Chapter III

Trusteeship and decolonization

The year 1994 was significant in the history of the United Nations efforts to eliminate colonialism. With the successful plebiscite in Palau for a Compact of Free Association with the United States, the last remaining Trust Territory under the International Trusteeship System achieved independence in October. In December, Palau was admitted to membership in the United Nations. The Trusteeship Council, composed of China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States, resumed its sixtieth session on 18 January and held its sixty-first session in New York on 24 and 25 May and on 1 November. With Palau's attainment of self-determination, the Council effectively completed the work entrusted to it under the United Nations Charter.

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 (Committee on colonial countries) held its annual session in New York (15 February-13 April and 11 July-15 September) to consider various aspects of the implementation of the 1960 Declaration. The Committee examined decolonization in general as well as the situation of individual Non-Self-Governing Territories.

1960 Declaration on colonial countries

Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

By its 1993 resolution on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, (1) the General Assembly approved the recommendation of the Committee on colonial countries that it hold a seminar to be attended by representatives of all the Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs). The seminar, originally scheduled to take place in May 1994 in New York, (2) was to elicit a broad range of views from the peoples of remaining NSGTs in order to assess political, social and economic conditions and identify areas in which the international community could increase its assistance and

adopt a comprehensive approach to ensure the Territories' viable and sustainable development.

In July,(3) the Committee's Working Group noted that the seminar had been postponed to a future date. Also noting that the 1991 plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (1990-2000)(4) provided for the holding of alternate seminars in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, the Working Group recommended that a 1995 seminar in the Caribbean region be used to carry out a mid-term review of the plan of action and hear the views of all NSGT representatives, irrespective of their location. The Working Group further recommended that the Committee invite United Nations organs, agencies and institutions to apprise the Secretary-General of activities relating to the plan of action and report to the Assembly at its fiftieth (1995) session. The Committee approved those recommendations without objection on 15 July.

Committee on colonial countries

The Committee on colonial countries held its 1994 session in two parts, from 15 February to 13 April and from 11 July to 15 September in New York, with a total of 12 meetings. (5) It considered, among other items, the report of its Working Group, (3) a report on the United Nations Visiting Mission to Tokelau, (6) and four reports of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance on: Pitcairn, (7) St. Helena, (8) 10 other island Territories, (9) and the question of dissemination of information on decolonization. (10)

In 1994, the Committee was composed of 24 members (see APPENDIX III), the Czech Republic, which, in January 1993, succeeded Czechoslovakia, having informed the Chairman of its decision to withdraw from Committee membership on 1 January 1994.(11)

Implementation of the Declaration

On 16 December 1994, the General Assembly adopted **resolution 49/89** by recorded vote.

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined 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, Recalling its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, most recently resolution 48/52 of 10 December 1993, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism is one of the priorities of the Organization for the decade that began in 1990,

Deeply conscious of the need to take, speedily, measures to eliminate the last vestiges of colonialism by the year 2000, as called for in its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988.

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the elimination of colonialism, as well as of the need for the total eradication of racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Welcoming the accession to independence of Palau on 1 October 1994,

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Also noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of some administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, as well as their continued readiness to receive United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration,

Noting with concern the negative impact which the nonparticipation of certain administering Powers has had on the work of the Special Committee, depriving it of an important source of information on the Territories under their administration,

Aware of the pressing need of newly independent and emerging States for assistance from the United Nations and its system of organizations in the economic, social and other fields,

Aware also of the pressing need of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, including particularly the small island Territories, for economic, social and other assistance from the United Nations and the organizations within its system,

- 1. Reaffirms its resolution 1514(XV) and all other resolutions on decolonization, including its resolution 43/47, in which it declared the decade that began in 1990 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all necessary steps to enable the peoples of the Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination and independence;
- 2. Affirms once again that the continuation of colonialism in any form or manifestation—including racism and economic exploitation—is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;
- 3. Reaffirms its determination to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Co-

lonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

- 4. Affirms once again its support for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination and independence;
- 5. Approves 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 covering its work during 1994, including the programme of work envisaged for 1995;
- 6. Calls upon all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;
- 7. Calls upon the administering Powers to ensure that no activity of foreign economic and other interests in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration hinders the peoples of those Territories from exercising their right to self-determination and independence;
- 8. Also calls upon the administering Powers to terminate military activities in the Territories under their administration and to eliminate military bases there in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and urges them not to involve those Territories in any offensive acts or interference against other States:
- 9. Urges all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance to the peoples of colonial Territories, and requests that the administering Powers, in consultation with the Governments of the Territories under their administration, take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;
- 10. Requests the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination and independence, and in particular:
- (a) To formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;
- (b) To make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security;
- (c) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;
- (d) To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of regular visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence;

- (e) To take all necessary steps to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;
- 11. Calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to receive visiting missions to the Territories to secure first-hand information and ascertain the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants;
- 12. Also calls upon the administering Powers that have not participated in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its 1995 session;
- 13. Decides that the Special Committee shall carry out, during its 1995 session, a mid-term review of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in the context of the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations:
- 14. Requests the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination and independence;
- 15. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as of the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

General Assembly resolution 49/89

16 December 1994 Meeting 91 128-2-26 (recorded vote)

13-nation draft (A/49/L.51 & Add.1); agenda item 18.

Sponsors: Algeria, Cuba, Fiji, Grenada, Haiti, India, Mali, Marshall Islands, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: plenary 83, 91.

Recorded vote in Assembly as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine.

Implementation by international organizations

Report of the Secretary-General. As requested by the General Assembly in 1993,(¹²) the Secretary-General submitted in July 1994 a report with later addendum,(13) containing summaries of information provided by four specialized agencies and international institutions forming part of or associated with the United Nations, on action taken to implement the 1960 Declaration.(14)

Report of the President of the Economic and Social Council. In accordance with 1993 resolutions of the Economic and Social Council(15) and the General Assembly,(12) the President of the Council, in July 1994,(16) reported on his ongoing consultations with the Chairman of the Committee on colonial countries concerning the implementation of the Declaration and described assistance programmes and projects by specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations benefiting Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories. As most Territories were particularly dependent on external assistance because of geographical isolation, vulnerability to natural disasters and retarded economic development, the President stated that the specialized agencies, other international institutions associated with the United Nations and international and regional organizations should be invited to help accelerate economic and social progress after examining the peoples' pressing needs for increased transfer of resources, technology and know-how.

During the period under review, a number of organizations extended assistance to or formulated programmes for Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories from within their own budgetary resources, in addition to executing projects funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the primary provider of assistance, in close cooperation, where appropriate, with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

Recalculated indicative planning figures (IPFs) for 1992-1996, including estimated cost sharing, were \$983,000 for St. Helena; \$838,000 for Tokelau; \$747,000 for Anguilla; \$680,000 for the Turks and Caicos Islands; \$337,000 for Montserrat; \$270,000 for the Cayman Islands; \$229,000 for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Palau); and \$78,000 for the British Virgin Islands. Projects covered the primary economic sectors, such as tourism, agriculture, fisheries industry, transportation, communication and power generation, as well as the social and educational sectors.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 29 July 1994, the Economic and Social Council adopted **resolution 1994/37** without vote.

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General and the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council on consultations held with the Chairman 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,

Having heard the statement by the Acting Chairman 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,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions adopted by United Nations bodies on the subject, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/55 of 29 July 1993

Reaffirming the responsibility of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all effective measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to assist in the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of United Nations bodies,

Concerned that the objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples have not been fully achieved,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sealevel rise,

Stressing that, because the development options of small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Bearing in mind the conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations held in New York from 25 to 29 June 1990,

Noting that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/193 of 21 December 1993, the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States was held in Barbados from 25 April to 6 May 1994,

Noting also that some Non-Self-Governing Territories participated in the Conference as associate members of regional commissions,

- 1. Takes note of the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council and endorses the conclusions and suggestions contained therein;
- Takes note also of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 3. Reaffirms that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspiration of peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence entails, as a corollary, the extension by the organizations of the United Nations system of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;
- 4. Expresses its appreciation to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate in varying forms and degrees with the United Nations and the regional

- organizations concerned in the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of United Nations bodies, and urges all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to contribute to the full and speedy implementation of the relevant provisions of those resolutions;
- 5. Recommends that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration and other related resolutions of the United Nations system;
- 6. Requests the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, as well as regional organizations, to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories within the framework of their respective mandates in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;
- 7. Also requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in formulating their assistance programmes, to take due account of the text entitled "Challenges and opportunities: a strategic framework", which was adopted unanimously by the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations;
- 8. Also requests the specialized agencies to take into account the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, in particular its application to small island Non-Self-Governing Territories;
- 9. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to formulate programmes that will support the sustainable development of small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and adopt measures that will enable those Territories to cope effectively, creatively and sustainedly with environmental changes, mitigate the impact of such changes and reduce the threat they pose to marine and coastal resources;
- Welcomes the continued initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, and in providing assistance to the peoples of colonial Territories, and calls upon the governing bodies of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to consider contributing to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in the Non-Self-Governing Territories affected by natural disasters and to look to the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States for guidance concerning their roles in natural disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery, taking into account the outcome of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction;
- 11. Encourages the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;
- 12. Urges the administering Powers concerned to facilitate the participation of the representatives of the Governments of Trust and Non-Self-Governing Terri-

tones in the relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations so that the Territories may draw the maximum benefit from the related activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system;

- 13. Urges the governing bodies of those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system thathave not already done so to include in the agenda of their regular sessions a separate item on the progress made and action to be taken by their organizations in the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of United Nations bodies;
- 14. Urges the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions and to submit the proposals as a matter of priority to their governing and legislative organs;
- 15. 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 and to the discussion held on the subject at the substantive session of 1994 of the Economic and Social Council;
- 16. Requests the President of the Economic and Social Council to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the Chairman of the Special Committee and to report thereon to the Council;
- 17. Requests the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of the present resolution, paying particular attention to cooperation and integration arrangements for maximizing the efficiency of the assistance activities undertaken by various organizations of the United Nations system, and to report thereon to the Council at its substantive session of 1995;
- 18. Decides to keep these questions under continuous review.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1994/37
29 July 1994 Meeting 48 Adopted without vote
10-nation draft (E/1994/L.29), orally revised; agenda item 5 (c).
Sponsors: Algeria, Angola, Benin, China, Cuba, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea,
Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania.

The United States, which had voted against corresponding resolutions in previous years, said it was encouraged by the removal of objectionable language. However, it remained concerned about the evidence of old thinking still contained in the text, which did not reflect successes in the field of decolonization, but reiterated the outdated notion equating self-determination with independence and did not recognize the benefits NSGTs derived from administering Powers that conscientiously fulfilled their obligations. The political, economic and social development of the Territories remained the responsibilities of both the administering Powers and the United Nations system.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth (Special Political and Decolonization) Committee, adopted **resolution 49/41** by recorded vote. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having also considered the reports submitted on the item by the Secretary-General and the Chairman 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,

Having examined 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 item,

Recalling its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and resolution 1541(XV) of 15 December 1960, as well as all its other resolutions on this subject, including, in particular, resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsing the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Concerned that the objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration have not been fully achieved,

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Noting also that, in accordance with its resolution 48/193 of 21 December 1993, the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States was held in Barbados from 25 April to 6 May 1994,

Noting further that some Non-Self-Governing Territories participated in the Conference as associate members of regional commissions,

Recalling relevant resolutions of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee concerning the access of Non-Self-Governing Territories to programmes of the United Nations system,

Noting the assistance extended thus far to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and considering that such assistance should be expanded further, commensurate with the pressing needs of the peoples concerned for external assistance,

Stressing that, because the development options of small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing necessary resources for funding expanded assistance programmes for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all the necessary measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation, without further delay, of General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, particularly those relating to the extension of assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Expressing its appreciation to the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community, as well as other regional organizations, for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of assistance programmes to the peoples concerned.

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations decisions relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the Non-Self-Governing small island Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 47/189 of 22 December 1992,

Recalling its resolution 47/22 of 25 November 1992 on cooperation and coordination of the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations in their assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories.

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Chairman 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 on his consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council and endorses the observations and suggestions arising therefrom;
- 2. Recommends that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;
- 3. Reaffirms that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the full implementation, without further delay, of the Declaration and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;
- 4. Reaffirms also that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspiration of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

- 5. Expresses its appreciation to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and urges all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to accelerate the full and speedy implementation of the relevant provisions of those resolutions;
- 6. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as international and regional organizations, to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;
- 7. Also requests the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, as well as regional organizations, to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;
- 8. Further requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in formulating their assistance programmes, to take due account of the conclusions and recommendations, entitled "Challenges and opportunities: a strategic framework", of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations, held in New York in June 1990;
- 9. Requests the specialized agencies to take into account the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, in particular its application to small island Non-Self-Governing Territories;
- 10. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to formulate programmes that will support the sustainable development of small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and to adopt measures that will enable those Territories to cope effectively, creatively and sustainably with environmental changes and to mitigate impacts and reduce the threats posed to marine and coastal resources;
- 11. Urges the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to submit the proposals as a matter of priority to their governing and legislative organs;
- 12. Recommends that the executive heads of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund draw the attention of their governing bodies to the present resolution and consider introducing flexible procedures to prepare specific programmes for the peoples of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories;
- 13. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not already done so to include in the agenda of the regular meetings of their governing bodies a separate item on the progress they have made in the implementation of

resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

- Welcomes the continued initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and in providing assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and calls upon the executive bodies of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to consider contributing to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in those Non-Self-Governing Territories affected by natural disasters and to look to the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States for guidance concerning their roles in natural disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery, taking into account the outcome of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction;
- 15. Encourages Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;
- 16. Urges the administering Powers concerned to facilitate the participation of the representatives of the Governments of Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations so that the Territories may draw the maximum benefits from the related activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system;
- 17. Recommends that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations and, in that connection, accord priority to the question of providing assistance on an emergency basis to the peoples of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories;
- 18. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;
- 19. Commends the Economic and Social Council for its debate and its resolution 1994/37 of 29 July 1994 on this issue and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;
- 20. Requests the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;
- 21. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies take the necessary measures to implement the resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. Requests the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

General Assembly resolution 49/41

9 December 1994 Meeting 83 119-1-48 (recorded vote)

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/625) by recorded vote (99-1-42), 28 October (meeting 13); draft by Committee on colonial countries (A/49/23); agenda items 12 and 83.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2, 5, 6, 13; plenary 83. Recorded vote in Assembly as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe. Against: United States.

