for further details of resolution 2978(XXVII): for text see DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES below.)

With the adoption of resolution 2908(XXVII) on 2 November 1972, the General Assembly among other things approved the report of the Special Committee, which contained a recommendation that Hong Kong and Macao and dependencies be excluded from the list of territories to which the Declaration on the granting of independence was applicable. (See pp. 550-52 for text of resolution 2908(XXVII).)

¹ For text of Chapter XI of the Charter, see APPENDIX II.
² See Y.U.N., 1960, p. 513, text of resolution 1542(XV).

Subsequently, on 14 December 1972, the United Kingdom informed the Secretary-General that in view of the Assembly's approval of the report of the Special Committee, no useful purpose would be served by continuing to transmit information on Hong Kong under Article 73e of the Charter. The United Kingdom also stated that the action of the General Assembly in no way affected the legal status of Hong Kong. Its views on that status were well known and it was unable to accept any differing views which had been or might be expressed by other Governments. (See also p. 543.)

Study of information from administering Members

Up to 1963, information transmitted by administering Members on non-self-governing territories was examined by the General Assembly's Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories. When the General Assembly decided, on 16 December 1963, to discontinue this Committee,³ it requested the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information and take it fully into account in examining the situation in each of the non-self-governing territories.

On 23 August 1972, the Special Committee unanimously approved a resolution on this question, the provisions of which were subsequently incorporated in a General Assembly resolution adopted on 14 December 1972.

By this resolution, the General Assembly:

(1) approved the chapter of the report of the Special Committee relating to the information from non-self-governing territories transmitted under Article 73e of the United Nations Charter;

(2) deeply deplored that, despite the repeated recommendations of the Assembly and the Special Committee, some Member States having responsibilities for the administration of non-self-governing territories had ceased to transmit information under Article 73e of the Charter, had transmitted insufficient information or had transmitted information too late;

(3) strongly condemned the Government of Portugal for its continued refusal to recognize the colonial status of the territories under its domination and to transmit information under Article 73e of the Charter on those territories, in complete disregard of the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee;

(4) reaffirmed that, in the absence of a decision by the Assembly itself that a non-self-governing territory had attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering power concerned should con-

tinue to transmit information under Article 73e of the Charter with respect to that territory;

(5) requested the administering powers concerned to transmit, or continue to transmit, to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73e of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the territories concerned;

(6) reiterated its request that the administering powers concerned transmit such information as early as possible and, at the latest, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in the non-self-governing territories concerned; and

(7) requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it, and, in regard to Brunei, to submit appropriate recommendations for a decision by the General Assembly.

These decisions were embodied in resolution 2978(XXVII), adopted by a recorded vote of 117 to 2, with 9 abstentions, on the recommendation of the Assembly's Fourth Committee, which approved the text on 8 December 1972 by a recorded vote of 68 to 2, with 7 abstentions.

The draft text was proposed by Cameroon, Chad, the Congo, Ghana, Guyana, India, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia.

(For text of resolution, see DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES below.)

Offers of study and training facilities

In 1972, the Secretary-General reported to the General Assembly that up to 20 October 1972, the following 27 Member States had made scholarships available to persons from non-self-governing territories for secondary, vocational, university and post-graduate studies: Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Romania, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the USSR, the United States and Yugoslavia.

On 14 December 1972, the Assembly expressed its appreciation to Member States which had made scholarships available and invited all States to make generous offers of study and training facilities. It requested them to provide travel funds to prospective students if possible and to inform the Secretary-General of the details of the offers made under the programme.

The Assembly also requested the administering powers concerned to give widespread publicity in

³ See Y.U.N., 1963, pp. 441-42, text of resolution 1970(XVIII).

territories under their administration to offers of study and training and to provide all the necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of such offers. It asked the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly in 1973 on the implementation of these decisions.

The Assembly's decisions to this effect were embodied in resolution 2982(XXVII), adopted, without objection, on the recommendation of the

Fourth Committee. The Committee had unanimously approved the text on 8 December 1972, on the basis of a proposal by Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, the Congo, Costa Rica, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia. (For text of resolution, see DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES below.)

