



Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

On 14 December 1960, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted by an overwhelming majority a "Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples" by which it solemnly proclaimed "the necessity of bringing to a speedy and unconditional end colonialism in all its forms and manifestations".

By this decision, contained in resolution 1514(XV), the United Nations gave fresh impetus to a historic development: the attainment, during the life of the Organization, of sovereign independence by some 50 dependent Territories, including United Nations Trust Territories. Some 40 of them have achieved independence since the Declaration was adopted.

Despite the great progress made against colonialism, however, more than 3 million people still live under alien rule 25 years after the adoption of the Declaration. The United Nations continues its efforts to help achieve self-determination and independence in the remaining dependent Territories.

The full text of the Declaration is given below.

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the determination proclaimed by the peoples of the world in the Charter of the United Nations to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Conscious of the need for the creation of conditions of stability and well-being and peaceful and friendly relations based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of all peoples, and of universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recognizing the passionate yearning for freedom in all dependent peoples and the decisive role of such peoples in the attainment of their independence,

Aware of the increasing conflicts resulting from the denial of or impediments in the way of the freedom of such peoples, which constitute a serious threat to world peace,

Considering the important role of the United Nations in assisting the movement for independence in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Recognizing that the peoples of the world ardently desire the end of colonialism in all its manifestations,

Convinced that the continued existence of colonialism prevents the development of international economic co-operation, impedes the social, cultural and economic development of dependent peoples and militates against the United Nations ideal of universal peace,

Affirming that peoples may, for their own ends, freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international economic co-operation, based upon the principle of mutual benefit, and international law,

Believing that the process of liberation is irresistible and irreversible and that, in order to avoid serious crises, an end must be put to colonialism and all practices of segregation and discrimination associated therewith,

Welcoming the emergence in recent years of a large number of dependent Territories into freedom and independence, and recognizing the increasingly powerful trends towards freedom in such Territories which have not yet attained independence,

Convinced that all peoples have an inalienable right to complete freedom, the exercise of their sovereignty and the integrity of their national territory,

Solemnly proclaims the necessity of bringing to a speedy and unconditional end colonialism in all its forms and manifestations;

And to this end

Declares that:

1. The subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights, is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and is an impediment to the promotion of world peace and co-operation.
2. All peoples have the right to self-determination; by virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.
3. Inadequacy of political, economic, social or educational preparedness should never serve as a pretext for delaying independence.
4. All armed action or repressive measures of all kinds directed against dependent peoples shall cease in order to enable them to exercise peacefully and freely their right to complete independence, and the integrity of their national territory shall be respected.
5. Immediate steps shall be taken, in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories or all other Territories which have not yet attained independence, to transfer all powers to the peoples of those Territories, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, without any distinction as to race, creed or colour, in order to enable them to enjoy complete independence and freedom.
6. Any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
7. All States shall observe faithfully and strictly the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the present Declaration on the basis of equality, non-interference in the internal affairs of all States, and respect for the sovereign rights of all peoples and their territorial integrity.



DECOLONIZATION

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TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

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Netherlands Antilles and Surinam, Alaska and Hawaii, the General Assembly adopted resolutions accepting the cessation of the transmission of information while in others, such as the French Territories and Departments in the Caribbean, the South Pacific and the Indian Ocean, the decision was taken unilaterally by the administering Power without the subsequent approval of the General Assembly. On the other hand, several countries which achieved independence during these years had never been included in the original 1946 list. ^{5/}

No new additions were made to the 1946 list prior to 1960. When Spain and Portugal were admitted to membership of the United Nations in 1955 they both stated that they did not administer any Territories covered by Article 73 e. ^{6/} The refusal of these two former colonial Powers to accept their obligations under the Charter created a new problem. Although the General Assembly had earlier approved a List of Factors to be used as a guide in determining when transmission of information in respect of a territory listed as non-self-governing should cease, ^{7/} it had never developed any guidelines for deciding when transmission of information should begin. However, it was not until 1959 that the Assembly was able to establish a Special Committee ^{8/} to study the principles which should guide Members in determining whether or not an obligation existed to transmit the information called for in Article 73 e.

On the basis of the report of the Special Committee, the General Assembly adopted resolution 1541 (XV) (see annex II). In this resolution the Assembly established that an international legal obligation exists to transmit information under Article 73 e.; that prima facie there is an obligation to transmit information in respect of a territory which is: (a) geographically separate and (b) distinct ethnically and/or culturally from the country administering it. Only after these factors have been established may additional elements of an administrative, political, juridical, economic, historical or other nature be brought into consideration to disprove or to support the presumption that an obligation to transmit information exists. A Non-Self-Governing Territory can be said to have reached a full measure of self-government by emergence as a sovereign independent State or by free association or integration with an independent State. Free association should be the result of a free and voluntary choice by the peoples of the Territory concerned "expressed through informed and democratic processes", and must allow the inhabitants of that Territory the freedom to modify at a later date the status of their Territory. Integration should be on the basis of complete equality between the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territory and those of the independent country with which it is integrated inter alia as regards representation and effective participation at all levels in the executive, legislative and judicial organs of government.

Integration should come about only after the integrating Territory has attained an advanced stage of self-government with free political institutions and should be the result of the freely expressed wishes of the Territory's peoples "acting with full knowledge of the change in their status, their wishes having been expressed through informed and democratic processes, impartially conducted and based on universal adult suffrage", and held, when the United Nations deems it necessary, under its supervision.

Applying these principles, the General Assembly determined at the same session that the "overseas Territories" of Portugal were non-self-governing regarding which an obligation existed on the part of the administering Power to transmit information. ^{9/}

The years following the San Francisco Conference witnessed the growing strength of the Afro-Asian solidarity movement, which found expression at the Asian-African Conference held in Bandung in 1955.

The Bandung Conference, in addition to reviewing the principal world problems, made in its Final Communiqué an important declaration on "Problems of Dependent Peoples". The Conference declared that "colonialism in all its manifestations is an evil which should speedily be brought to an end", affirmed that "the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights..."; declared its support for "the cause of freedom and independence for all such peoples"; and called upon "the Powers concerned to grant freedom and independence to such peoples".

In 1958, the first Conference of Independent African States was held at Accra and it declared that "a definite date should be set for the attainment of independence by each of the colonial Territories in accordance with the will of the people of the Territories and the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations".

Meeting in Addis Ababa in June 1960, the Second Conference of Independent African States reaffirmed the declaration of Bandung and the resolutions of Accra, and stated that "the present awakening of the people of Africa and the independence movements can no longer be contained...". Further, "believing that the restoration of the natural rights and human dignity to the Africans, in those parts of Africa at present under foreign subjugation, as well as the peaceful enjoyment of the hard-won freedom by the peoples of the independent African States, could be achieved only through the complete eradication of colonial rule from our continent", it urged "the colonial Powers to fix dates in conformity with the will of the people for the immediate attainment of independence by all non-independent countries..." .

II. ADOPTION OF THE DECLARATION

The admission of 16 newly independent African States to membership of the United Nations at the fifteenth session of the General Assembly in 1960 substantially altered the composition and balance of power in the Assembly and gave added impetus to the growing demand for a speedy and unconditional end to colonialism.