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Irralend, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Foreign interests impeding implementation of the Declaration

The Committee on colonial countries once again considered foreign economic and other interests which impeded implementation of the 1960 Declaration. It had before it a working paper by the Secretariat(¹⁷) describing, among other things, economic conditions and foreign activities in Anguilla, Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat, the Turks and Caicos Islands, and the United States Virgin Islands.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, adopted **resolution 49/40** by recorded vote.

Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination",

Having examined 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 item.

Recalling its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as all its other resolutions on this subject, including, in particular, resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsing the plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity that constitutes an obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and obstructs efforts aimed at the elimination of colonialism is a direct violation of the rights of the inhabitants and of the principles of the Charter and all relevant resolutions of the United Nations,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the indigenous populations of the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Concerned about the activities of those foreign economic, financial and other interests that exploit the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories and deprive them of their right to control the wealth of their countries,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community,

- 1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the peoples of colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination and independence and to the enjoyment of the natural resources of their Territories, as well as their right to dispose of those resources in their best interests;
- 2. Reiterates that any administering Power that deprives the colonial peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories of the exercise of their legitimate rights over their natural resources, or subordinates the rights and interests of those peoples to foreign economic and financial interests, violates the solemn obligations it has assumed under the Charter of the United Nations;
- 3. Reaffirms its concern over the activities of those foreign economic, financial and other interests which continue to exploit the natural resources that are the heritage of the indigenous populations of the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, as well as their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, thus depriving them of their right to control the resources of their Territories and impeding the realization by those peoples of their legitimate aspirations for self-determination and independence;
- 4. Condemns those activities of foreign economic and other interests in the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in its resolution 1514(XV), and the efforts to eliminate colonialism;

- 5. Calls once again upon all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of its resolution 2621(XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises and to prevent new investments that run counter to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories;
- 6. Reiterates that the exploitation and plundering of the marine and other natural resources of colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories by foreign economic interests, in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, is a threat to the integrity and prosperity of those Territories:
- 7. Invites all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded;
- 8. Urges the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;
- 9. Calls upon the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory and unjust wage systems or working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to apply in each Territory a uniform system of wages to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;
- 10. Requests the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of those activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration:
- 11. Appeals to the mass media, trade unions and nongovernmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts for the full implementation of the Declaration:
- 12. Decides to continue to monitor closely the situation in the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of the indigenous peoples and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories, in order to facilitate and accelerate the exercise by the peoples of those Territories of their right to self-determination and independence;
- 13. Requests 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 continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth seesion.

General Assembly resolution 49/40

9 December 1994 Meeting 83 113-44-6 (recorded vote)

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/624) by recorded vote (94-38-5), 28 October (meeting 13); draft by Committee on colonial countries (A/49/23); agenda items 18 and 82.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2, 5, 6, 13; plenary 83.

Recorded vote in Assembly as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo. Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: Argentina, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan.

Military activities and arrangements in colonial countries

The Committee on colonial countries also considered military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might impede the implementation of the 1960 Declaration. It had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on military activities in Bermuda, Guam and the United States Virgin Islands.(17)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

In December, the General Assembly adopted **decision** 49/417 by recorded vote.

Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration

At its 83rd plenary meeting, on 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), adopted the following text:

"1. The General Assembly, having considered 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 an item on the agenda of the Special Committee entitled 'Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration', and recalling its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960 and all other relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to military activities in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, reaffirms its strong conviction that military bases and installations in the Territories concerned could constitute an obstacle to the exercise by the people of those Territories of their right to self-determination, and reiterates its strong views that existing bases and installations, which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, should be withdrawn.

- "2. Aware of the presence of such bases and installations in some of those Territories, the General Assembly urges the administering Powers concerned to continue to take all necessary measures not to involve those Territories in any offensive acts or interference against other States.
- "3. The General Assembly reiterates its concern that military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration might run counter to the rights and interests of the colonial peoples concerned, especially their right to self-determination and independence. The Assembly once again calls upon the administering Powers concerned to terminate such activities and to eliminate such military bases in compliance with its relevant resolutions.
- "4. The General Assembly reiterates that the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories and areas adjacent thereto should not be used for nuclear testing, dumping of nuclear wastes or deployment of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.
- "5. The General Assembly deplores the continued alienation of land in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly in the small island Territories of the Pacific and Caribbean regions, for military installations. The large-scale utilization of the local resources for this purpose could adversely affect the economic development of the Territories concerned.
- "6. The General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to continue to inform world public opinion of those military activities and arrangements in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories which constitute an obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.
- "7. The General Assembly requests 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 continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session."

General Assembly decision 49/417

114-48-2 (recorded vote)

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/624) by recorded vote (93-41-3), 28 October (meeting 13); draft by Committee on colonial countries (A/49/23); agenda items 18 and 82.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2, 5, 6, 13; plenary 83. Recorded vote in Assembly as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libvan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe,

Against: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan,

Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: Argentina, Uzbekistan.

Information dissemination

In July, the Committee on colonial countries adopted recommendations for the dissemination of information on decolonization. It acted on the report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, (18) which related to consultations with the representatives of the Department of Public Information (DPI) and the Department of Political Affairs (DPA), as well as to the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights (23-27 May 1994). The phrase "as well as Those in South Africa" (after "Peoples of All Colonial Territories") was deleted upon the successful outcome of the first democratic elections in South Africa that ended decades of apartheid (see PART TWO, Chapter I).

The Subcommittee's report stressed the importance of the widest possible dissemination of accurate information on decolonization to further the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and to mobilize world public opinion in support of the peoples in colonial Territories in their efforts to achieve self-determination.

In adopting the Subcommittee's conclusions and recommendations, the Committee requested DPI to continue its work of publicity in the field of decolonization; underline in all its activities that colonialism had not been completely eradicated; disseminate, particularly through parliamentary bodies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), mass media and universities, the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations on decolonization; provide full coverage of all United Nations activities relevant to decolonization; utilize materials pertaining to the participation of United Nations specialized agencies and organizations in the decolonization process and distribute those materials through United Nations information centres; continue, in cooperation with DPA, its speaking engagements at university campuses; and take into consideration the role of NGOs in the decolonization process.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 16 December 1994, the General Assembly adopted **resolution 49/90** by recorded vote.

Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined 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 dissemination of information on decolonization

and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,

Recalling its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular General Assembly resolution 48/53 of 10 December 1993,

Reiterating the importance of publicity as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of the colonial Territories to achieve selfdetermination and independence,

Aware of the importance of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

- 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 dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization;
- 2. Considers it important for the United Nations to continue to play an active role in the process of decolonization and to intensify its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with a view to further mobilizing international public opinion in support of complete decolonization by the year 2000;
- 3. Requests the Secretary-General, taking into account the suggestions of the Special Committee, to continue to take concrete measures through all the media at his disposal, including publications, radio and television, to give widespread and continuous publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:
- (a) To continue, in consultation with the Special Committee, to collect, prepare and disseminate basic material, studies and articles relating to the problems of decolonization and, in particular, to continue to publish the periodical Objective: Justice and other publications, special articles and studies, including the Decolonization series, and to increase the information on all the Territories under consideration by the Special Committee, selecting appropriate material for wider dissemination by reprints in various languages;
- (b) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;
- (c) To intensify the decolonization-oriented activities of all United Nations information centres;
- (d) To maintain a working relationship with the appropriate regional and intergovernmental organizations, particularly in Africa and the Pacific and Caribbean regions, by holding periodic consultations and exchanging information;
- (e) To solicit, in consultation with United Nations information centres, assistance in the dissemination of information on decolonization from non-governmental organizations;
- (f) To continue to produce comprehensive press releases for all meetings of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies;
- (g) To ensure that the necessary facilities and services to that end are made available;

- (h) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;
- 4. Requests all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and nongovernmental organizations with a special interest in decolonization, to undertake or intensify, in cooperation with the Secretary-General and within their respective spheres of competence, the large-scale dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;
- 5. Requests the Special Committee to follow the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

General Assembly resolution 49/90

16 December 1994 Meeting 91 130-2-24 (recorded vote)

13-nation draft (A/49/L.52 & Add.1); agenda item 18.

Sponsors: Algeria, Cuba, Fiji, Grenada, Haiti, India, Mali, Marshall Islands, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: plenary 83, 91.

Recorded vote in Assembly as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe. Against: United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Puerto Rico

In July 1994, the Committee on colonial countries decided to postpone for another year, until 1995, consideration of its decision of 15 August 1991,(19) by which it deplored the fact that the United States Congress had not adopted a legal framework for holding a referendum to enable the people of Puerto Rico to determine their political future. The Committee agreed, on the basis of its usual practice, to give due consideration to requests for hearings and heard the grievances of 11 representatives of Puerto Rican organizations.

REFERENCES

(¹)YUN 1993, p. 153, GA res. 48/52, 10 Dec. 1993. (2)A/AC.109/1184. (²)A/AC.109/L.1821. (⁵)YUN 1991, p. 777, GA res. 46/181, 19 Dec. 1991. (⁵)A/49/23. (⁵)A/AC.109/2009. (7)A/AC.109/L.1813. (⁵)A/AC.109/L.1814. (°)A/AC.109/L.1815. (°)A/AC.109/L.1816. (¹)A/AC.109/1178. (¹²)YUN 1993, p. 156, GA res. 48/47, 10 Dec. 1993. (¹³)A/49/216 & Add.1. (¹³)YUN 1960, p. 49, GA res. 1514(XV), 14 Dec. 1960. (¹⁵)YUN 1993, p. 154, ESC res. 1993/55, 29 July 1993. (¹⁵)E/1994/114. (¹³)A/AC.109/1191. (¹³)A/AC.109/L.1816. (¹⁵)YUN 1991, p. 789.

Other general questions

Scholarships

As requested by the General Assembly in 1993, (1) the Secretary-General reported in September 1994 on offers made by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of NSGTs.(2) Four States informed the Secretary-General of scholarships between 1 October 1993 and 30 September 1994. Austria regularly provided education and training assistance to three to five students from Western Sahara; eight persons from the Territory per year were also trained as kindergarten teachers. Cuba informed the Secretary-General that 1,619 students from Western Sahara were in Cuba for the academic year 1994/95. New Zealand funded students in Tokelau indirectly through its budgetary support programme for the Territory, under which 21 scholarships for study in New Zealand were allocated in 1994. In addition, five persons from New Caledonia studied in New Zealand. During the financial year 1993/94, the United Kingdom offered 59 scholarships to students from the British NSGTs.

Between 1 October 1993 and 31 August 1994, the Secretariat received requests from 29 students for information on the availability of scholarships. None were inhabitants of NSGTs.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, adopted **resolution** 49/42 without vote.

Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/48 of 10 December 1993, 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 pursuant to its resolution 845(IX) of 22 November 1954,

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States that 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 those Territories that have not yet attained

self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

- 4. Urges the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the 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;
- 5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution;
- 6. 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.

General Assembly resolution 49/42

9 December 1994 Meeting 83 Adopted without vote

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/626) without vote, 28 October (meeting 13); 33-nation draft (A/C.4/49/L.7); agenda item 84.

Sponsors: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Madagascar, Mali, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2, 5, 6, 10, 13; plenary 83.

Information to the United Nations

States responsible for the administration of NSGTs continued to inform the Secretary-General of the economic, social and educational conditions in the Territories, under the terms of Article 73 e of the United Nations Charter. In reports to the Committee on colonial countries(3) and the General Assembly,(4) the Secretary-General listed the date of receipt of the information provided by the administering Powers and the period covered by their reports. In 1994, he received information with respect to the following NSGTs:

New Zealand: Tokelau

United Kingdom: Anguilla, Bermuda, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Gibraltar, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, adopted **resolution 49/39** by recorded vote.

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having examined 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 and the action taken by the Special Committee in respect of that information,

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General on the item,

Recalling its resolution 1970(XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also its resolution of 48/45 of 10 December 1993, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970(XVIII),

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 e of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

- 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. 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;
- 3. 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, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;
- 4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;
- 5. Requests the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970(XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

General Assembly resolution 49/39

9 December 1994 Meeting 83 166-0-3 (recorded vote)

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/623) by recorded vote (136-0-3), 28
October (meeting 13); draft by Committee on colonial countries (A/49/23);
agenda item 81.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2, 5, 6, 13; plenary 83.