Documentary references

Transmission of information

Special Committee on Situation with regard to Implementation of Declaration on Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, meetings 885, 886.

General Assembly—27th session
Fourth Committee, meetings 2001-2008, 2016, 2017, 2020.
Plenary meeting 2110.

A/8701. Report of Secretary-General on work of the Organization, 16 June 1971-15 June 1972, Part Two, Chapter III A.

A/8723/Rev.1. Report of Special Committee (covering its work during 1972), Chapter XXVII, Section B (resolution adopted by Special Committee on 23 August 1972, meeting 886).

A/8821 and Add.1-3. Information from non-self-governing territories transmitted under Article 73 e of Charter of United Nations. Report of Secretary-General.

A/8827. Note verbale of 18 September 1972 from United Kingdom (communicating text of Agreement between United Kingdom and Brunei, amending Agreement of 29 September 1959).

A/8989. Letter of 14 December 1972 from United Kingdom.
A/C.4/L.1023. Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Ghana, Guyana, India, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia: draft resolution, approved by Fourth Committee on 8 December 1972, meeting 2017, by recorded vote of 68 to 2, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bhutan, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian SSR, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian SSR, USSR, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Portugal, South Africa.

Abstaining: Belgium, Brazil, El Salvador, France, Spain, United Kingdom, United States.

Resolution 2978(XXVII), as recommended by Fourth Committee, A/8956, adopted by Assembly on 14 December 1972, meeting 2110, by recorded vote of 117 to 2, with 9 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bhutan, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian SSR, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian SSR, USSR, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Portugal, South Africa.

Abstaining: Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, El Salvador, France, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom, United States.

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1970(XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration,

Recalling also its resolution 2870(XXVI) of 20 December 1971, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970(XVIII), in accordance with the procedures approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 2109(XX) of 21 December 1965,

Recalling further the provisions of paragraph 5 of resolution 2870(XXVI), in which it requested the administering Powers concerned to transmit, or continue to transmit, to the Secretary-General the Information

A/8956. Report of Fourth Committee.

prescribed in Article 73e of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee dealing with the transmittal of Information under Article 73 e of the Charter and the action taken by it in respect of that information,

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General on this Item,

Noting the communication dated 18 September 1972 from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Secretary-General concerning the Territory of Brunei,

1. Approves the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. Deeply deplores that, despite the repeated recommendations of the General Assembly and the Special Committee, some Member States having responsibilities for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories have ceased to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter, have transmitted insufficient information or have transmitted information too late;

3. Strongly condemns the Government of Portugal for its continued refusal to recognize the colonial status of the Territories under its domination and to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter on those Territories, in complete disregard of the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee;

4. Reaffirms that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

5. Requests the administering Powers concerned to transmit, or continue to transmit, to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 e of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned;

6. Reiterates its request that the administering Powers concerned transmit such information as early as possible and, at the latest, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned;

7. Requests the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970(XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and, as regards Brunei, to submit appropriate recommendations for a decision by the Assembly under paragraph 4 above and other relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

Offers of study and training facilities

General Assembly—27th session

Fourth Committee, meetings 2001-2008, 2016, 2017, 2020.
Plenary meeting 2110.

A/8701. Report of Secretary-General on work of the Organization, Part Two, Chapter III B.

A/8855. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of non-self-governing territories. Report of Secretary-General.

A/C.4/L.1022. Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia: draft resolution, approved unanimously by Fourth Committee on 8 December 1972, meeting 2017.

A/8961. Report of Fourth Committee.

Resolution 2982(XXVII), as recommended by Fourth Committee, A/8961, adopted without objection by Assembly on 14 December 1972, meeting 2110.

The General Assembly,
Recalling its resolution 2876(XXVI) of 20 December 1971,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories, prepared under General Assembly resolution 845(IX) of 22 November 1954,

Bearing in mind the need to provide increased educational and training facilities, at all levels, for the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

1. ~~Takes~~ note of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. Invites all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

4. Requests those States offering scholarships to inform the Secretary-General of the details of the offers made under this programme and, whenever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

5. Requests the administering Powers concerned to intensify widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. Draws the attention of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.