At that session the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly had before it a report of the Secretary-General ^{10/} on the progress achieved in the Non-Self-Governing Territories since the founding of the United Nations in accordance with the objectives set forth in Chapter XI of the Charter. After examining the report the Committee noted that, although progress had been achieved in some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, a substantial number of Territories still remained non-self-governing and that in the great majority of them the achievements fell short of the needs of their inhabitants. ^{11/}

The General Assembly, at its session of 1960, which saw one of the largest gatherings of heads of State and Government to mark the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, decided to include in its agenda an item entitled "Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples".

The General Assembly discussed the item in plenary meetings between 28 November and 14 December. ^{12/} The discussion centred mainly on two draft declarations: one introduced by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics which would have proclaimed inter alia that "all colonial countries and Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories must be granted forthwith complete independence", and that "all strongholds of colonialism in the form of possessions or leased areas in the territory of others must be eliminated" which was not put to the vote as a whole after its first three substantive paragraphs were rejected; and the other, sponsored by 43 Afro-Asian States, which was eventually adopted on 14 December 1960 as resolution 1514 (XV). ^{13/}

The Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples* proclaims that: (1) the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights, is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and is an impediment to the promotion of world peace

* The full text of the Declaration is reproduced on the back cover of this issue.

and co-operation; (2) "all peoples" have the right to self-determination by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development; (3) "inadequacy of political, economic, social or educational preparedness" should never serve as a pretext for delaying independence; (4) all armed action or repressive measures of all kinds directed against dependent peoples shall cease; (5) "immediate steps" should be taken, in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories or all other Territories that had not yet attained independence, to transfer all powers to the peoples of those Territories, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, without any distinction as to race, creed or colour, in order to enable them to enjoy complete independence and freedom; (6) any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter; and (7) all States shall observe faithfully and strictly the provisions of the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and "the present Declaration".

III. ESTABLISHMENT 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

The Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples did not specify the means by which the United Nations was to ensure its implementation.

At its sixteenth session the General Assembly adopted resolution 1654 (XVI) (see annex III), in which it noted with regret that, with a few exceptions, the provisions of the Declaration had not been carried out, and that armed action and repressive measures continued to be taken against dependent peoples. The Assembly called upon States concerned to take action without further delay with a view to the faithful application and implementation of the Declaration.

At the same time the resolution proceeded to establish a Special Committee of 17 members, to be nominated by the President of the General Assembly. ^{14/} The purpose of the Committee was to examine the application of the Declaration and to make recommendations on the progress and extent of its implementation. The Committee, known as the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, began work in 1962.

At the following session the General Assembly decided to expand the size and scope 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. The Special Committee was asked inter alia to continue to seek the most suitable ways for the speedy and total application of the Declaration to all Territories not yet independent; to propose specific measures for the complete application of the Declaration; to submit to the General Assembly a report with recommendations on all Territories to which the Declaration applied, which included Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories; and to apprise the Security Council of any developments in those Territories which might threaten international peace and security. The membership of the Committee was enlarged to 24 by the addition of seven new members nominated by the President of the General Assembly. ^{15/} From 1975 to 1979, the membership of the Special Committee remained at 24. In December 1979, the Assembly decided to enlarge the membership to 25, and on the nomination made by the Assembly President, added Venezuela to the membership. In January 1985, Australia withdrew from the membership. For detailed information on the membership of the Committee during the past 25 years, see table 9.

Other organs which are concerned with matters relating to dependent Territories are the Trusteeship Council and the United Nations Council for Namibia.

The Trusteeship Council, one of the main organs of the United Nations, was established under the Charter and assigned the task of supervising the administration of Territories placed under the International Trusteeship System. The major goals of the System are to promote the advancement of the inhabitants of Trust Territories and their progressive development towards self-government.

Of the original 11 Trust Territories under the System only one remains, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, administered by the United States, and which was designated a strategic area, under the authority of the Security Council. The Special Committee also discusses the question of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands during its sessions pursuant to the Declaration. All the other Trust Territories have attained independence, either as separate States or by joining neighbouring independent countries (see tables 5 and 6).

In 1967, the General Assembly established, under its resolution 2248 (S-V) of 19 May 1967, an 11-member United Nations Council for South West Africa to administer South West Africa until independence and to promulgate such laws, devices and regulations as necessary for the administration of the Territory until a legislative assembly was

established on the basis of universal adult suffrage. ^{16/} The Assembly also decided that the Council should entrust such executive and administrative tasks to a United Nations Commissioner for South West Africa who would be responsible to the Council. Subsequently, in June 1968, the Assembly, in its resolution 2372 (XXII), proclaimed that South West Africa would, from then on, be known as Namibia and that both the United Nations Council for South West Africa and the Commissioner would be renamed accordingly.

Over the years, the United Nations Council for Namibia, which has been enlarged to comprise 31 member States, ^{17/} has carried out an increasing variety of functions aimed at defending the rights and interests of the Namibian people until they are able to exercise their right of self-determination, freedom and national independence. In fulfilling its mandate, the Council has formulated its programme of work in close co-operation with the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), which has been recognized by the General Assembly as "the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people" by its resolution 31/146 of 20 December 1976.

IV. DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF A GENERAL NATURE CONCERNING DECOLONIZATION

A. Recommendations for the introduction of constitutional and political reforms

Most resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Special Committee concerning the implementation of the Declaration in relation to individual Territories contain recommendations of a constitutional or political nature. Though some of them reflect the special characteristics or circumstances of the Territories in question, others are common to most of them. Generally speaking the recommendations have emphasized:

- (1) The inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination and independence;
- (2) The need to speed up the decolonization process;
- (3) The principle that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine their own future political status;

(4) Respect for the unity and territorial integrity of the Non-Self-Governing Territory concerned and the repudiation of any acts that might threaten such unity and integrity;

(5) The obligation of the administering Powers to create such conditions in the Territories concerned as would enable their peoples to exercise freely their inalienable right to self-determination and independence and the importance of fostering an awareness among those peoples of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of that right;

(6) The convening of a constitutional conference; the cessation of repressive acts by the colonial Power; the revocation of all racially discriminatory laws and the eradication of discriminatory practices; the removal of all restrictions on political activities and the guarantee of full democratic freedoms; the granting of an amnesty and the return of political exiles and refugees; and the holding of free elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage, in some cases with the participation of the United Nations.

B. Referral to the Security Council by the General Assembly and the Special Committee of situations in Non-Self-Governing Territories

Under Article 11 of the Charter, the General Assembly may call the attention of the Security Council to situations which are likely to endanger international peace and security. The Special Committee has been requested by the Assembly to apprise the Security Council of situations which might likewise pose a threat to international peace and security.

Under the terms of the above provisions, both the General Assembly and the Special Committee drew the attention of the Security Council on a number of occasions to the serious situation in southern Africa arising from South Africa's persistent illegal occupation of Namibia, its defiance of United Nations resolutions, its brutal repression of the Namibian people, its aggressive activities and acts of destabilization against neighbouring independent African States and its policies of apartheid, as well as its acquisition of nuclear-weapon capability, constituting a threat to international peace and security.

Taking into account the related recommendations of the General Assembly and the Special Committee and in the light of the critical situation obtaining in and around Namibia, the Security Council for its part has adopted a series of decisions, resolutions and statements in this regard.