Recorded vote in Assembly as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria,

Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam. Yemen. Zambia. Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: France, United Kingdom, United States.

Visiting missions

The Chairman of the Committee on colonial countries, as requested by the Committee in 1993,(3) held consultations with representatives of administering Powers on the question of sending visiting missions to NSGTs. In May 1994,(°) he reported that some NSGTs had expressed their willingness to receive United Nations missions. He informed the administering Powers that the Committee attached utmost importance to the dispatch of United Nations visiting missions to NSGTs as a means of securing first-hand information on the Territories. The full cooperation of the administering Powers was essential for the successful implementation of the plan of action approved by the General Assembly in 1991(') for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (1990-2000).

One administering Power said that those territorial Governments willing to receive visiting missions should first consult with the administering Power concerned. Two others declared themselves open to any suggestions by local Governments in the Territories regarding their readiness for such missions. Another administering Power found it difficult to facilitate access to the Territory concerned and hoped that the Secretary-General would succeed in his efforts to bring the parties together and make possible the dispatch of a visiting mission.

The Chairman noted with satisfaction that in response to a 1993 invitation by New Zealand,(⁵) a fourth United Nations visiting mission to Tokelau would be dispatched at the end of July 1994 (see below).

On 12 July,(8) the Committee adopted a resolution stressing the need to dispatch periodic missions to NSGTs to facilitate the full, speedy and effective implementation of the 1960 Declaration,(9) calling on the administering Powers to continue

to cooperate by receiving United Nations visiting missions in Territories under their administration and to participate in the work of the Committee, and requesting its Chairman to continue consulting with those Powers and to report as appropriate.

REFERENCES

(1)YUN 1993, p. 164, GA res. 48/48, 10 Dec. 1993. (2)A/49/413. (5)A/AC.109/1196. (5)A/49/384 & Add.1. (5)YUN 1993, p. 165. (5)A/AC.109/L.1812. (7)YUN 1991, p. 777, GA res. 46/181, 19 Dec. 1991. (8)A/AC.109/2004. (6)YUN 1960, p. 49, GA res. 1514(XV), 14 Dec. 1960.

Other colonial Territories

East Timor

The Committee on colonial countries, in July 1994,(¹) considered a working paper prepared by the Secretariat on political developments, the human rights situation, economic and social conditions and the situation of health and education in East Timor.(²) The paper also summarized United Nations consideration of the situation in East Timor. The Committee heard statements, among others, by Indonesia, Portugal and 28 petitioners, including representatives of NGOs and parliamentarians.

Indonesia reiterated its position that retaining the so-called question of East Timor on the Committee's agenda was unacceptable, since the process of decolonization in East Timor had been carried out in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and relevant General Assembly resolutions, and the integration of East Timor into the Republic of Indonesia had been formalized in 1976. By a June note, (3) Portugal emphasized that Indonesia illegally occupied East Timor and prevented its people from exercising freely their right to self-determination. Portugal, as the administering Power, continued to be prevented from exercising its responsibility to provide information concerning the Territory under Article 73 e of the Charter.

Indonesia responded(⁴) that Portugal's note neither corresponded to the realities in East Timor nor did it reflect the aspirations of the majority of its people and the concrete steps taken by Indonesia to improve the situation in East Timor, which had been acknowledged by the Secretary-General in a statement following the dialogue held in May between the two countries. The note was incompatible with the agreement on confidence-building measures reached at that time, under the terms of which the parties would exercise restraint regarding the issue in the interests of maintaining an atmosphere favourable to progress towards a comprehensive settlement.

On 14 July, the Committee decided, on a proposal of its Acting Chairman, to continue consideration of the question in 1995, subject to any directives that the Assembly might give at its 1994 session.

In September,(5) the Secretary-General updated his 1993 progress report(6) regarding a just, comprehensive and internationally acceptable solution to the question of East Timor. At the latest round of talks (Geneva, 6 May 1994) under the Secretary-General's auspices, the Foreign Ministers of Indonesia and Portugal agreed that access to East Timor for the United Nations and human rights and humanitarian organizations, as well as visits to the Territory by East Timorese living abroad, should be continued and expanded. The Secretary-General underlined that a dialogue among East Timorese representatives of all opinions could make important contributions to the ongoing bilateral dialogue under his auspices; an allinclusive intra-Timorese dialogue should thus be made possible. The two Ministers expressed their willingness to meet separately with East Timorese holding opposing views on the political status of East Timor, i.e., the Foreign Minister of Portugal would meet with those who supported integration with Indonesia and the Foreign Minister of Indonesia with those opposed to it.

Exercising his good offices, the Secretary-General intended to assist the two Governments in identifying a series of issues for consideration in advance of the next round of talks, to be held in January 1995. He would also undertake a series of consultations with various East Timorese groups and personalities, with a view to facilitating the convening of an all-inclusive intra-Timorese dialogue.

Human rights organs of the United Nations continued to deal with the situation in East Timor (see PART THREE, Chapter X). Among them, the Commission on Human Rights in March adopted a consensus statement on the subject. The Commission's Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions visited East Timor at the invitation of Indonesia. The Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities also discussed the issue in August.

Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

On 11 and 12 July, the Committee on colonial countries considered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas). The United Kingdom, the administering Power, did not participate in consideration of the item. The Committee acceded to Argentina's request to participate in the deliberations. The Committee had before it a working paper, (7) prepared by the Secretariat, which out-

lined political developments and economic, social and educational conditions and described the Constitution and Government of the islands and consideration of the question by the United Nations and intergovernmental organizations.

The Committee adopted a resolution(*) requesting Argentina and the United Kingdom to consolidate the current process of dialogue and cooperation through the resumption of negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), and reiterating its firm support for the mission of good offices of the Secretary-General in assistance of the parties.

In February,(*) Argentina reported that it had contacted the United Kingdom, offering to clear the mines laid during the 1982 conflict, thus demonstrating willingness to facilitate a solution of all problems relating to the question and to develop a growing dialogue with the inhabitants of the Territory.

By an August note,(10) Argentina protested the decision of the United Kingdom to extend its maritime jurisdiction in the waters adjacent to the Falkland Islands (Malvinas). In response,(11) the United Kingdom stated that it did not recognize Argentine jurisdiction over the area, which was within 200 miles of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) and more than 200 miles from Argentine baselines.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 3 November, the General Assembly, by decision 49/408, deferred consideration of the item entitled "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)" and included it in the provisional agenda of its 1995 session.

Gibraltar

The Committee on colonial countries considered the question of Gibraltar on 12 July. It had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat(¹²) containing information on political developments and economic, social and educational conditions.

The Committee decided to continue its consideration of the question in 1995, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give, and to transmit the relevant documentation to the Assembly in order to facilitate consideration of the question by the Fourth Committee.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

In December, the General Assembly adopted decision 49/420 without vote.

Question of Gibraltar

At its 83rd plenary meeting, on 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), adopted the following text as representing the consensus of the members of the Assembly:

"The General Assembly, recalling its decision 48/422 of 10 December 1993 and recalling at the same time that the statement agreed to by the Governments of Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland at Brussels on 27 November 1984 stipulates, inter alia, the following:

The establishment of a negotiating process aimed at overcoming all the differences between them over Gibraltar and at promoting cooperation on a mutually beneficial basis on economic, cultural, touristic, aviation, military and environmental matters. Both sides accept that the issues of sovereignty will be discussed in that process. The British Government will fully maintain its commitment to honour the wishes of the people of Gibraltar as set out in the preamble of the 1969 Constitution',

takes note of the fact that, as part of this process, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Spain and of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland hold annual meetings alternately in each capital, the most recent of which took place at Madrid on 1 March 1993, and urges both Governments to continue their negotiations with the object of reaching a definitive solution to the problem of Gibraltar in the light of relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations."

General Assembly decision 49/420

Adopted without vote

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/615) without vote, 28 October (meeting 13); draft by Chairman (A/C.4/49/L.6); agenda item 18.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2-6, 10, 13; plenary 83.

New Caledonia

The Committee on colonial countries had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat on recent economic, social and educational conditions and political developments in New Caledonia, a group of islands in the south-west Pacific.⁽¹³⁾

The 1988 Matignon Agreement, worked out in consultations between France and the leaders of all major political groups in New Caledonia,(14) provided for a self-determination referendum to be held in 1998, following a 10-year period of economic and social development aimed at effecting more equitable economic distribution and providing education and training which would enable the indigenous Melanesians, known as Kanaks, to participate equally in the economy and government of the South Pacific Territory. The Committee to Monitor the Implementation of the Matignon Agreement agreed that education and training should be linked more to employment possibilities by developing technical skills. Economic development needed to be accelerated and investment to be further stimulated, as the Territory's integration into the Pacific region was progressing. Particularly, the development of tourism depended on adequate air connections with other countries.

The Committee reviewed the conclusions of a working group on forests, the protection of which was considered essential, and decided to have the energy needs of New Caledonia analysed by an independent group. The Committee also decided to carry out studies on revenues and monetary policy.

The first intermediate meeting of the Committee was held in February 1994 under the chairmanship of the Minister for Overseas Departments and Territories. The Minister said that action had been initiated towards implementing several of the Committee's decisions taken in December 1993, particularly with regard to the dispatch of missions to study the questions of environmental protection and employment. Attention was also being given to the question of additional air routes.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, adopted **resolution 49/45** without vote.

Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined 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 New Caledonia,

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 1514(XV) and 1541(XV) of 14 and 15 December 1960, respectively,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Welcoming the strengthening of the Matignon Accords review process through the increased frequency of coordination meetings,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

- 1. Urges all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia and building on the positive outcome of the mid-term review of the Matignon Accords, to maintain their dialogue in a spirit of harmony;
- 2. Invites all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights

of all New Caledonians according to the letter and the spirit of the Matignon Accords, which are based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

- 3. Welcomes measures which have been taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, including the commissioning of the new nickel mine by the Société métallurgique de nickel at Kopeto and the establishment of new aquaculture projects, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon Accords;
- 4. Also welcomes the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia:
- 5. Acknowledges the contribution of the Melanesian cultural centre to the protection of the indigenous culture of New Caledonia;
- 6. Notes the positive initiatives aimed at protecting New Caledonia's natural environment, notably the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;
- 7. Acknowledges the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and provincial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the member countries of the South Pacific Forum;
- 8. Welcomes in particular, in this regard, continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to member countries of the South Pacific Forum;
- 9. Requests 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 continue the examination of this question at its next session and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

General Assembly resolution 49/45

9 December 1994 Meeting 83 Adopted without vote

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/615) without vote, 28 October (meeting 13); draft by Committee on colonial countries (A/49/23); agenda

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2-6, 10, 13; plenary 83.

Western Sahara

In 1994, efforts continued towards organizing a United Nations-supervised referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, in accordance with a settlement plan approved by the Security Council in 1991. ¹⁵) The Secretary-General continued exercising his good offices, in close cooperation with the Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), to settle the differences between the two parties concerned—the Government of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente POLISARIO). Most of the work during the year focused on establishing the electorate eligible to participate in the referendum and removing obstacles to the registration and identification of potential

voters. Both sides continued their collaboration with the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO). The Identification Commission was in charge of the registration of voters. From 2 to 13 January 1994, the Secretary-General's Special Representative visited the mission area for consultations with the parties and neighbouring countries on ways of resolving remaining difficulties. He provided assurances to allay the concerns of the Frente POLISARIO that, on the basis of the compromise put forward by the Secretary-General, (16) thousands of individuals foreign to the Territory might be included in the electorate. In early February, the assurances were confirmed and further elaborated in a letter from the Special Representative to the representative of the Frente POLISARIO in New York. The Chairman of the Identification Commission held several consultations with the parties involved to further the identification and registration process. Additional registration offices were to be opened in the Territory.

MINURSO continued monitoring and verifying the cease-fire in effect since September 1991. For the period from 1 November 1993 to 5 November 1994 only 5 violations were reported, all of them related to minor troop movements by either Morocco or Frente POLISARIO that did not result in casualties.

As at 25 October 1994, the military component of MINURSO, headed by the Force Commander, Brigadier-General Andre Van Baelen of Belgium, totalled 272 personnel, comprising 222 military observers and 50 military support personnel.

During the year, MINURSO's civilian police component was increased from 26 to 55 officers. Headed by the Police Commissioner, Colonel Juergen Friedrich Reimann of Germany, the unit was responsible for ensuring tranquillity and maintaining law and order in the vicinity of, and at, voter registration offices and polling stations, as well as for monitoring the activities of existing police forces so as to ensure that they were acting in strict accordance with the settlement plan, which was intended to secure the organization of a free and fair referendum without military or administrative constraints and to prevent any possibility of intimidation or interference from any quarter.

Report of the Secretary-General (March). In March 1994,(17) the Secretary-General provided an update on developments regarding the situation in Western Sahara since his last report to the Security Council in November 1993.(18) He noted that United Nations efforts to implement the settlement plan for the Territory were at a critical stage. Following protracted delays since the inception of MINURSO in April 1991,(15), he and his Special Representative had explored every possible avenue to break the deadlock over the criteria

of voting privileges and their interpretation so that the plan could be implemented. Since those efforts had not succeeded, the Security Council was confronted with three options:

Option A: The Security Council would decide that the United Nations should proceed to hold the referendum regardless of the cooperation of either party. The process of identification and registration of all eligible voters would be completed on the basis of the Secretary-General's compromise proposal,(16) the terms of reference of the Identification Commission and the relevant provisions of the settlement plan.