C. Recognition of the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples under colonial rule and of the role of national liberation movements

At its twentieth session in 1965, the General Assembly for the first time recognized "the legitimacy of the struggle by the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination and independence" and at the same time invited "all States to provide material and moral assistance to the national liberation movements in colonial Territories". 18/

The following year the General Assembly went a step further and stated that the preservation of colonialism and its manifestations, including racism and apartheid, as well as attempts by some colonial Powers to suppress national liberation movements by repressive activities and the use of armed force against peoples, were incompatible with the Charter and the Declaration on decolonization. 19/ It furthermore declared that the continuation of colonial rule threatened international peace and security and that the practice of apartheid, as well as all forms of racial discrimination, constituted a crime against humanity; and urged "all States to provide material and moral assistance to the national liberation movements...". 19/

In 1967, the General Assembly declared 20/ that the persistence of colonialism, the suppression of liberation movements and the use of armed force against colonial peoples was incompatible not only with the Charter and the Declaration on decolonization but also with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Successive United Nations resolutions have reiterated and strengthened these affirmations.

In 1980, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration, the General Assembly adopted a Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration 21/ similar to the one it had adopted in 1970, in which inter alia it declared that the continuation of colonialism in all its manifestations, including racism, apartheid and the exploitation of economic and human resources, was incompatible with the Charter, the Declaration and the principles of international law; reaffirmed that the policy of apartheid of the South African régime and its illegal occupation of Namibia violated the principles enshrined in the Charter and constituted a threat to international peace and security; reaffirmed the inherent right of peoples under colonialism in all its forms and manifestations to struggle by all means at their disposal against those colonial and racist régimes which suppressed their aspirations for freedom, self-determination and independence; and categorically rejected any agreement, arrangement or

unilateral action by colonial and racist Powers which ignored, violated, denied or conflicted with the inalienable right of peoples under colonial domination to self-determination and independence. The Assembly further stated that Member States should render all necessary moral and material assistance to the peoples under colonial domination in their struggle to exercise their right to self-determination and independence; and that they should intensify their efforts to promote the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council relating to Territories and countries under colonial domination.

D. Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Namibia and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa

Another area of concern to the Special Committee has been that of the activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration.

The Special Committee considers this item yearly and, on its recommendations, the General Assembly has repeatedly declared that any administering or occupying Power that deprives the colonial peoples of their legitimate rights over the natural resources of their Territories, as well as their right to dispose of those resources in their best interests, violates the solemn obligations it has assumed under the Charter; reaffirmed that, by their exploitation of natural resources, the continued accumulation of huge profits for the enrichment of foreign settlers and the perpetuation of colonial domination and racial discrimination in the Territories, the activities of foreign economic, financial and other interests operating at present in the colonial Territories, particularly in southern Africa, constitute a major obstacle to political independence and racial equality, as well as to the enjoyment of the natural resources of those Territories by the indigenous inhabitants; reiterated that the exploitation and plundering of the marine and other natural resources of Namibia by South African and other foreign economic interests are illegal; condemned the plunder of Namibian uranium; and called once again upon all Governments that had not yet done so to take legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in colonial 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. 22/

The General Assembly has requested the Special Committee to continue to monitor closely the situation in the remaining colonial Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interests of the indigenous peoples and their speedy accession to independence and has, in that connection, requested the administering Powers concerned to ensure that the peoples of the Territories under their administration are not exploited for political, military and other purposes detrimental to their interests. 22/

E. Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The Special Committee is also concerned with military activities and arrangements in colonial Territories which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration.

On the recommendation of the Special Committee, the General Assembly consistently repeated its conviction that the presence of military bases and installations in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories could constitute a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration; and that it is the responsibility of the administering Powers concerned to ensure that the existence of such bases and installations does not hinder the populations of the Territories from exercising their right of self-determination and independence in accordance with the Charter; and has condemned all military activities and arrangements in colonial Territories which deny the peoples concerned their right to self-determination and independence.

The General Assembly has noted that, in southern Africa in general and in and around Namibia in particular, a critical situation continues to prevail as a result of South Africa's continued illegal occupation of the Territory, and demanded the immediate cessation of the war of oppression waged by the racist minority régime against the people of Namibia and their national liberation movement, as well as the urgent dismantling of all military bases in the Territory. 23/

F. Requests to specialized agencies and other international organizations

The Special Committee has also worked with various of the specialized agencies on the implementation of the Declaration. Since 1967 the General Assembly has discussed as a separate item the "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", while the Special Committee has since 1973 assigned one of its Sub-Committees to monitor the related activities of the organizations concerned.

The General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Special Committee have since requested the organizations concerned to render, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, all possible moral and material assistance to the peoples concerned and their national liberation movements; to increase the scope of their assistance to refugees from the colonial Territories, including assistance to the Governments concerned in the preparation and execution of programmes of assistance and the introduction of the greatest possible measure of flexibility in the relevant procedures; to discontinue all support to and withhold any financial, economic, technical and other assistance from South Africa; and to ensure the representation of the colonial peoples by their national liberation movements. The Assembly and the Special Committee have expressed regret that the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund continue to maintain links with South Africa, and they have called for the severance of all links with that régime.

The General Assembly has also requested the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the co-ordination of the policies and activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in this regard. During the course of their latest consultations held in June 1985, the presiding officers of the two bodies noted that, in response to the relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies concerned, a number of international agencies and organizations had continued to extend assistance in varying degrees to the people of Namibia and other colonial Territories. However, they considered it imperative that the specialized agencies and all other organizations concerned take every possible step to intensify further their efforts with a view to providing all possible assistance to the oppressed peoples of Namibia and South Africa. (For a comprehensive review of the activities of the organizations concerned, see Decolonization Bulletin No. 25 of December 1985.)

G. Problems of small Territories

The principles set out in the Declaration apply no less to small Territories in the Caribbean, Atlantic or Pacific oceans. The Special Committee and the General Assembly have recognized that these Territories, because of their size, geographical location, population and limited natural resources, present special problems but that none the less the Declaration is entirely applicable to them.

In 1965 and subsequent years the General Assembly requested the Special Committee to pay particular attention to the small Territories. Territories. In its Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration 21/ the Assembly declared that Member States should do their utmost to promote, in the United Nations and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, effective measures for the full implementation of the Declaration in all Trust Territories, Non-Self-Governing Territories and other colonial Territories, irrespective of their size.

As a result, the Special Committee, through the work of its Sub-Committee, has devoted an increasing amount of time to the problems of small islands and Territories. The Special Committee has insisted on the need to speed up the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) by enabling the peoples of these Territories freely to determine for themselves their future political status and form of government. It has stressed the importance of increased development assistance and of these Territories and the capacity of the inhabitants to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination. The Special Committee has, when the situation so demanded, requested the administering Power concerned to carry out specific reforms in the constitutional, political, electoral, educational and other fields; strongly opposed any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity or territorial integrity of these Territories; and, on some occasions, welcomed steps towards the economic and eventual political union of two or more small Territories.

Since the adoption of the Declaration, 25 Territories, each with a population of less than 1 million, on the Special Committee's list of Non-Self-Governing Territories have become independent and joined the United Nations. 24/ One small Trust Territory also became independent and joined the United Nations. 25/ Two have become fully self-governing. 26/ In addition, one small Trust Territory and two Non-Self-Governing Territories have become independent without joining the United Nations. 27/

H. Dissemination of information on decolonization

Since its establishment, the Special Committee has recognized the importance of publicity as an instrument for furthering the aims and purposes of the Declaration, and the continuing pressing need to take all possible steps to acquaint world public opinion with all aspects of the problem of decolonization with a view to assisting effectively the peoples of the colonial Territories to achieve self-determination, freedom and independence.

In 1973, the Special Committee decided that its Sub-Committee on Petitions should be renamed Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information* and should, in addition to its tasks relating to petitions and other communications, be charged with following the implementation of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and by the Special Committee on the dissemination of information on decolonization. The Sub-Committee would also assist the Secretary-General in the discharge of the specific mandate entrusted to him in that connection. The Committee further specified that, in discharging its task, the Sub-Committee should, as far as necessary, maintain contact with the national liberation movements as well as with non-governmental organizations.

In discharging its mandate, the Sub-Committee holds periodic consultations with the Department of Public Information, with specialized agencies, and with representatives of a number of non-governmental organizations, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and national liberation movements, and recommends to the Special Committee a series of proposals aimed at the widespread dissemination of information on decolonization, as well as publicity for the work of the United Nations in that field. These proposals relate to the organization of seminars, conferences and round tables at Headquarters and abroad, and special commemorative activities to highlight the plight of the peoples still struggling for self-determination, freedom and independence; they also include requests to the Secretariat to prepare studies and monographs on specific subjects in order to underline the importance of the United Nations in effecting the widest possible dissemination of true, accurate and topical information on decolonization as an instrument for furthering the purposes and principles of the Charter and of the Declaration, and for mobilizing public opinion.

The Special Committee considers the question of dissemination of information yearly and, on its recommendation, the General Assembly has repeatedly reaffirmed the importance of effecting the widest possible dissemination of information on the evils and dangers of colonialism; has requested the Secretary-General to continue to take concrete measures through all the media at his disposal, including

* In 1976 the Sub-Committee was further renamed Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance.

publications, radio and television, to give widespread and continuous publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization; and has requested all States, in particular the administering Powers, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations having a special interest in decolonization to undertake or intensify, in co-operation with the Secretary-General and within their respective spheres of competence, the large-scale dissemination of information on decolonization. 28/

The Special Committee's recent activities on the dissemination of information include the Seminar with Non-Governmental Organizations Based in Europe, held at Vienna in February 1984 (A/AC.109/L.1499 and Add.1); a regional seminar at Port Moresby, in March 1985 (A/AC.109/821); and a journalists' encounter on decolonization, in New York, in August 1985 (see also Decolonization Bulletin No. 22 of June 1985, sect. III.H).

V. ACTIONS AND PROCEDURES RELATING TO DECOLONIZATION FOLLOWED BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

A. Territories within the Special Committee's scope of work

In 1963, the Special Committee established a preliminary list of 64 Territories to which the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applied. This list, annexed to the report of the Special Committee and approved by the General Assembly at its eighteenth session (see table 2), included all the Trust Territories, all the Non-Self-Governing Territories on which administering Powers had been transmitting information under Article 73 a of the Charter, Namibia (then referred to as "South West Africa") and those Non-Self-Governing Territories about which no information had been transmitted, but which the Assembly had specifically deemed to be Non-Self-Governing Territories, namely, the Territories then under Portuguese administration and Southern Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe.

In 1965, the Special Committee expanded the list to include French Somaliland, now Djibouti, and that same year, the General Assembly directed the Special Committee to concern itself with Oman. In 1972, the Comoro Islands was included in the list and Hong Kong and Macao and dependencies were removed therefrom.

In the 25 years since the adoption of the Declaration, 52 Territories have attained self-government either as independent States or in association with other States. (For a complete list of Territories which have achieved independence or another form of self-determination, see tables 4 and 5.)

B. Consultations with the administering Powers, visiting missions, and observation and supervision of elections, referenda and plebiscites

Since its creation, the Special Committee has sent missions to discuss with representatives of the Administering Authorities questions connected with the Committee's sphere of work, as well as visiting missions to the Territories in order to obtain first-hand information on conditions in those Territories, and missions to supervise or observe various popular consultations or elections in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Basically, the visiting missions concern themselves with gathering information on constitutional and political developments, economic development and social and educational conditions in a given Territory. To this end, members of the Mission hold extensive meetings with representatives of the administering Power, representatives of the local government, political leaders and the general public. In drawing conclusions and recommendations, the members of the Mission take into account the views expressed by all concerned, as well as their personal observations of the conditions in the Territories.

Once the conduct of popular consultations is determined, whether through referenda, plebiscites or elections, the role of the United Nations can take the form of either supervision, in which case the United Nations organizes and conducts all phases of the process; or observation, in which case the missions are directed to observe the act of popular consultation, including the campaign and polling arrangements, the casting of votes, the closure of voting, the counting of ballots and the declaration of results. In such cases, the direct arrangements (election regulations, wording of ballot, registration of voters, etc.) are the direct responsibility of the administering Power together with local authorities in the Territory concerned. (For a detailed description of the United Nations participation in popular consultations and elections, see Decolonization Bulletin No. 19 of December 1983.)

Between 1975 and 1985, at the invitation of the administering Powers concerned, the Special Committee dispatched 15 visiting missions to the Territories with which it was concerned, including a mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands to observe the general elections held in 1981. The General Assembly dispatched a mission to Djibouti, former French Somaliland, to observe the referendum and elections held in 1977; to New Hebrides to observe the elections held in 1979; and to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands to observe the act of self-determination in 1984.

Since 1975, the Trusteeship Council has dispatched 13 visiting missions to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, including six periodic missions and 7 observer missions (in 1975, plebiscite in the Northern Mariana Islands; in 1978, referendum on the Federated States of Micronesia; in 1979, referenda in the Marshall Islands and Palau; in 1983, plebiscites in Palau, the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia).

In 1976, the Special Committee also sent a high-level ad hoc group to the capitals of the front-line States and Ethiopia in connection with its consideration of the situation obtaining in the colonial Territories in southern Africa. (For a complete list of visiting missions and missions to observe acts of popular consultation, see tables 7 and 8.)

C. Receipt of petitions and hearing of petitioners

The receipt of petitions and the hearing of petitioners have constituted another means by which the Special Committee has sought to carry out its tasks.

Under Article 87 b of the Charter, the Trusteeship Council had been expressly authorized to accept and examine petitions. The Charter, however, was silent concerning the powers of the General Assembly to accept petitions or grant hearings to petitioners and the rules of procedure of the Assembly contained no provisions in this regard. In 1950 the Assembly adopted a resolution, in connection with the functions of the Trusteeship Council, stating that the right of petition was a fundamental human right, 29/ and in 1951 the Fourth Committee of the Assembly for the first time agreed to hear petitions from inhabitants of Trust Territories. In 1961, the Fourth Committee for the first time decided to hear petitioners from Non-Self-Governing Territories, and since then the granting of hearings to petitioners from or concerning Non-Self-Governing Territories has become an established practice of the Committee.

At its inception in 1962, the Special Committee on decolonization agreed that as an additional and supplementary means of acquiring information on Territories which have not yet attained independence it might hear petitioners and receive written petitions, and a full Sub-Committee on Petitions was established for this purpose. In 1973, the Sub-Committee was renamed Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information, and in 1976, Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance.