Option B: The Security Council would decide that the Identification Commission should continue its work during a prescribed period, while the United Nations would continue to try to obtain the cooperation of both parties on the basis of the Secretary-General's compromise proposal. At the end of the prescribed period, the Security Council would review the process achieved and decide on the next course of action to fulfil the United Nations mandate for Western Sahara.

Option C: The Security Council would conclude that the cooperation of both parties in the completion of the registration and identification process could not be obtained at the current time and would decide either that the whole MINURSO operation be phased out within a given time-frame or that the registration and identification process be suspended, but that a reduced United Nations military presence be retained to encourage respect for the cease-fire.

Annexed to the report were an explanatory note of September 1993 to the parties and a February 1994 letter from the Special Representative to Frente POLISARIO, in which he elaborated on the Secretary-General's compromise proposal.

In an addendum to his report, (19) the Secretary-General estimated the cost for maintaining MINURSO under options A, B and C at \$78,569,900, \$4,320,100 and \$7,429,500, respectively.

SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

On 29 March 1994, the Security Council unanimously adopted **resolution 907(1994).**

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its resolutions 621(1988) of 20 September 1988, 658(1990) of 27 June 1990, 690(1991) of 29 April 1991, 725(1991) of 31 December 1991 and 809(1993) of 2 March 1993,

Appreciative of the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Special Representative to address concerns of both parties and implement the settlement plan regarding the question of Western Sahara, as adopted by resolutions 658(1990) and 690(1991),

Recalling the reports of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara dated 21 May 1993, 28 July 1993 and 24 November 1993,

Recalling the letters from the President of the Council dated 28 May 1993, 4 August 1993 and 6 December 1993 in response to those reports,

Having considered the Secretary-General's report of 10 March 1994 and its annexes,

Recalling paragraph 22 of the Secretary-General's report,

Recalling that, in conformity with the settlement plan, it was for the Secretary-General to determine the instructions for the review of the applications for participation in the referendum,

Urging the two parties to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General in implementing the settlement plan which has been accepted by them,

Committed to reaching a just and lasting solution of the question of Western Sahara,

- 1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara of 10 March 1994;
- 2. Welcomes the compromise proposal of the Secretary-General concerning the interpretation and application of criteria for voter eligibility as a sound framework for determining eligibility for participation in the referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara; and takes note of the explanatory note of the Special Representative dated 27 September 1993, and the letter of the Special Representative dated 4 February 1994 included in the annexes to the Secretary-General's report of 10 March 1994;
- Expresses its deep concern over continuing difficulties and delays in the work of the Identification Commission:
- 4. Agrees to the course of action as outlined in Option B in the Secretary-General's report of 10 March 1994, that the Identification Commission should complete the analysis of all applications received and proceed with the identification and registration of potential voters by 30 June 1994, on the basis of the Secretary-General's compromise proposal, the terms of reference of the Identification Commission, and the relevant provisions of the settlement plan; and supports the Secretary-General's intention to continue his efforts to obtain the cooperation of both parties on that basis;
- 5. Requests, in this context, the Secretary-General to report to the Council not later than 15 July 1994 on progress achieved in the work of the Identification Commission as well as other aspects relevant to the fulfilment of the settlement plan with a view to deciding on further action necessary for fulfilment of the United Nations mission in Western Sahara;
- 6. Urges strict compliance with the timetable for Option B as laid out in paragraph 24(a) of the Secretary-General's report of 10 March 1994, with a view to holding the referendum by the end of 1994;
- 7. Calls for full cooperation with the Secretary-General, his Special Representative and the Identification Commission in their efforts to implement the settlement plan, which has been accepted by both parties;
- 8. Decides, in the event that the Secretary-General notifies the Council in the report called for in paragraph 5 above that the referendum cannot be held by the end of 1994, and in view of obligations of the parties to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General, to consider MINURSO's future, including an examination of options regarding its mandate and continued operations;
- 9. Urges the Secretary-General, in the context of the implementation of paragraph 4 above, to make every

effort to maintain MINURSO at the strength needed to carry out Option B, and further invites him to make proposals for the necessary adjustments to the present role and strengths of MINURSO, as part of the report called for in paragraph 5 above;

10. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

Security Council resolution 907(1994)

29 March 1994 Meeting 3355 Adopted unanimously Draft prepared in consultations among Council members (S/1994/352).

Reports of the Secretary-General (July-December). In July,(20) the Secretary-General submitted, pursuant to the Council's 29 March resolution, a report updating the activities of the military and civil police components of MINURSO and describing the developments in preparation of the referendum since his last report (see above).

In March, he had appointed as Deputy Special Representative the Chairman of the Identification Commission who, in his new capacity, requested meetings with both parties to discuss the implementation of the Council's March resolution and held a series of consultations with Algeria and Mauritania to discuss the opening of offices for the distribution and receipt of application forms in areas where Saharans were known to be living.

On 1 June, the Deputy Special Representative announced the launching of the identification process, after the two parties had agreed on two tribal sub-factions with which to start and on the relevant sheikhs to assist the Commission in determining the identity and eligibility of applicants members of those sub-factions. The identification and registration process, however, could not start on 8 June as scheduled because Morocco objected to the designated OAU observers. At the time of the report, the disagreement had not been settled.

The Secretary-General outlined other aspects relevant to the fulfilment of the settlement plan which, he recalled, provided for a transitional period during which the United Nations would have sole and exclusive responsibility for organizing and conducting the referendum to enable the Western Saharans to choose between independence and integration with Morocco. All prisoners of war from both sides would be released, as would all Saharan political prisoners and detainees. The Moroccan troops in the Territory would be reduced to a level not exceeding 65,000 and would be located in static or defensive positions. The Frente POLISARIO troops would be confined to locations designated by the Special Representative. Laws or measures which could obstruct a free and fair referendum would be suspended. Western Saharans who were identified as eligible to vote in the referendum and who wished to return to the Territory to do so would be repatriated under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In an annex to his report, the Secretary-General proposed a revised timetable for the fulfilment of the United Nations Mission in Western Sahara, which set 14 February 1995 as the date of the referendum.

On 29 July, the President of the Security Council, in a statement on behalf of the Council,(21) took note of the revised timetable and welcomed the intention of the Identification Commission to set 31 August 1994 as the deadline for receipt of voter application forms.

In November,(22) the Secretary-General provided an account of further progress made by MINURSO in the identification and registration process. The Secretary-General held extensive consultations with the Chairman of OAU in order to overcome the difficulty concerning the two observers to whom Morocco had objected. On 23 July, the OAU Chairman provided a list of four observers, including the two previously designated. The identification and registration operation could finally be launched on 28 August after the last observer designated by OAU reached his destination. Further delays occurred because of other official commitments of some observers and unprecedented heavy rainfall. The Deputy Special Representative granted a 10-day grace period following the 15 October deadline for the receipt of applications. The Secretary-General pointed out that it would take weeks to process the application forms as a great number of them were turned in at the last minute and the entire operation proved logistically more complex than anticipated; members of nomadic tribal subgroups were dispersed in different locations and means of communication were limited.

On 15 November, (23) on behalf of the Security Council, the President stated that the Council shared the Secretary-General's view that the launching of the identification and registration of potential voters on 28 August 1994, in the presence of observers as agreed, marked a significant step forward. The Council called on the two parties to maintain their cooperation with the Secretary-General and MINURSO and expressed concern about the slow speed of the identification process. The Council strongly believed that there must be no further undue delay in the holding of a free, fair and impartial referendum in accordance with the settlement plan.

In December,(24) the Secretary-General again reported on progress made in the process of identification and registration of potential voters and on the consultations held during a visit to the Mission area from 25 to 29 November. During his meetings with the Governments of Algeria and Morocco as well as with the Frente POLISARIO, he stressed the urgency of reaching an early settlement and sought the continued cooperation of the parties involved as, ultimately, continued United Nations involvement would depend on the

demonstrated political will of the parties. Addressing the Frente POLISARIO's main concern—the large number of application forms submitted at the last minute—he pointed out that the Identification Commission was an independent body whose members would carry out their mandate with impartiality, fairness and integrity.

A technical team visited MINURSO from 10 to 14 November to reassess logistic and other requirements for the possible deployment of the Mission at full strength. One of the major difficulties was the lack of suitable accommodation throughout the Mission area for MINURSO personnel. The technical team agreed that MINURSO should focus on finding means to speed up the process of identifying and registering potential voters and strongly supported the idea of expanding the Identification Commission. MINURSO developed a plan for the establishment of six additional centres and five mobile identification and registration teams to ensure the timely completion of its task.

The Secretary-General observed that, despite the difficulties encountered and the delays experienced, the political will existed to move the process forward. He hoped that all the data relating to the application forms would be available in computerized form by the end of the year and that, by 31 March 1995, progress achieved in the identification and registration process would have reached a level that would enable him to recommend 1 June 1995 as the start of the transitional period. By mid-August, a final list of voters was to be published.

In pursuance of a 1993 General Assembly resolution, (25) the Secretary-General, in October 1994, (26) submitted a report providing an overview of the developments of MINURSO activities and of the situation in Western Sahara during the period from 18 September 1993 to 30 September 1994.

Consideration by the Committee on colonial countries. On 11 and 14 July, (1) the Committee on colonial countries considered the question of Western Sahara. It granted a request for hearing to a representative of the Frente POLISARIO and had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on the developments in Western Sahara. (27) The paper presented an overview of the General Assembly's consideration of the question in 1993, of the Secretary-General's good offices, and of political and other developments between September 1993 and June 1994.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, adopted **resolution 49/44** without vote.

Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling its resolution 48/49 of 10 December 1993, Recalling also the agreement in principle given on 30 August 1988 by the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro to the proposals of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the current Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in the context of their joint mission of

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 621(1988) of 20 September 1988, 658(1990) of 27 June 1990, 690(1991) of 29 April 1991, 725(1991) of 31 December 1991 and 809(1993) of 2 March 1993 relating to the question of Western Sahara,

Recalling with satisfaction the entry into force of the cease-fire in Western Sahara on 6 September 1991, in accordance with the proposal of the Secretary-General accepted by the two parties,

Noting the adoption by the Security Council on 29 March 1994 of resolution 907(1994),

Taking note of the statement by the President of the Security Council on 29 July 1994,

Welcoming the appointment of Mr. Erik Jensen as Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara and the progress made, under his leadership, by the Identification Commission of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara,

Stressing the importance and usefulness of the resumption of direct talks between the two parties mentioned above in order to create a propitious atmosphere conducive to a speedy and effective implementation of the settlement plan,

Having examined the relevant 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,

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General:

- 2. Pays tribute to the Secretary-General and the personnel of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara for their action with a view to settling the question of Western Sahara by the implementation of the settlement plan;
- 3. Reiterates its support for further efforts of the Secretary-General for the organization and supervision by the United Nations, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, in conformity with Security Council resolutions 658(1990) and 690(1991), in which the Council adopted the settlement plan for Western Sahara;
- 4. Reaffirms that the goal on which all were agreed consists of the holding of a free, fair and impartial referendum for the people of Western Sahara, organized and conducted by the United Nations in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity and without any military or administrative constraints, in conformity with the settlement plan;
- 5. Endorses the contents of the statement of 29 July 1994 by the President of the Security Council in which

the Council, inter alia, welcomed the progress made to date on the issues outlined in the report of the Secretary-General towards the implementation of the settlement plan, commended, in particular, the work of the Identification Commission and the efforts of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 907(1994) and urged the two parties to continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara to ensure the earliest possible implementation of the settlement plan;

- 6. Expresses the hope that direct talks between the two parties will soon resume in order to create a propitious atmosphere conducive to a speedy and effective implementation of the settlement plan;
- 7. Requests 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 continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara, bearing in mind the ongoing referendum process and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;
- 8. Invites the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

General Assembly resolution 49/44

9 December 1994 Meeting 83 Adopted without vote

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/615) without vote, 28 October (meeting 13); 58-nation draft (A/C.4/49/L.5/Rev.1); agenda item 18.

Sponsors: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2-6, 10, 13; plenary 83.

Financing of MINURSO

Report of the Secretary-General (January). In a January 1994 report on the financing of MINURSO,(²⁸) the Secretary-General indicated that for the period ended 31 December 1993, a balance of \$34,655,955 gross (\$35,247,050 net) remained from the initial appropriation of \$143 million gross (\$140 million net) provided by the General Assembly in 1991.(²⁹)

After taking into consideration the commitment authorization provided under a December 1993 Assembly decision, (30) to be funded from the unencumbered balance for the continued maintenance of the Mission from 1 January to 31 March 1994 of \$9,586,500 gross (\$9,064,500 net), an unencumbered balance of appropriations in the amount of \$25,069,450 gross (\$26,182,550 net) remained in the account.

With regard to the periods beyond 31 March 1994, the Secretary-General projected that the Assembly needed to provide authorization to utilize the unencumbered balance of the initial appropriation for the maintenance of MINURSO, pending

a further decision of the Security Council, at a monthly rate of \$3,318,200 (\$3,119,100 net).

For the maintenance of MINURSO from 1 January to 31 December 1994, the Secretary-General submitted cost estimates of \$39,818,400 gross (\$37,429,200 net), equivalent to \$3,318,200 gross (\$3,119,100 net) per month.