Most of the petitioners ask for an opportunity to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination in accordance with the provisions of the Charter and the Declaration; express their concerns regarding the economic, social and educational conditions in their respective Territories; and bring to the attention of the appropriate United Nations bodies specific complaints or grievances, either as individuals, groups or associations.

The experience of the past 25 years has shown the important contribution that the receipt of petitions and the hearing of petitioners has made to the work of the Special Committee.

D. Meetings away from Headquarters

General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI), which established the Special Committee, specifically authorized it to hold meetings elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters. The Committee has held such meetings in various parts of Africa in 1962, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1969, 1972 and 1985, and in Lisbon in 1975, and Belgrade in 1979. By meeting away from Headquarters, and particularly in Africa, the Special Committee has sought to increase international awareness of the Committee's work, show its support for the liberation struggle in southern Africa and elsewhere, hear the views of the liberation movements and strengthen the ties between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity. To the same end, the Special Committee and the United Nations Council for Namibia jointly held, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 31/145 of 17 December 1976, an International Conference in Support of the Peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia, at Maputo in May 1977.

Its last extraordinary session, at Tunis in May 1985, was held as established under the Programme of Activities in Observance of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. ^{30/} The session was attended by representatives at a very high level, commensurate with the importance attached to the occasion by the United Nations. At the closing meeting of the Tunis session, the Special Committee adopted a consensus on Namibia, ^{31/} in which it reaffirmed the right of the Namibian people to self-determination and independence in a united Namibia in accordance with the Charter and relevant United Nations resolutions relating to Namibia; and the legitimacy of their freedom struggle by all means at their disposal to achieve that right. The Committee also adopted unanimously the conclusions and recommendations on the two regional seminars held earlier in the year at Port Moresby and Havana. (For a detailed account of the proceedings of the extraordinary session held at Tunis, see Decolonization Bulletin No. 23 of October 1985.)

Notes

1/ Chapters XI, XII and XIII of the Charter.

2/ See table 1. The list was based on the replies sent by Member States to a letter from the Secretary-General requesting them to enumerate the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their jurisdiction on which they would transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter.

3/ The Territories were: Cambodia and Laos (1953) (listed in 1946 as French Indo-China), Ghana (1957), Guinea (1958) (listed as French West Africa), Indonesia (1949) (listed as Netherlands Indies), the Federation of Malaya (1957), Morocco (1956) and Tunisia (1956).

4/ They were, in chronological order: the Panama Canal Zone (1947), Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique and Réunion (1947), New Caledonia, French Settlements in Oceania and St. Pierre et Miquelon (1947), Malta (1947) (transmission of information was resumed in 1959), French Establishments in India (1948), Puerto Rico (1953), Greenland (1954), Netherlands Antilles and Surinam (1955), French West Africa, French Equatorial Africa, Madagascar, the Comoro Archipelago and French Somaliland (1957), Alaska (1959) and Hawaii (1959). The Comoro Archipelago and French Somaliland were reinstated in the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories in 1965 and 1972, respectively.

5/ Namely, Burma, Ceylon, India, Libya, Pakistan, the Philippines and the Sudan. In the case of the Philippines and India they were both founding members of the United Nations, though they gained independence only in 1946 and 1947 respectively. Pakistan became independent at the same time as India following the partition and was admitted to United Nations membership on 30 September 1947. Burma and Ceylon were regarded by the United Kingdom as self-governing in 1946, Libya was one of Italy's former colonies and its eventual destiny was not decided by the United Nations until 1949 (General Assembly resolution 289 (IV) A provided for the accession of Libya to independence in 1951), and the Sudan was technically an Anglo-Egyptian Condominium.

6/ Spain did eventually agree to transmit information. See statement by the representative of Spain in the Fourth Committee in 1960 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, (Part I), Fourth Committee, 1038th meeting, para. 27).

7/ Resolution 742 (VIII).

8/ Resolution 1467 (XIV). The Special Committee was composed of six members, three administering Powers (Netherlands, United Kingdom and United States) and three non-administering (India, Mexico and Morocco) in keeping with the principle of parity between colonial and non-colonial Powers in the membership of bodies dealing with colonial questions. This practice disappeared after 1960.

9/ Resolution 1542 (XV). The Territories listed were (a) Cape Verde; (b) Guinea, called Portuguese Guinea; (c) São Tomé and Príncipe; (d) São João Batista de Ajudá; (e) Angola, including the enclave of Cabinda; (f) Mozambique; (g) Goa and dependencies; (h) Macao; and (i) Timor.

10/ Progress of the Non-Self-Governing Territories under the Charter (United Nations publication, Sales No. 60.VI.B.1), vols. 1-5.

11/ This conclusion was eventually adopted by the General Assembly as resolution 1535 (XV).

12/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, (Part I), Plenary Meetings, vol. 2, 925-939th and 944th-947th meetings.

13/ The resolution was adopted by a roll-call vote of 89 to none, with 9 abstentions. Those abstaining were: Australia, Belgium, Dominican Republic, France, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

14/ The 17 original members of the Special Committee were: Australia, Cambodia, Ethiopia, India, Italy, Madagascar, Mali, Poland, Syria, Tanganyika, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

15/ Resolution 1810 (XVII). The new members were: Bulgaria, Chile, Denmark, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast and Sierra Leone.

16/ The 11 original members of the Council were: Chile, Colombia, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Turkey, United Arab Republic, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

17/ Algeria, Angola, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Cyprus, Egypt, Finland, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Liberia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

18/ Resolution 2105 (XX).

- 19/ Resolution 2189 (XXI).
- 20/ Resolution 2326 (XXII).
- 21/ Resolution 35/118 (reproduced in annex IV).
- 22/ Resolution 39/42.
- 23/ Decision 39/412.

24/ The Territories are: Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cape Verde, Comoros, Djibouti, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Malta, Mauritius, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Swaziland and Vanuatu.

- 25/ Samoa.
- 26/ Cook Islands and Niue.
- 27/ Nauru, Kiribati and Tuvalu.
- 28/ General Assembly resolutions 39/92 and 40/58.
- 29/ Resolution 435 (V).
- 30/ Resolution 39/93, annex.
- 31/ See A/AC.109/830.

/...

TABLE 1

List of Non-Self-Governing Territories enumerated in
General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

	<u>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</u>
<u>Australia</u>	
Papua	Aden (Colony and Protectorate)
<u>Belgium</u>	Bahamas
Belgian Congo *	Barbados
	Basutoland
	Bechuanaland Protectorate
	Bermuda
<u>Denmark</u>	British Guiana
Greenland **	British Honduras
	British Somaliland Protectorate *
	Brunei
<u>France</u>	Cyprus *
French Equatorial Africa *	Dominica
French Establishments in India *	Falkland Islands
French Establishments in Oceania **	Fiji
French Guiana **	Gambia
French Somaliland **	Gibraltar
French West Africa *	Gold Coast (Colony and Protectorate)*
Guadeloupe and dependencies **	Grenada
Indo-China *	Hong Kong
Madagascar and dependencies *	Jamaica
Martinique **	Kenya (Colony and Protectorate)
Morocco *	Leeward Islands
New Caledonia and dependencies **	Malayan Union *
New Hebrides under Anglo-French Condominium	Malta ***
Réunion **	Mauritius
Saint-Pierre et Miquelon **	Nigeria *
Tunisia *	North Borneo
	Northern Rhodesia
	Nyasaland
	St. Helena and dependencies
	St. Lucia
	St. Vincent
<u>Netherlands</u>	Sarawak
Curacao **	Seychelles
Netherlands Indies *	Sierra Leone
Surinam **	Singapore
	Swaziland
<u>New Zealand</u>	Trinidad and Tobago
Cook Islands	Uganda Protectorate
Tokelau Islands	Western Pacific-High Commission Territories (Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, British Solomon Islands Protectorate, Pitcairn Island)
	Zanzibar Protectorate

TABLE 1 (continued)

United States of America

Alaska **
American Samoa
Guam
Hawaii **
Panama Canal Zone **
Puerto Rico **
Virgin Islands

* Territories that achieved independence or were united with a neighbouring State prior to the adoption of the Declaration.