ACABQ recommendations (March). Considering the report of the Secretary-General in March,(31) the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) noted some excessive expenditures. It recommended that he be given authority to use the unencumbered balance of the initial appropriation for the maintenance of MINURSO at the level of \$9 million gross for the three months from 1 January to 31 March 1994, and \$3 million gross per month each month thereafter, pending the receipt of revised cost estimates. On the basis of the Secretary-General's estimates, the Advisory Committee stated, the unencumbered balance should be sufficient to finance the mission for at least 10 months from 1 January 1994.

In that connection, ACABQ pointed out that outstanding assessments of \$20.3 million, unless received in the coming months, would have a significant impact on the cash flow and maintenance of the operation.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION (April)

On 14 April 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary) Committee, adopted **resolution 48/250** A without vote.

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 690(1991) of 29 April 1991, by which the Council established the Mission, and subsequent resolutions of the Council, namely 725(1991) of 31 December 1991, 809(1993) of 2 March 1993 and 907(1994) of 29 March 1994,

Recalling its decisions 47/451 A of 22 December 1992, 47/451 B of 8 April 1993, 47/451 C of 14 September 1993 and 48/467 of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Mission,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decision regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874(S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

- 1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara as at 24 March 1994, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 20,366,381 United States dollars:
- 2. Expresses concern about the deteriorating financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities because of overdue payments by Member States of their assessments, particularly Member States in arrears;
- 3. Reaffirms its resolution 48/227 of 23 December 1993, and stresses the need for the Secretariat to submit budget documents in time in order to allow for a proper and thorough review and approval by the General Assembly of the budgets before their implementation;
- 4. Notes with satisfaction an improvement in the compliance by the Secretariat with certain resolutions of the Assembly with regard to the form of budget documents concerning peace-keeping operations;
- 5. Reaffirms the importance of the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as an advisory body to the Assembly in the budget process;
- 6. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
- 7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy and, in particular, to implement fully the economy, financial and efficiency measures to be approved during the resumed forty-eighth session but no later than 1 May 1994, and to report on the implementation of such measures in the context of the performance report relevant to that period;
- 8. Urges all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara promptly and in full;
- 9. Affirms that failure to pay the assessed contributions in full and on time and the fact that the Assembly has unfortunately been led to consider and approve peace-keeping budgets without adequate documentation have damaged and continue to damage the ability of peace-keeping operations to implement their activities effectively;
- 10. Requests the Secretary-General to explore all possibilities in order to ensure prompt reimbursement to troop-contributing countries;
- 11. Jakes note of the amount of 36,148,050 dollars gross (34,626,950 dollars net) expended for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 December 1992 to 31 December 1993;
- 12. Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the maintenance of the Mission up to the amount of 9 million dollars gross (8.4 million dol-

- lars net) for the three-month period from 1 January to 31 March 1994, the said amount to be utilized from the unencumbered balance of appropriations;
- 13. Also authorizes the Secretary-General, pending consideration of his report on the detailed financial and administrative implications arising from Security Council resolution 907(1994), to enter into commitments for the maintenance of the Mission at a rate not to exceed 3.7 million dollars gross per month for the period from 1 April to 10 May 1994, the said amount to be utilized from the unencumbered balance of appropriations;
- 14. Further authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the maintenance of the Mission at a rate not to exceed 3.7 million dollars gross per month for the period from 11 May to 31 July 1994, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, the said amount to be utilized from the unencumbered balance of appropriations;
- 15. Invites the Secretary-General, in the light of Security Council resolution 907(1994), to keep under review the senior management structure of the Mission, including a review of the modalities of employment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its resumed forty-eighth session;
- 16. Invites voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;
- 17. Decides to keep on the agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara".

General Assembly resolution 48/250 A

14 April 1994 Meeting 93 Adopted without vote

Approved by Fifth Committee (A/48/816/Add.1) without vote, 8 April (meeting 61); draft by Chairman (A/C.5/48/L.62), orally revised; agenda item 133.

Meeting numbers. GA 48th session: 5th Committee 54, 60, 61; plenary 93.

Report of the Secretary-General (May). In May, (32) the Secretary-General submitted revised cost estimates for MINURSO. The total cost for maintaining the Mission from 1 April to 31 July under option B, endorsed by the Security Council in March (see above), was estimated at \$18,812,800 gross (\$17,693,100 net), or \$4,703,200 gross (\$4,423,300 net) per month. The monthly cost of MINURSO for the period beyond 31 July 1994 was estimated at \$3,768,700 gross (\$3,422,200 net).

ACABQ recommendations (June). ACABQ, in June,(33) concurred with the Secretary-General's request for authorization to use the unencumbered balance of appropriations—totalling \$25,655,950 gross (\$26,847,050 net) as at 31 March 1994—for maintaining MINURSO from 1 April to 31 July at a total cost of \$18,812,800 gross (\$17,693,100 net), including the amount of \$14,800,000 gross (\$14,000,000 net) already authorized by the General Assembly in April (see above).

The Advisory Committee recommended that the Secretary-General be authorized to enter into commitments at a rate not to exceed \$3.4 million per month for the period from 1 August to 30 September, the said amount to be utilized from the \$6.8 million of unencumbered balance of appropriations projected at 31 July.

ACABQ noted from the Secretary-General's May report that, of the \$140,911,223 apportioned among Member States, \$120,544,862 had been received as of 30 April. The outstanding assessments of \$20.3 million, unless received in the coming months, would have a significant impact on cash flow and on the maintenance of the operation. The adverse effects of the outstanding assessed contributions had so far been mitigated by the unencumbered balance which, however, was projected to decrease to \$6.8 million by 31 July, bringing MINURSO's special account into a deficit unless the outstanding contributions were paid.

Among other matters, ACABQ noted that in response to the recommendations in its March report, improvements had been made in the format for presenting information on voluntary contributions. Its recommendations on consultants and the hiring of aircraft had also been taken into account. At the same time, it regretted that its observations and recommendations had not been implemented in the following areas: the number of medical personnel; the level of mission subsistence allowance for staff voluntarily away from headquarters and not on official duty; the size of the Movement Control Unit; the number of General Service staff; and the review of the basis for applying the Rabat standard costs to the Mission area. The Advisory Committee was not fully satisfied with the Secretary-General's explanations for not implementing all of its observations and recommendations, endorsed by the Assembly in April. It trusted that they would be implemented and intended to revert to the question in the context of the Secretary-General's next report.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION (June)

On 23 June, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee, adopted **resolution 48/250 B** without vote.

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 690(1991) of 29 April 1991, by which the Council established the Mission, and subsequent resolutions of the Council, namely 725(1991) of 31 December 1991, 809(1993) of 2 March 1993 and 907(1994) of 29 March 1994,

Recalling its decisions 47/451 A of 22 December 1992, 47/451 B of 8 April 1993, 47/451 C of 14 September 1993

and 48/467 of 23 December 1993 and its resolution 48/250 A of 14 April 1994 on the financing of the Mission.

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decision regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874(S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

- 1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara as at 6 June 1994, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 20,366,361 United States dollars;
- 2. Expresses concern about the deteriorating financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities because of overdue payments by Member States of their assessments, particularly Member States in arrears, which, inter alia, affects the implementation of the mandate of the Mission:
- 3. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and expresses its concern about the fact that some of the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, referred to in paragraph 6 of its report, were not implemented;
- 4. Requests the Secretary-General to report, within thirty days of the adoption of the present resolution, on the full implementation of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee approved by the General Assembly in resolution 48/250 A, as well as the recommendations approved in the present resolution;
- 5. Also requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;
- 6. Urges all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara promptly and in full;
- 7. Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the maintenance of the Mission up to the amount of 18,812,800 dollars gross (17,693,100 dollars net) for the period from 1 April to 31 July 1994, the said amount to be utilized from the unencumbered balance of appropriations;
- 8. Also authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the maintenance of the Mission at a rate not to exceed 3.4 million dollars gross per month

for the period from 1 August to 30 September 1994, the said amount to be utilized from the unencumbered balance of appropriations;

- 9. Invites voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;
- 10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara".

General Assembly resolution 48/250 B

23 June 1994 Meeting 95 Adopted without vote

Approved by Fifth Committee (A/48/816/Add.2) without vote, 13 June (meeting 67); draft by Portugal (A/C.5/48/L.69) based on informal consultations: acenda item 133.

Meeting numbers. GA 48th session: 5th Committee 66, 67; plenary 95.

Reports of the Secretary-General (July and October). Responding to the General Assembly's request in June (see above), the Secretary-General, in July,(34) submitted a report containing detailed comments of the Secretariat on ACABQ's recommendations.

In October, (35) he presented a report on the financing of MINURSO, indicating total expenditure of \$139,605,150 gross (\$134,391,950 net) since inception of the Mission in April 1991 through September 1994. For the period from 1 January to 30 September 1994, expenditure was \$31,261,100 gross (\$29,639,000 net), leaving an unutilized balance of \$3,351,700 gross (\$2,694,300 net). In order to provide the Mission with resources beyond 30 September, ACABQ, by a letter of 7 October to the Secretary-General, agreed to the entering into of commitments not to exceed \$6,065,200 gross (\$5,600,200 net) for the period from 1 October to 30 November, under a 1993 General Assembly resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses.(36).

In view of this additional commitment authority, the Secretary-General sought from the Assembly a further amount of \$2,670,350 gross, in addition to the initial appropriation of \$143 million gross (\$140 million net). On the other hand, he noted that, on a net basis, the additional commitment authority of \$5,600,200 was still within the initial appropriation and that there was no need for additional assessment for the time being. For the period after 30 November 1994, he estimated monthly costs for MINURSO at \$3,245,100 gross (\$3,013,800 net). He added that should an additional increase in staff resources be required in implementation of MINURSO's mandate, additional funding would be sought.

In view of the continuation of the Mission beyond the period originally anticipated, the Secretary-General noted, staff assessment as established in the initial appropriation had proved insufficient to cover the actual requirements and adjustments were necessary.

ACABQ recommendation (December). The Advisory Committee, in December, (37) recommended approval of the Secretary-General's request for an additional appropriation of \$2,670,350 gross for MINURSO for the period ending 30 November 1994. With regard to the period after that date, ACABQ recommended that the Secretary-General be authorized to enter into commitments for the Mission at a rate not to exceed \$3.2 million gross per month.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION (December)

In December, the General Assembly adopted decision 49/466 A without vote.

Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

At its 95th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee, having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, recalling its resolution 48/250 B of 23 June 1994, and pending its review of the updated reports of the Secretary-General and of the Advisory Committee, on the financing of the Mission:

- (a) Decided to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara the additional amount of 2,670,350 United States dollars gross (7,850 dollars net credit) for the period ending 30 November 1994;
- (b) Also decided that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973(X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in subparagraph (a) above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the additional estimated staff assessment income of 2,678,200 dollars approved for the period ending 30 November 1994;
- (c) Authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the maintenance of the Mission in the amount of 6.4 million dollars gross (5,937,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 December 1994 to 31 January 1995;
- (d) Also authorized the Secretary-General, on an exceptional basis, to enter into commitments for the month of January 1995 in the additional amount of 2.2 million dollars, subject to the decision of the Security Council on the deployment of the required staff for the acceleration of the work of the Identification Commission and the review by the Advisory Committee;
- (e) Further decided to review this question at its resumed forty-ninth session, in February 1995;
- (f) Approved, on an exceptional basis, the special arrangements for the Mission with regard to the application of article IV of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, whereby appropriations required in respect of obligations owed to Governments providing contingents and/or logistic support to the Mission

shall be retained beyond the period stipulated under financial regulations 4.3 and 4.4, as set out in the annex to the present decision.

ANNEX

Special arrangements with regard to the application of article IV of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations

- 1. At the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3, any unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question relating to goods supplied and services rendered by Governments for which claims have been received or which are covered by established reimbursement rates shall be transferred to accounts payable; such accounts payable shall remain recorded in the Special Account for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara until payment is effected.
- 2. Any other unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question owed to Governments for goods supplied and services rendered, as well as other obligations owed to Governments, for which required claims have not yet been received shall remain valid for an additional period of four years following the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3.
- 3. Claims received during this four-year period shall be treated as provided for under paragraph 1 of the present annex, if appropriate.
- 4. At the end of the additional four-year period, any unliquidated obligations shall be cancelled and the then remaining balance of any appropriations retained therefor shall be surrendered.

General Assembly decision 49/466 A

Adopted without vote

Approved by Fifth Committee (A/49/808) without vote, 22 December (meeting 37); draft by Chairman (A/C.5/49/L.21); agenda item 119. Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 5th Committee 33, 37; plenary 95.

Island Territories

The Committee on colonial countries considered the following 12 island Territories, basing its deliberations on working papers by the Secretariat describing their constitutional and political developments and economic, social and educational conditions: American Samoa, (38) Anguilla, (39) Bermuda, (40) British Virgin Islands, (41) Cayman Islands, (12) Guam, (42) Montserrat, (43) Pitcairn, (44) Tokelau, (45) Turks and Caicos Islands, (46) St. Helena, (47) and United States Virgin Islands, (48) The United Kingdom and the United States did not participate in the Committee's consideration of the Territories under their administration. New Zealand, as administering Power, continued to participate in the Committee's work in relation to Tokelau.

The Committee allocated the item to its Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance(*) for preliminary consideration and subsequently took up the item between 11 and 15 July 1994. It adopted a consolidated draft resolution, the first part of which dealt with 10 island Territories in general and the second with specific conditions in nine individual Territories; it also recommended two draft decisions to the General Assembly, one on Pitcairn and the other on St. Helena. In a separate action, it recommended a resolution on Tokelau (see below).