** Territories which did not become independent but were taken off the list between 1946 and 1960 by the administering Power with or without the assent of the General Assembly.

*** Information discontinued in 1947; resumed in 1959.

TABLE 2

Preliminary list of Territories drawn up in 1963 to which the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applied *

Territory	Area (square kilometres)	Area (square miles)	Population (midyear 1962 estimates in thousands)
(a) <u>Trust Territories</u>			
AUSTRALIA			
1. New Guinea	240,870	93,000	1,485
2. Nauru <u>a/</u>	21	8	5
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA			
3. The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands <u>b/</u>	1,813	700	81
(b) <u>The Territory of South West Africa</u>			
SOUTH AFRICA			
4. South West Africa	823,264	317,863	545
(c) <u>Territories which have been declared by the General Assembly to be Non-Self-Governing Territories within the meaning of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, but on which information is not transmitted by the administering Powers concerned c/</u>			
PORTUGAL <u>d/</u>			
5. Angola, including the enclave of Cabinda	1,246,700	481,352	4,950
6. Mozambique	771,125	297,654	6,750
7. Guinea, called Portuguese Guinea ..	36,125	13,947	549
8. Cape Verde Archipelago	4,033	1,557	211
9. São Tomé and Príncipe and their dependencies	964	372	64
10. Macau and dependencies	16	6	169
11. Timor and dependencies	18,990	7,332	528
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND <u>e/</u>			
12. Southern Rhodesia	389,362	150,333	3,880

TABLE 2 (continued)

Territory	Area (square kilometres)	Area (square miles)	Population (midyear 1962 estimates in thousands)
(d) <u>Non-Self-Governing Territories on which information is transmitted by the administering Powers concerned</u>			
AUSTRALIA			
13. Cocos (Keeling) Islands	13	5	1
14. Papua	234,498	90,540	540
FRANCE AND UNITED KINGDOM			
15. New Hebrides f/	14,763	5,700	63
NEW ZEALAND			
16. Cook Islands	234	90	18
17. Niue Island	259	100	5
18. Tokelau Islands	10	4	2
SPAIN			
19. Fernando Póo	2,034	785	67
20. Ifni	1,500	579	50
21. Río Muni	26,017	10,045	188
22. Spanish Sahara	266,000	102,703	25
UNITED KINGDOM			
23. Aden	287,684	111,075	1,220
24. Antigua	442	171	58
25. Bahamas	11,396	4,400	111
26. Barbados	431	166	232
27. Basutoland	30,344	11,716	708
28. Bechuanaland	574,980	222,000	335
29. Bermuda	53	20	46
30. British Guiana	214,970	83,000	598
31. British Honduras	22,963	8,866	96
32. British Virgin Islands	153	59	8
33. Brunei	5,765	2,226	90

* Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, Addendum to agenda item 23 (A/5446/Rev.1), pp. 288-289.

TABLE 2 (continued)

Territory	Area		Population (midyear 1962 estimates in thousands)
	(square kilometres)	(square miles)	
UNITED KINGDOM (continued)			
34. Cayman Islands	259	100	8
35. Dominica	789	305	61
36. Falkland Islands	11,961	4,618	2.6
37. Fiji	18,272	7,055	421
38. Gambia	10,369	4,003	316 g/
39. Gibraltar	6	2	27
40. Gilbert and Ellice Islands	905	349	48
41. Grenada	344	133	90
42. Hong Kong	1,031	398	3,410
43. Kenya	582,646	224,960	8,676
44. Malta	316	122	329
45. Mauritius	2,096	809	702
46. Montserrat	83	32	13
47. North Borneo	76,115	29,388	470
48. Northern Rhodesia	746,256	288,130	2,550
49. Nyasaland	119,311	46,066	2,950
50. Pitcairn Island	5	2	0.1 h/
51. St. Helena	419	162	5
52. St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla	396	153	60
53. St. Lucia	616	238	92
54. St. Vincent	389	150	82
55. Sarawak	125,206	48,342	770
56. Seychelles	404	156	44
57. Singapore	581	224	1,740
58. Solomon Islands	29,785	11,500	128
59. Swaziland	17,363	6,704	275
60. Turks and Caicos Islands	430	166	6
61. Zanzibar	2,643	1,020	320
UNITED STATES			
62. American Samoa	197	76	21
63. Guam	549	212	70
64. United States Virgin Islands	344	133	36

a/ Nauru was administered by Australia on behalf of Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

b/ The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is designated as a strategic area under Article 82 of the Charter.

c/ In addition, French Somaliland and the Comoro Archipelago were added to the list in 1965 and 1972, respectively. Oman was also added in 1965 as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the United Kingdom.

d/ General Assembly resolution 1542 (XV).

e/ General Assembly resolution 1747 (XVII).

f/ Administered jointly by France and the United Kingdom as a condominium.

g/ According to the 1963 census.

h/ According to estimate of 1961.

TABLE 2 (continued)

Territory	Area		Population (midyear 1962 estimates in thousands)
	(square kilometres)	(square miles)	
UNITED KINGDOM (continued)			
34. Cayman Islands	259	100	8
35. Dominica	789	305	61
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a/ Nauru was administered by Australia on behalf of Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

b/ The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is designated as a strategic area under Article 82 of the Charter.

c/ In addition, French Somaliland and the Comoro Archipelago were added to the list in 1965 and 1972, respectively. Oman was also added in 1965 as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the United Kingdom.

d/ General Assembly resolution 1542 (XV).

e/ General Assembly resolution 1747 (XVII).

f/ Administered jointly by France and the United Kingdom as a condominium.

g/ According to the 1963 census.

h/ According to estimate of 1961.

TABLE 3

Territories placed under the International
Trusteeship System between 1946 and 1950

Australia

Nauru a/
New Guinea

Belgium

Rwanda-Urundi

France

Cameroons under French administration
Togoland under French administration

Italy

Somaliland under Italian administration

New Zealand

Western Samoa

United Kingdom

Cameroons under British administration
Tanganyika
Togoland under British administration

United States

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands b/

a/ Administered by Australia on behalf of Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

b/ Designated as a strategic area under Article 82 of the Charter.

TABLE 4

Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories that have achieved independence since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV)

	<u>Date of admission to the United Nations</u>
<u>Africa</u>	
Algeria	8 October 1962
Angola	1 December 1976
Botswana	17 October 1966
Burundi	18 September 1962
Cape Verde	16 September 1975
Comoros	12 November 1975
Djibouti	20 September 1977
Equatorial Guinea	12 November 1968
Gambia	21 September 1965
Guinea-Bissau	17 September 1974
Kenya	16 December 1963
Lesotho	17 October 1966
Malawi	1 December 1964
Mauritius	24 April 1968
Mozambique	16 September 1975
Rwanda	18 September 1962
Sao Tome and Principe	26 September 1975
Seychelles	21 September 1976
Sierra Leone	27 September 1961
Swaziland	24 September 1968
Uganda	25 October 1962
United Republic of Tanzania ^{a/}	14 December 1961
Zambia	1 December 1964
Zimbabwe	18 April 1980

^{a/} The former Trust Territory of Tanganyika, which became independent in December 1961, and the former Protectorate of Zanzibar, which achieved independence in December 1963, united into a single State in April 1974.

TABLE 4 (continued)

	<u>Date of admission to the United Nations</u>
<u>Asia</u>	
Brunei Darussalam	21 September 1984
Democratic Yemen	14 December 1967
Oman	7 October 1971
Singapore	21 September 1965
<u>Caribbean</u>	
Antigua and Barbuda	11 November 1981
Bahamas	18 September 1973
Barbados	9 December 1966
Belize	25 September 1981
Dominica	18 December 1978
Grenada	17 September 1974
Guyana	20 September 1966
Jamaica	18 September 1962
Saint Christopher and Nevis	23 September 1983
Saint Lucia	18 September 1979
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	16 September 1980
Suriname ^{b/}	4 December 1975
Trinidad and Tobago	18 September 1962
<u>Europe</u>	
Malta	1 December 1964

^{b/} By resolution 945 (X), the General Assembly accepted the cessation of the transmission of information regarding Suriname following constitutional changes in the relationship between the Netherlands, Suriname and the Netherlands Antilles which were embodied in the Charter of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

TABLE 4 (continued)

	<u>Date of admission to the United Nations</u>
<u>Pacific</u>	
Fiji	13 October 1970
Kiribati	---
Nauru <u>c/</u>	---
Papua New Guinea	10 October 1975
Samoa	15 December 1976
Solomon Islands	19 September 1978
Tuvalu	---
Vanuatu	15 September 1981

c/ Kiribati, Nauru and Tuvalu, which became independent on 12 July 1979, 31 January 1968 and 1 October 1978, respectively, have not applied for United Nations membership.

TABLE 5

Dependent Territories that have become integrated
or associated with independent States since
the adoption of resolution 1514 (XV)

<u>Territory</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Cameroons under British administration	The northern part of the Trust Territory joined the Federation of Nigeria on 1 June 1961 and the southern part joined the Republic of Cameroon on 1 October 1961.
Cook Islands	Fully self-governing in free association with New Zealand since August 1965.
Goa and dependencies	Nationally united with India in December 1961.
Ifni	Returned to Morocco in June 1969.
Niue	Fully self-governing in free association with New Zealand since August 1974.
North Borneo	North Borneo and Sarawak joined the Federation of Malaya in 1963 to form the Federation of Malaysia.
São João Batista de Ajudá	Nationally united with Dahomey (now Benin) in August 1961.
Sarawak	Sarawak with North Borneo joined the Federation of Malaya in 1963 to form the Federation of Malaysia.
West New Guinea (West Irian)	United with Indonesia in 1963.
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Integrated with Australia in 1984.

TABLE 6

Territories listed as under Trusteeship or Non-Self-Governing in 1985

New Zealand

Tokelau

Portugal

East Timor

Spain

Western Sahara

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Anguilla

Bermuda

British Virgin Islands

Cayman Islands

Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Gibraltar

Montserrat

Pitcairn

Saint Helena

Turks and Caicos Islands

United States of America

American Samoa

Guam

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

United States Virgin Islands

Territory directly administered by the United Nations ^{a/}

Namibia (formerly South West Africa)

^{a/} Illegally occupied by the Republic of South Africa.

TABLE 7

Visiting missions dispatched by the Special Committee
or by the General Assembly

1965	Cook Islands (elections supervision)
1966	Equatorial Guinea
1967	Aden
1968	Equatorial Guinea (referendum/elections supervision)
1971	Papua New Guinea (jointly with the Trusteeship Council)
1972	Niue Papua New Guinea (elections observation - jointly with the Trusteeship Council)
1974	Niue (referendum observation) Cocos (Keeling) Islands Gilbert and Ellice Islands (referendum observation)
1975	Cape Verde Montserrat Spanish Sahara
1976	British Virgin Islands Tokelau
1977	French Somaliland (referendum/elections observation) Cayman Islands United States Virgin Islands
1979	Guam New Hebrides
1980	Turks and Caicos Islands (April) Cocos (Keeling) Islands Turks and Caicos Islands (October/November) (elections observation)
1981	Tokelau American Samoa
1982	Montserrat
1984	Cocos (Keeling) Islands (act of self-determination) Anguilla

TABLE 8

Visiting missions dispatched by
the Trusteeship Council

1947	Western Samoa
1948	Ruanda-Urundi Tanganyika
1950	Nauru New Guinea Western Samoa West Africa
	(French Togoland (British Togoland (French Cameroons (British Cameroons
1951	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Ruanda-Urundi Somaliland Tanganyika
1952	Cameroons under French administration Cameroons under British administration Togoland under British administration (Ewe and Togoland Unification Problem) Togoland under French administration
1953	Nauru New Guinea Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Western Samoa
1954	Ruanda-Urundi Somaliland Tanganyika
1955	Cameroons under French administration Cameroons under British administration Togoland under French administration Togoland under British administration
1956	Nauru New Guinea Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Western Samoa

TABLE 8 (continued)

1957	Ruanda-Urundi Somaliland Tanganyika Togoland under French administration
1958	Cameroons under French administration Cameroons under British administration
1959	Nauru New Guinea Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Western Samoa
1960	Ruanda-Urundi Tanganyika
1961	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
1962	New Guinea Nauru
1964	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
1965	Nauru New Guinea
1967	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
1968	New Guinea
1970	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
1971	New Guinea
1972	New Guinea (elections)
1973	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
1975	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Plebiscite in the Northern Marianas)
1976	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
1978	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Referendum on draft Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia)

TABLE 8 (continued)

1979	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Referendum in the Marshall Islands Referendum in Palau
1980	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
1982	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
1983	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Plebiscite in Palau Plebiscite in the Marshall Islands Plebiscite in the Federated States of Micronesia
1985	Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

TABLE 9

Membership of the Special Committee
since its establishment

	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	
Afghanistan	X																								
Algeria	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Angola	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cameroon	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Chad	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Congo	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Côte d'Ivoire	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cuba	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Czechoslovakia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Denmark	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ecuador	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ethiopia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Fiji	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Finland	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
France	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Germany	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
India	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Indonesia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Iraq	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Italy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Madagascar	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mali	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Norway	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Poland	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sierra Leone	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sweden	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sri Lankan Republic	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ireland and Tobago	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tanzania	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
United Republic of Tanzania b/	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
United States of America	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Uruguay	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Yemen	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Yugoslavia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

a/ Former designation of the country.

b/ In 1964, Tanganyika (a member of the Special Committee in 1962 and 1963) and Zanzibar united to form the United Republic of Tanzania.