In view of Palau's plebiscite of November 1993 regarding the Compact of Free Association (see below), the Committee decided to suspend consideration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands until its 1995 session.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, adopted resolutions 49/46 A and B without vote.

Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

A General

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands,

Having examined the relevant 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,

Recalling its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, those resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

Recalling also its resolution 1541(XV) of 15 December 1960, containing the principles which should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations,

Conscious of the need to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of those Territories, in view of the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by the year 2000,

Noting the decision of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as administering Power to effect a policy change aimed at enhancing its relations with its Caribbean dependent Territories,

Noting with satisfaction the participation of New Zealand in the work of the Special Committee, $\$

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the necessity of promoting economic stability and diversifying and strengthening further the economies of the respective Territories as a matter of priority,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and, in this connection bearing in mind deliberations in all related international conferences, including the United Nations Conference on Environment and De-

velopment, at which Agenda 21 was adopted, the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction and the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Aware also of the usefulness both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

Expressing its conviction that referendums and other forms of popular consultation on the future status of the Non-Self-Governing Territories are an appropriate means of ascertaining the wishes of the peoples in those Territories with regard to their future political status,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide the most effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to those Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank,

Bearing in mind the fragile economy of the small Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and recalling its resolutions and the report of the Pacific Regional Seminar to Review the Political, Economic and Social Conditions in the Small Island Non-Self-Governing Territories, held at Port Moresby in June 1993, in connection with the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, as well as the position taken by the territorial Governments, contained in the report of the Seminar,

- 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 American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands;
- 2. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of those Territories to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and resolution 1514(XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;
- 3. Reaffirms also that it is ultimately for the people of those Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments, to facilitate programmes of political education in the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination, in conformity with the legitimate political status options clearly defined in resolution 1541(XV);
- 4. Reiterates that it is the responsibility of the administering Powers to create such conditions in the Ter-

ritories as will enable their people to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to selfdetermination and independence;

- 5. Calls upon the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as an administering Power, to give due consideration to any proposals made by the Territories under its administration in the framework of its review of policy and management of its Caribbean dependent Territories, as well as of any future policy changes affecting them;
- 6. Requests the administering Powers to encourage and facilitate the participation of elected representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration and other appropriate authorities or personalities duly mandated by those representatives in the work of the Special Committee and its Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, as well as in the work of its seminars;
- 7. Reiterates the view that factors such as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way serve as a pretext to delay the speedy exercise by the peoples of those Territories of their inalienable right to self-determination;
- 8. Reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of those Territories, and recommends that priority should continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;
- 9. Urges the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments concerned, to take or continue to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of those Territories to own, develop or dispose of the natural resources of those Territories, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources;
- 10. Also urges the administering Powers to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories under their administration against any environmental degradation, and requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions;
- 11. Calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the respective territorial Governments, to continue to take all necessary measures to counter problems related to drug trafficking, money laundering and other offences;
- 12. Urges the administering Powers to foster or continue to foster close relations between the Territories and other island communities in their respective regions and to promote cooperation between the respective territorial Governments and regional institutions, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system;
- 13. Also urges the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in its work by providing timely and up-to-date information for each Territory under their administration, in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter, and by facilitating the dispatch of visiting missions to secure firsthand information thereon and to ascertain the wishes and aspirations of the inhabitants;
- 14. Appeals to the administering Powers to continue or to resume their participation in meetings and activi-

ties of the Special Committee and to ensure the participation in the work of the Special Committee of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

- 15. Urges Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to achieve the eradication of colonialism by the year 2000, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the action of the Special Committee towards the attainment of that objective:
- 16. Invites the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to initiate or to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territories;
- 17. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in formulating their assistance programmes, to take due account of the text entitled "Challenges and opportunities: a strategic framework", which was adopted unanimously by the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations held in New York in June 1990;
- 18. Requests the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the small Territories and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session.

B Individual Territories

American Samoa

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting that efforts in American Samoa are currently aimed at increasing the production of food crops for local consumption,

Noting also the efforts of the Governor to reduce government spending and the Territory's budget deficit,

Noting further that American Samoa is one of two Territories of the United States of America in which employers are allowed to pay workers less than the mainland minimum wage to ensure compatibility with the prevailing cost of living,

Noting that the Territory, similar to isolated communities with limited funds, continues to experience a shortage of qualified medical personnel,

Aware that one third of the population is dependent on village-based water systems which often lack basic sanitary conditions,

Recalling the dispatch in 1981 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

- 1. Calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to promote the economic and social development of the Territory in order to alleviate its financial problems;
- 2. Also calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with relevant regional and international institutions, to assist the Territory in increasing its agricultural output;
- 3. Urges the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to ensure that salaries paid to employees are on a par with the cost of living in the Territory;
- 4. Requests the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue its efforts

to assist in alleviating the shortage of medical personnel in the Territory;

- 5. Also requests the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to extend adequate water services with appropriate sanitary conditions to the whole population of the Territory and, in this framework, to study the feasibility of making the Government's central water system available to all;
- 6. Notes that a period of thirteen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission as early as possible.

II. Anguilla

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,

Aware that the educational system in Anguilla is facing severe problems, including overcrowding and insufficient equipment and supplies in the schools, as well as a high percentage of undertrained teachers and the loss of teachers to the private sector and to other parts of the civil service,

Aware also of the inability of the educational system in Anguilla to alleviate the problem of scarcity of skilled national personnel, particularly in the fields of economic management and tourism, and that educational reform is of paramount importance to the achievement of the long-term economic goals of the Territory,

Noting that the Government is placing great emphasis on manpower development and training,

Noting also that the Government's Public Sector Investment Programme for 1991-1995 is expected to be financed by external donors through grants and concessional loans,

Aware that the exploitation of deep-sea resources would help reduce the risk of depleting the Territory's own fishing resources as a result of overfishing,

Recalling the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory in 1984,

- 1. Requests the administering Power, in considering, adopting and/or implementing policy decisions likely to affect its dependent Territories, to continue to grant the highest attention to the interests, needs and wishes of the territorial Government and the people of Anguilla;
- 2. Calls upon national, regional and international institutions specializing in the field of education to grant Anguilla funds and equipment and to make available to the Territory teacher-training courses, to enable it to overcome its educational problems;
- 3. Calls upon all countries, institutions and organizations endowed with expertise in manpower training to grant Anguilla assistance in this field;
- 4. Invites the international donor community to contribute generously to the Government's Public Sector Investment Programme for 1991-1995 and to grant the Territory all possible assistance to enable it to reach the main development objectives established by the Executive Council of the Territory;
- 5. Requests all countries and organizations with deepsea fishing experience to facilitate the acquisition by the fishing sector of the Territory of larger boats and fishing equipment and to provide the Territory's fishermen with deep-sea fishing training programmes;

6. Notes that a period of ten years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited Anguilla and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

III. Bermuda

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,

Bearing in mind the general elections held in the Territory in November 1993 and the proposed referendum on Bermuda's independence to be held in 1994,

Noting the negative effects of the international recession on the economy of Bermuda,

Noting also the recent review of the criminal justice system in the Territory,

Noting with concern the incidence of crime in the secondary schools, and noting also the planned restructuring of the public school system,

Expressing the view that the removal of military bases and installations from the Territory could expedite the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Noting that the Territory has never been visited by a United Nations visiting mission,

- 1. Expresses the view that the referendum on the future status of Bermuda is an appropriate means for the people of the Territory to decide their own future;
- 2. Notes with satisfaction that the economy of the Territory has begun to recover and that the territorial Government continues to place emphasis on the general good management of the economy of Bermuda;
- 3. Calls upon the administering Power to ensure that the criminal justice system is fair to all inhabitants of the Territory;
- 4. Notes the plans of the territorial Government to restructure the entire educational system with a view to facilitating wider access to higher education and to training more Bermudan students in the skills required to satisfy the employment needs of the Territory;
- 5. Notes also the decision by Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to close their respective military bases in Bermuda in 1995;
- 6. Again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory as early as possible.

IV. British Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,

Noting the request of the Territory for a review of its Constitution, and noting also the appointment by the administering Power of the Constitutional Review Commission,

Also noting the measures taken by the territorial Government to develop the agricultural, industrial, educational and communications sectors,

Further noting the desire of the Territory for membership in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other regional and international organizations,

Noting that the Territory's unmet manpower requirements continue to be a critical constraint to its economic growth

Recognizing the measures being taken by the territorial Government to prevent drug trafficking and money laundering,

- 1. Requests the administering Power to take into account the wishes and interests of the Government and the people of the Territory in connection with the constitutional review;
- 2. Also requests the administering Power and all financial institutions to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in order to enable it to mitigate the effects of the international economic recession and to pursue its development programmes;
- 3. Reiterates its call upon the administering Power to facilitate the admission of the Territory to associate membership in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as its participation in other regional and international organizations;
- 4. Calls upon the United Nations Development Programme to continue its technical assistance to the British Virgin Islands, bearing in mind the vulnerability of the Territory to external economic factors and the scarcity of skilled workers in the Territory;
- 5. Calls upon all countries and organizations with expertise in the development of skilled labour to assist the territorial Government in every possible way in the implementation of its educational and manpower training programmes;
- 6. Notes with satisfaction the measures being taken by the territorial Government to prevent drug trafficking and money laundering, and urges the administering Power to continue its assistance to the Territory in those endeavours;
- 7. Notes that a period of eighteen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

V. Cayman Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,

Noting that an amended Constitution was brought into force in the Cayman Islands on 1 February 1994,

Aware of the economic priorities established by the territorial Government,

Noting that there is an urgent need for the training of nationals in the technical, vocational, managerial and professional fields,

Noting also the actions taken by the territorial Government to implement its localization programme to promote increased participation of the local population in the decision-making process in the Cayman Islands,

Noting further the Territory's dependence on imported agricultural products,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and related activities,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the territorial Government, the Governments of other countries of the region and the administering Power to prevent and repress illicit activities such as money laundering, funds

smuggling, false invoicing and other related frauds, as well as the use of and trafficking in illegal drugs,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

- 1. Requests the administering Power to provide the territorial Government with all required expertise to enable it to achieve its economic aims;
- 2. Urges the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to facilitate the expansion of the current programme of securing employment for the local population, in particular at the decisionmaking level;
- 3. Calls upon the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to promote the agricultural development of the Cayman Islands;
- 4. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue and increase their programmes of assistance to the Territory with a view to strengthening, developing and diversifying its economy;
- 5. Also calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to take all necessary measures to counter problems related to money laundering, funds smuggling and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking;
- 6. Notes that a period of seventeen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

VI. Guam

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Recalling that in a referendum held in 1987, the people of Guam endorsed a draft Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the indigenous Chamorro people to self-determination for the Territory,

Aware of the continued negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory, with particular emphasis on the questions of the evolution of the relationship between the United States of America and Guam, self-determination of the Chamorro people and participation of Guam in international organizations,

Noting the appointment on 3 November 1993 by the administering Power of a Special Representative for Guam Commonwealth Issues,

Cognizant that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for a reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough and expeditious transfer of property to the people of Guam,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland.

Aware of the potential for diversifying and developing the economy of Guam through commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities,

Noting with concern the escalating crime rate in the Territory,

Recalling the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

- 1. Calls upon the administering Power to continue to conduct expeditiously its negotiations with the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory;
- 2. Expresses the hope that the appointment by the administering Power of a Special Representative for Guam Commonwealth Issues will facilitate the ongoing discussions on the political status of Guam;
- 3. Requests the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to expedite the transfer of land to the people of the Territory and to take the necessary steps to safeguard their property rights;
- 4. Also requests the administering Power to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the immigration issue;
- 5. Further requests the administering Power to continue to support appropriate measures by the territorial Government aimed at promoting growth in commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities;
- Urges the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in crime prevention;
- 7. Notes that a period of fifteen years has elapsed since the last United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

VII. Montserrat

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,

Noting the position of the territorial Government that while independence is both desirable and inevitable, it should be preceded by economic and financial viability sufficient to sustain Montserrat as an independent State,

Expressing concern at the high incidence of drug trafficking and money laundering in the Territory,

Taking into account the membership of Montserrat in regional and international bodies and the outstanding request of the Territory for readmission to associate membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Aware of the territorial Government's policy to continue to train and develop local human resources,

Aware also of the territorial Government's policy to achieve optimal self-sufficiency in food production within five years,

Recalling that the last United Nations visiting mission to the Territory took place in 1982,

- Requests the administering Power to work towards promoting the economic and social development of the Territory with a view to its attaining self-determination and independence;
- 2. Notes the expressed preference of the territorial Government for independence within a political union with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States;
- 3. Requests the administering Power and competent regional and international organizations, as well as countries in a position to do so, to grant the Government

of Montserrat every assistance it requires to achieve its stated goal of improving the efficiency and productivity of the public service through training at all levels;

- 4. Reiterates its call upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to take, as a matter of urgency, the necessary steps to facilitate the readmission of Montserrat as an associate member of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;
- 5. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other multilateral financial institutions, to continue to expand their assistance to the Territory in the strengthening, development and diversification of the economy of Montserrat in accordance with its mediumterm and long-term development plans;
- 6. Urges the administering Power to continue its assistance to the Territory in the prevention of drug trafficking and money laundering;
- 7. Notes that a period of twelve years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of a visiting mission to Montserrat as early as possible.

VIII. Turks and Caicos Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,

Noting recent changes to the Constitution of the Territory and the intention of the territorial Government to continue to campaign for further constitutional changes,

Noting also the different views expressed by the elected representatives of the Turks and Caicos Islands on the question of the future status of the Territory,

Aware of the decision of the administering Power to implement a policy change aimed at establishing better dialogue, coordination and cooperation between itself and its Caribbean dependent Territories,

Noting the emergency measures taken by the territorial Government to cut the budget deficit and government spending,

Noting also the commitment of the territorial Government to reform the public service to achieve greater efficiency and to implement its policy of localization of employment,

Noting further the territorial Government's expressed need for development assistance to achieve its stated goal of economic independence by 1996,

Noting the territorial Government's decision to establish an investment bank in order to attract substantial investments worldwide for much-needed projects,

Noting also that 90 per cent of the food consumed in the Territory is imported and that the Government has exerted efforts to improve the agriculture and fisheries sectors.

Aware of the efforts of the territorial Government to develop a management plan to control all marine resources exploitation,

Aware also of the tourism policy of the territorial Government to establish national standards for the tourism industry,

Noting the number of unqualified teachers and the number of expatriate staff in the educational system of the Territory, Noting with interest the statement made and the information on the overall political, economic and social situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, provided in March 1993 by an elected member of the Territory's Legislative Council to the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance 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,

- 1. Reiterates that it is ultimately for the people of the Territory themselves to determine their own future through the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence;
- 2. Invites the administering Power, in implementing policy changes concerning its dependent Territories, to continue to take fully into account the wishes and interests of the Government and people of the Turks and Caicos Islands:
- 3. Calls upon the territorial Government to continue to promote alternative employment opportunities for those civil servants whose employment will be terminated as a result of the public service reform and the planned reduction of employees in the service;
- 4. Also calls upon the territorial Government to initiate a comprehensive training programme to ensure that the employment of expatriates in the Territory's labour force is not prejudicial to the recruitment of suitably qualified and available islanders;
- 5. Calls upon the specialized agencies and other institutions of the United Nations system to explore concrete ways of assisting the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands to reach its stated goal of achieving economic independence by 1996;
- 6. Notes with satisfaction the increase in aid, particularly financial assistance, granted to the territorial Government by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and invites the latter to maintain this level of assistance;
- 7. Calls upon all national, regional, interregional and international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to take all necessary steps to assist the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the establishment and/or operation of its investment bank:
- 8. Urges the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to assist the territorial Government in increasing the efficiency of the agricultural and fisheries sectors;
- Also urges the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the problem of environmental pollution and degradation:
- 10. Calls upon all countries and organizations with experience in the training of teachers to extend generous assistance to the Territory in this field, with particular emphasis on the training of its nationals;
- 11. Draws the attention of the administering Power to the statement made and the information on the political, economic and social situation in the Territory, provided in March 1993 by an elected member of the Territory's Legislative Council to the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance 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;

12. Notes that a period of fourteen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

IX. United States Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Bearing in mind the results of the referendum on political status of the Territory held on 11 October 1993,

Noting the continuing interest of the territorial Government in seeking associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and observer status in the Caribbean Community, and noting also its inability, for financial reasons, to participate in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization,

Aware of serious fiscal problems of the territorial Government and of the measures it is implementing to decrease the budget deficit,

Noting the necessity of further diversifying the Territory's economy,

Noting also that the question of the transfer of Water Island to the Territory is still under consideration,

Noting further that in 1993 the territorial Government purchased the assets of the West Indian Company, which had significant property and development interests in the Charlotte Amalie Harbour,

Noting with concern the escalating crime rate in the Territory,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

- 1. Reiterates its request to the administering Power to facilitate as appropriate the participation of the Territory in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Community, as well as in various international and regional organizations, in accordance with the policy of the administering Power and the terms of reference of such organizations;
- 2. Requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in its efforts to balance the budget and to diversify the Territory's economy;
- 3. Invites the administering Power, as a matter of urgency, to facilitate the transfer of Water Island to the territorial Government;
- 4. Notes the purchase by the territorial Government of the assets of the West Indian Company in the Territory;
- 5. Requests the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in crime prevention;
- 6. Notes that a period of seventeen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

General Assembly resolutions 49/46 A and B

9 December 1994 Meeting 83 Adopted without vote

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/615) without vote, 28 October (meeting 13); draft by Committee on colonial countries (A/49/23), amended by United States (A/C.4/49/L.8); agenda item 18.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2-6, 10, 13; plenary 83.

In the Fourth Committee, the United States introduced a series of amendments to the draft resolution on individual Territories,(50) which the Committee approved by recorded votes as follows: amendments to the fourth preambular paragraph,

replacing "the only Territory" by "one of two Territories" and adding, after "minimum wage", "to ensure compatibility with the prevailing cost of living", by 72 to 1, with 55 abstentions, and 72 to 1, with 54 abstentions, respectively; an amendment to the fifth preambular paragraph, inserting, after "Territory", "similar to isolated communities with limited funds", by 72 to 1, with 55 abstentions; an amendment to paragraph 4, inserting, after "Government", "to continue its efforts", by 76 to 1, with 52 abstentions; and an amendment to paragraph 5, adding, after "Government", "to continue", by 75 to 1, with 52 abstentions.

Pitcairn

The Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance(⁵¹) reviewed the political, economic and social conditions in Pitcairn—a Non-Self-Governing Territory in the South Pacific—in the light of the information contained in a working paper prepared by the Secretariat.(⁴⁴) Noting with regret that the United Kingdom, the administering Power, did not participate in its deliberations, the Subcommittee appealed to it to reconsider its position and resume its participation in the work of the Committee on colonial countries.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

In December, the General Assembly adopted **decision** 49/421 without vote.

Question of Pitcairn

At its 83rd plenary meeting, on 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), adopted the following text as representing the consensus of the members of the Assembly:

"The General Assembly, having examined the situation in Pitcairn, reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Pitcairn to self-determination in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in Assembly resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, which fully applies to the Territory. The Assembly also reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory. The Assembly urges the administering Power to continue to respect the very individual lifestyle that the people of the Territory have chosen and to preserve, promote and protect it. The Assembly requests 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 continue to examine the question of Pitcairn at its next session and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session.'

General Assembly decision 49/421

Adopted without vote

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/615) without vote, 28 October (meeting 13); draft by Committee on colonial countries (A/49/23); agenda item 18. Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2-6, 10, 13; plenary 83.

St. Helena

The Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance(52) reviewed the political, economic and social conditions in St. Helena—situated in the South Atlantic Ocean and consisting of the main island of St. Helena and two dependencies, the island of Ascension and a group of islands forming the dependency of Tristan da Cunha—in the light of information contained in a working paper prepared by the Secretariat. (47) Noting with regret that the United Kingdom, the administering Power, did not participate in its deliberations, the Subcommittee appealed to it to reconsider its position and resume its participation in the Committee on colonial countries.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

In December, the General Assembly adopted **decision** 49/422 by recorded vote.

Question of St. Helena

At its 83rd plenary meeting, on 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), adopted the following text:

- "1. The General Assembly, having examined the question of St. Helena, reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of St. Helena to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in Assembly resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960. The Assembly urges the administering Power to continue to take, in consultation with the Legislative Council and other representatives of the people of St. Helena, all necessary steps to ensure the speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of the Territory and, in that connection, reaffirms the importance of promoting an awareness among the people of St. Helena of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right self-determination.
- "2. The General Assembly reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory and calls upon the administering Power to continue, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to strengthen the economy, to encourage local initiative and enterprise and to increase its assistance to diversification programmes with the aim of improving the general welfare of the community, including the employment situation in the Territory.
- "3. The General Assembly urges the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of St. Helena to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources.
- "4. The General Assembly reaffirms that continued development assistance from the administering Power, together with any assistance that the international community might be able to provide, constitutes an important means of developing the economic

potential of the Territory and of enhancing the capacity of its people to realize fully the goals set forth in the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. The Assembly, in that connection, welcomes the assistance rendered by the United Nations Development Programme and invites other organizations of the United Nations system to assist in the development of the Territory.

- "5. The continued presence of military facilities in the Territory prompts the General Assembly, on the basis of previous United Nations resolutions and decisions concerning military bases and installations in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, to urge the administering Power to take measures to avoid the involvement of the Territory in any action that could endanger peace and security in neighbouring States.
- "6. The General Assembly considers that the possibility of dispatching a United Nations visiting mission to St. Helena at an appropriate time should be kept under review, and requests 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 continue to examine the question of St. Helena at its next session and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session."

General Assembly decision 49/422

115-2-50 (recorded vote)

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/615) by recorded vote (94-2-43), 28 October (meeting 13); draft by Committee on colonial countries (A/49/23); agenda item 18.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2-6, 10, 13; plenary 83. Recorded vote in Assembly as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

In the Fourth Committee, the United Kingdom said that, as in previous years, the decision was unacceptable to it because of the mention of military installations on Ascension Island even though Ascension was not included in the Committee's agenda and although the installations were extremely limited. The United Kingdom's policy towards its dependent Territories was pursued in

strict conformity with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.

Tokelau

The Committee on colonial countries considered the question of Tokelau—a Non-Self-Governing Territory administered by New Zealand and consisting of three small atolls in the South Pacific—as a separate item at meetings between 15 February and 15 September 1994 and also within the context of 13 island Territories (see above). Its consideration was based on a working paper prepared by the Secretariat(⁴⁵) containing information on constitutional and political developments, as well as economic, social and educational conditions, and on a report of a United Nations Visiting Mission to Tokelau in 1994.(⁵³)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 9 December, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, adopted **resolution** 49/47 without vote.

Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

Having examined 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 question of Tokelau,

Recalling its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Cognizant of the three options on future status for Non-Self-Governing Territories contained in Principle VI of the annex to its resolution 1541(XV) of 15 December 1960,

Noting with appreciation that for the first time Tokelau came together as one people and nation to speak to the United Nations Visiting Mission, in order to address the question of Tokelau's act of self-determination,

Aware of the special problems facing Tokelau by virtue of its isolation, small size, limited resources and lack of infrastructure,

Reiterating the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the implementation of the Declaration, which fully applies to Tokelau,

Having examined the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Tokelau, 1994, dispatched in July at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand and of the General Fono (Council) of Tokelau,

Having heard the statement of the representative of New Zealand, the administering Power,

Noting with satisfaction the continuing exemplary cooperation of the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

- 1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Tokelau to self-determination and independence in accordance with resolutions 1514(XV) and 1541(XV);
- 2. Expresses its deep appreciation to the Ulu-o-Tokelau (highest authority of Tokelau), the Elders of Tokelau, the Council of Faipule (joint chairmen of the General Fono), the pulenuku (village mayors) and all other representatives of the people of Tokelau, as well as the administering Power, for the courtesies, cooperation and assistance extended to the United Nations Visiting Mission to Tokelau;
- 3. Takes note of the solemn declaration read by the Ulu-o-Tokelau, on behalf of the people and their leadership, indicating a strong preference for a future status of free association with New Zealand;
- 4. Notes that the people of Tokelau, through the General Fono, the Council of Faipule and other institutions, expressed their readiness to assume full governmental responsibility and to conduct their own affairs within the framework of a constitution which is currently being drafted;
- 5. Also notes the determination of the people of Tokelau to exercise their right to self-determination following the establishment and effective functioning of all branches of government in accordance with their own constitution:
- 6. Welcomes the assurances of the Government of New Zealand that it will meet its obligation to the United Nations with respect to Tokelau and abide by the freely expressed wishes of the people of Tokelau with regard to their future status;
- 7. Approves the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Tokelau, 1994;
- 8. Requests 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 continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

General Assembly resolution 49/47

9 December 1994 Meeting 83 Adopted without vote

Approved by Fourth Committee (A/49/615) without vote, 28 October (meeting 13); draft by Committee on colonial countries (A/49/23); agenda item 18.

Meeting numbers. GA 49th session: 4th Committee 2-6, 10, 13; plenary 83

REFERENCES

(*)A/49/23. (2)A/AC.109/1187. (*)A/49/184. (*)A/49/253. (*)A/49/391. (*)YUN 1993, p. 165. (*)A/AC.109/1198. (*)A/AC.109/2003. (*)A/49/76. (*)*A/49/334-\$/1994/988. (*)*A/49/341-\$/1994/1003. (*)*A/49/76. (*)*A/49/334-\$/1994/988. (*)*A/49/341-\$/1994/1003. (*)*A/AC.109/1195. (*)*A/AC.109/1197. (*)*YUN 1988, p. 742. (*)*YUN 1991, p. 794, SC res. 690(1991), 29 Apr. 1991. (*)*YUN 1993, p. 167. (*)*S/1994/283. (*)*YUN 1993, p. 168. (*)*S/1994/283/Add.1. & Corr.1. (*)*S/1994/819. (*)*ST/PRST/1994/39. (22)*S/1994/1257. (23)*S/PRST/1994/67. (*)*S/1994/1420. & Add.1. (25)*YUN 1993, p. 169. GA res. 48/49, 10 Dec. 1993. (*)*A/49/492. (*)*A/AC.109/1194. (*)*A/48/848. (*)*YUN 1993, p. 170, GA dec. 48/467. (*)*A/48/848/Add.1. (*)*DYUN 1993, p. 170, GA dec. 48/467. (*)*A/48/848/Add.2. (*)*D/49/559. (*)*YUN 1993, p. 1201, GA res. 48/229, 23 Dec. 1993. (*)*A/49/559. (*)*YUN 1993, p. 1201, GA res. 48/229, 23 Dec. 1993. (*)*A/49/1181. (*)*A/AC.109/1180. (*)*A/AC.109/1181. (*)*A/AC.109/1185. (*)*A/AC.109/1183. (*)*A/AC.109/1185. (*)*A/AC.109/1183. (*)*A/AC.109/1185. (*)*A/AC.109/1183. (*)*A/AC.109/L1815. (*)*A/AC.109/1182. (*)*A/AC.109/L183. (*)*A/AC.109/L181. (*)*A/AC.109/L183. (*)*A/AC.109/L181. (*)*A/AC.109/L183. (*)*A/AC.109/L181. (*)*A/AC.109/L183. (*)*A/AC.109/L181. (*)*A/AC.109/L183. (*)*A/AC.109/L181. (*)*A/AC.109/L09.

International Trusteeship System

Republic of Palau

In 1994, Palau, the last remaining entity of the former Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands under the 1947 Trusteeship Agreement, (1) entered a Compact of Free Association with its former Administering Authority, the United States, and became a Member State of the United Nations as the Republic of Palau.

In a November 1993 plebiscite, (²) a majority of 68.26 per cent of the population of Palau had opted for the Compact after the Supreme Court of Palau, in October, had delivered final adjudication upholding the validity of a 1992 constitutional referendum which reduced the votes required to approve the Compact from a three-quarter majority to a simple majority of 51 per cent.

In January 1994, ratification of the Compact was challenged on procedural grounds in two separate complaints filed with the Supreme Court of Palau. A third lawsuit, filed in February in the Honolulu courts of the Administering Authority, challenged the rightfulness of the Compact on the grounds that it violated the Administering Authority's environmental laws and that officials of the Administering Authority had neither complied with the National Environmental Policy Act nor prepared an environmental impact statement relating to the Compact. The plaintiffs also took their case to the Palau Supreme Court. The Federal Court in Honolulu set a trial date of 14 February 1995.

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL ACTION

In January, at its resumed sixtieth session,(3) the Trusteeship Council considered the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Palau, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, 1993.(4) The Mission was dispatched to observe the plebiscite held on 9 November 1993.

On 18 January, the Council adopted **resolution 2198(LX)** without vote.

Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to observe the plebiscite in Palau, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, November 1993

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined at its sixtieth session the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission, dispatched by the Trusteeship Council at the invitation of the Administering Authority to observe the plebiscite in Palau, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, held on 9 November 1993,

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Visiting Mission;
- 2. Expresses its appreciation of the work accomplished by the Visiting Mission on its behalf.

Trusteeship Council resolution 2198(LX)

18 January 1994 Meeting 1703 Adopted without vote

Draft by France (for Chairman of Visiting Mission) (T/L.1290); agenda item 15.

At its sixty-first session, the Council examined the Administering Authority's annual report for the period from 1 October 1992 to 30 September 1993.(5) It heard statements by representatives of the Administering Authority, its special representative to Palau, other members of the Council and petitioners.

On 25 May, the Council adopted, without a vote, the draft conclusions and recommendations concerning Palau prepared by its Drafting Committee (China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom) and decided to include them in its report to the Security Council on its sixty-first session.(°) The Trusteeship Council had, in 1990, expressed the hope that Palau would be able in due course to complete the process of freely exercising its right to self-determination. It welcomed the 1993 plebiscite and noted with satisfaction the assurances given by the Administering Authority that it would fulfil its responsibilities until the implementation of the Compact and the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. The Council noted with satisfaction that further progress had been made concerning Palau's economic, social and educational advancement. In particular, it welcomed a draft five-year plan, completed in November 1992 by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the World Health Organization, and the opening of the Palau National Hospital. It also took note of recent fisheries resources development and the emphasis placed on the need to protect the environment. The Council took particular note of the statement by the Administering Authority that the United States had no plans to establish military bases in Palau.

On 25 May, the Trusteeship Council adopted **resolution 2199(LXI)** without vote.

Attainment of self-government or independence by the Trust Territories

The Trusteeship Council,

Recalling the Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands approved by the Security Council on 2 April 1947,

Noting that Articles 73 and 76 of the Charter of the United Nations call upon Administering Authorities of Trust Territories to assist their peoples in the progressive development of their free political institutions and towards self-government or independence,

Mindful that the people of Palau have established a constitution and democratic political institutions providing the instruments of self-government,

Aware that political status negotiations between the Administering Authority and representatives of the Trust Territory began in 1969 with the aim of facilitating the progressive development of the peoples in Micronesia, including Palau, towards self-government or independence as was deemed appropriate,

Aware also that this process has been successfully completed for the Republic of Palau,

Recalling its resolution 2183(LIII) of 28 May 1986, in which termination of the Trusteeship Agreement for the entire Trust Territory was envisioned,

Having heard the statement of the elected representative of the Republic of Palau requesting early termination of the Trusteeship Agreement, and believing this to reflect the freely expressed wishes of the people of Palau,

Conscious of the responsibility of the Security Council in respect of strategic areas, as set out in Article 83, paragraph 1, of the Charter,

- 1. Notes that the people of Palau have freely exercised their right to self-determination in a plebiscite observed by the visiting mission of the Trusteeship Council and have chosen free association with the United States of America;
- 2. Requests the Government of the United States, in consultation with the Government of Palau, to agree on a date on or about 1 October 1994 for the full entry into force of the Compact of Free Association, and to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations of that date;
- 3. Considers that the Government of the United States, as the Administering Authority, has satisfactorily discharged its obligations under the terms of the Trustee-ship Agreement and that it is appropriate for that Agreement to be terminated with effect from the date referred to in paragraph 2 above, as agreed upon by the two Governments;
- 4. Requests the Secretary-General to circulate as official documents of the Security Council the present resolution and all material received from the Administering Authority pursuant to this resolution.

Trusteeship Council resolution 2199(LXI)

25 May 1994 Meeting 1705 Adopted without vote

5-nation draft (T/L.1291); agenda item 8.

Sponsors: China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States.

SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

By a letter of 17 October,(7) the United States informed the Secretary-General that, as a consequence of consultations held between the United States and the Government of the Republic of Palau, the Compact of Free Association had come fully into force on 1 October 1994.

On 10 November, the Security Council unanimously adopted **resolution 956(1994).**

The Security Council,

Recalling Chapter XII of the Charter of the United Nations which established an international trusteeship system,

Conscious of its responsibility relating to strategic areas as set forth in Article 83, paragraph 1, of the Charter,

Recalling its resolution 21(1947) of 2 April 1947 by which it approved the Trusteeship Agreement for the former Japanese Mandated Islands, since known as the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands,

Noting that the Trusteeship Agreement designated the United States of America as Administering Authority of the Trust Territory,

Mindful that article 6 of the Trusteeship Agreement, in conformity with Article 76 of the Charter, obligated the Administering Authority, interalia, to promote the de-

velopment of the inhabitants of the Trust Territory towards self-government or independence as may be appropriate to the particular circumstances of the Trust Territory and its peoples and the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned,

Aware that, towards this end, negotiations between the Administering Authority and representatives of the Trust Territory began in 1969 and resulted in the conclusion of a Compact of Free Association in the case of Palau,

Satisfied that the people of Palau have freely exercised their right to self-determination in approving the new status agreement in a plebiscite observed by a visiting mission of the Trusteeship Council and that, in addition to this plebiscite, the duly constituted legislature of Palau has adopted a resolution approving the new status agreement, thereby freely expressing their wish to terminate the status of Palau as a Trust Territory,

Taking note of resolution 2199(LXI) of the Trusteeship Council of 25 May 1994,

Determines, in the light of the entry into force on 1 October 1994 of the new status agreement for Palau, that the objectives of the Trusteeship Agreement have been fully attained, and that the applicability of the Trusteeship Agreement has terminated with respect to Palau.

Security Council resolution 956(1994)

10 November 1994 Meeting 3455 Adopted unanimously 5-nation draft (S/1994/1264), based on draft by Trusteeship Council (S/1994/1234).

Sponsors: China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States.

On 29 November, the Security Council adopted **resolution 963(1994)**, recommending the Republic of Palau for membership in the United Nations (see PART ONE, Chapter V).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

In December, the General Assembly, by **resolution 49/63**, admitted the Republic of Palau to membership in the United Nations (see PART ONE, Chapter V).

Other aspects of the International Trusteeship System

Amendment of rules of procedure

In view of Palau's forthcoming accession to independence, the Trusteeship Council in May 1994 amended its rules of procedure to take into account its decreased activities which made regular annual meetings no longer necessary. However, the Council could be convened if circumstances so demanded.

By a note verbale of 9 May,(8) France pointed out that the question of Palau was the only item currently on the Council's agenda. The Council had amended its rules of procedure in 1961,(9),(10) following the withdrawal from its agenda of the last of the African questions; it would be desirable for it to do the same at this juncture.

On 25 May 1994, the Council adopted resolution 2200(LXI) without vote.

Amendment of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council

The Trusteeship Council

Decides to amend its rules of procedure as set forth in the annex to the present resolution.

Rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council

1. Page 1

(a) Replace rules 1 and 2 by the following rule 1:

The Trusteeship Council shall meet as and where occasion may require, by decision of the Trusteeship Council, or by decision of its President, or at the request of a majority of its members, or at the request of the General Assembly, or at the request of the Security Council acting in pursuance of the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

- (b) Renumber rule 3 as rule 2
- New rule 2

First line

For a special session

read a session of the Trusteeship Council Seventh line

For a special session

read a session

(d) Renumber rule 4 as rule 3

2. Page 2

- (a) Delete rule 5
- (b) Renumber rules 6 through 106 as rules 4 through 104
- New rule 4, last line

For in rule 3 for a request for a special session read in rule 2

(d) New rule 6, last line

For in rule 4 read in rule 3

(e) New rule 8

Delete the last sentence

- Pages 3 and 4
 - New rule 13

Paragraph 1, line 4

For in rule 14 read in rule 12

Paragraph 2, line 3

For with rule 74 read with rule 72

(e) New rule 14, page 4

First line

For of rule 13 read of rule 11

Third line

For in rule 14 read in rule 12

(f) New rule 17, first and second lines

For its regular session

read of each session, if at least a year has passed since the beginning of the previous session

(g) New rule 18, second line

After are elected add and for a maximal duration of five years

- Pages 5-19
 - (a) New rule 22, last line

For of rule 85 read of rule 83

(b) New rule 24, second line

For of rule 53 read of rule 51

- New rule 46, third line
 - For rule 47 read rule 45
- (d) New rule 65, first line

For in rules 28 to 31, 36 to 38, and 51 to 63 read in rules 26 to 29, 34 to 36, and 49 to 61

New rule 70, paragraph 2, second line

For at the regular session read at the session

New rule 76

For with rules 79 to 86 read with rules 77 to 84 For with rules 87 to 90 read with rules 85 to 88

New rule 82, paragraph 2, last two lines

For with rules 85 and 86 read with rules 83 and

- (h) New rule 83, paragraph 2, last line For in rule 24 read in rule 22
- New rule 84

Paragraph 1, lines 2 and 5, and paragraph 3, line 6 For regular session read session

Paragraph 2 (b), last line

For with rule 84 read with rule 82

Paragraph 3, last two lines

Delete, or it may be placed on the agenda of a special session

- New rule 85, third line
- For rule 80 read rule 78
- (k) New rule 88, last line

For with rule 44 read with rule 42

(I) New rule 97

Line 1

Add at the beginning of the paragraph

Subject to the provisions of article 88 of the

Charter of the United Nations

Lines 1 and 2

For annually to the General Assembly read to the General Assembly after each

of its sessions

Line 4

For an annual review

read a review

(m) New rule 98

Third line

For in rule 99 read in rule 97

Seventh line

For rule 96 read rule 94

(n) New rule 99

Second line

For in rules 99 and 100 read in rules 97 and 98

Trusteeship Council resolution 2200(LXI)

25 May 1994 Meeting 1705

Adopted without vote

5-nation draft (T/L.1292); agenda item 10.

Sponsors: China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States.

Introducing the draft, France said the changes were not tantamount to eliminating the Council, but should be seen as showing that it had fully carried out the mission entrusted to it by the Charter.

Fellowships and scholarships

In a report of May 1994,(11) the Secretary-General informed the Trusteeship Council that, as at 2 May, he had not received any response from Member States concerning scholarships made available to students from the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. On 24 May, (6) the Council took note of the report.

Information dissemination

The Department of Public Information (DPI) continued to disseminate information on the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands as described by the Secretary-General in a report covering the period from 1 May 1993 to 30 April 1994. (12) Annexed to the report was a detailed list of information materials, including press releases, articles in United Nations publications and radio, video and film programmes, distributed during that period to some 100 organizations and individuals in the Trust Territory.

In an annex to the Secretary-General's report, an analysis was made of some 20 responses received to a questionnaire distributed in November 1993 by the secretariat of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Observe the Plebiscite in Palau. The purpose of the questionnaire had been to measure the impact of DPI's public awareness campaign on the population.

On 24 May, (6) the Trusteeship Council took note of the report without objection.

REFERENCES

(¹)YUN 1946-47, p. 398. (²)YUN 1993, p. 180. (²)S/1994/346. (*)T/1978. (^)S/1994/574-T/1980. (^)S/1994/1400. (^)S/1994/1200-T/1985. (^)T/1983. (°)YUN 1961, p. 473. (¹)YUN 1962, p. 508. (¹¹)T/1981. (¹²)T/1982.