ANNEX I

Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations

Declaration regarding Non-Self-Governing Territories

Article 73

Members of the United Nations which have or assume responsibilities for the administration of territories whose peoples have not yet attained a full measure of self-government recognize the principle that the interests of the inhabitants of these territories are paramount, and accept as a sacred trust the obligation to promote to the utmost, within the system of international peace and security established by the present Charter, the well-being of the inhabitants of these territories, and, to this end:

a. to ensure, with due respect for the culture of the peoples concerned, their political, economic, social, and educational advancement, their just treatment, and their protection against abuses;

b. to develop self government, to take due account of the political aspirations of the peoples, and to assist them in the progressive development of their free political institutions, according to the particular circumstances of each territory and its peoples and their varying stages of advancement;

c. to further international peace and security;

d. to promote constructive measures of development, to encourage research, and to co-operate with one another and, when and where appropriate, with specialized international bodies with a view to the practical achievement of the social, economic, and scientific purposes set forth in this Article; and

e. to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the territories for which they are respectively responsible other than those territories to which Chapters XII and XIII apply.

Article 74

Members of the United Nations also agree that their policy in respect of the territories to which this Chapter applies, no less than in respect of their metropolitan areas, must be based on the general principle of good-neighbourliness, due account being taken of the interests and well-being of the rest of the world, in social, economic, and commercial matters.

ANNEX II

Principles which should guide Members in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 e of the Charter

(General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960)

The General Assembly,

Considering the objectives set forth in Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the list of factors annexed to General Assembly resolution 742 (VIII) of 27 November 1953,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee of Six on the Transmission of Information under Article 73 e of the Charter, ^{a/} appointed under General Assembly resolution 1467 (XIV) of 12 December 1959 to study the principles which should guide Members in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for in Article 73 e of the Charter and to report on the results of its study to the Assembly at its fifteenth session,

1. Expresses its appreciation of the work of the Special Committee of Six on the Transmission of Information under Article 73 e of the Charter;
2. Approves the principles set out in section V, part B, of the report of the Committee, as amended and as they appear in the annex to the present resolution;
3. Decides that these principles should be applied in the light of the facts and the circumstances of each case to determine whether or not an obligation exists to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter.

^{a/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 38, document A/4526.

ANNEX II (continued)

Annex

Principles which should guide Members in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for in Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations

Principle I

The authors of the Charter of the United Nations had in mind that Chapter XI should be applicable to territories which were then known to be of the colonial type. An obligation exists to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter in respect of such territories whose peoples have not yet attained a full measure of self-government.

Principle II

Chapter XI of the Charter embodies the concept of Non-Self-Governing Territories in a dynamic state of evolution and progress towards a "full measure of self-government". As soon as a territory and its peoples attain a full measure of self-government, the obligation ceases. Until this comes about, the obligation to transmit information under Article 73 e continues.

Principle III

The obligation to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter constitutes an international obligation and should be carried out with due regard to the fulfilment of international law.

Principle IV

Prima facie there is an obligation to transmit information in respect of a territory which is geographically separate and is distinct ethnically and/or culturally from the country administering it.

Principle V

Once it has been established that such a prima facie case of geographical and ethnical or cultural distinctness of a territory exists, other elements may then be brought into consideration. These additional elements may be, inter alia, of an administrative, political, juridical, economic or historical nature. If they affect the relationship between the metropolitan State and the territory concerned in a manner which arbitrarily places the latter in a position or status of subordination, they support the presumption that there is an obligation to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter.

ANNEX II (continued)

Principle VI

A Non-Self-Governing Territory can be said to have reached a full measure of self-government by:

- (a) Emergence as a sovereign independent State;
- (b) Free association with an independent State; or
- (c) Integration with an independent State.

Principle VII

(a) Free association should be the result of a free and voluntary choice by the peoples of the territory concerned expressed through informed and democratic processes. It should be one which respects the individuality and the cultural characteristics of the territory and its peoples, and retains for the peoples of the territory which is associated with an independent State the freedom to modify the status of that territory through the expression of their will by democratic means and through constitutional processes.

(b) The associated territory should have the right to determine its internal constitution without outside interference, in accordance with due constitutional processes and the freely expressed wishes of the people. This does not preclude consultations as appropriate or necessary under the terms of the free association agreed upon.

Principle VIII

Integration with an independent State should be on the basis of complete equality between the peoples of the erstwhile Non-Self-Governing Territory and those of the independent country with which it is integrated. The peoples of both territories should have equal status and rights of citizenship and equal guarantees of fundamental rights and freedoms without any distinction or discrimination; both should have equal rights and opportunities for representation and effective participation at all levels in the executive, legislative and judicial organs of government.

Principle IX

Integration should have come about in the following circumstances:

(a) The integrating Territory should have attained an advanced stage of self-government with free political institutions, so that its peoples would have the capacity to make a responsible choice through informed and democratic processes;

ANNEX II (continued)

Principle VI

A Non-Self-Governing Territory can be said to have reached a full measure of self-government by:

- (a) Emergence as a sovereign independent State;
- (b) Free association with an independent State; or
- (c) Integration with an independent State.

Principle VII

(a) Free association should be the result of a free and voluntary choice by the peoples of the territory concerned expressed through informed and democratic processes. It should be one which respects the individuality and the cultural characteristics of the territory and its peoples, and retains for the peoples of the territory which is associated with an independent State the freedom to modify the status of that territory through the expression of their will by democratic means and through constitutional processes.

(b) The associated territory should have the right to determine its internal constitution without outside interference, in accordance with due constitutional processes and the freely expressed wishes of the people. This does not preclude consultations as appropriate or necessary under the terms of the free association agreed upon.

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Integration with an independent State should be on the basis of complete equality between the peoples of the erstwhile Non-Self-Governing Territory and those of the independent country with which it is integrated. The peoples of both territories should have equal status and rights of citizenship and equal guarantees of fundamental rights and freedoms without any distinction or discrimination; both should have equal rights and opportunities for representation and effective participation at all levels in the executive, legislative and judicial organs of government.

Principle IX

Integration should have come about in the following circumstances:

(a) The integrating Territory should have attained an advanced stage of self-government with free political institutions, so that its peoples would have the capacity to make a responsible choice through informed and democratic processes;

ANNEX III

Text of General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961
establishing the Special Committee on the Situation with regard
to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting
of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of that Declaration,

Recalling in particular paragraph 5 of the Declaration providing that:

"Immediate steps shall be taken, in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories or all other territories which have not yet attained independence, to transfer all powers to the peoples of those territories, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, without any distinction as to race, creed or colour, in order to enable them to enjoy complete independence and freedom",

Noting with regret that, with a few exceptions, the provisions contained in the aforementioned paragraph of the Declaration have not been carried out,

Noting that, contrary to the provisions of paragraph 4 of the Declaration, armed action and repressive measures continue to be taken in certain areas with increasing ruthlessness against dependent peoples, depriving them of their prerogative to exercise peacefully and freely their right to complete independence,

Deeply concerned that, contrary to the provisions of paragraph 6 of the Declaration, acts aimed at the partial or total disruption of national unity and territorial integrity are still being carried out in certain countries in the process of decolonization,

Convinced that further delay in the application of the Declaration is a continuing source of international conflict and disharmony, seriously impedes international co-operation, and is creating an increasingly dangerous situation in many parts of the world which may threaten international peace and security,

ANNEX III (continued)

Emphasizing that inadequacy of political, economic, social or educational preparedness should never serve as a pretext for delaying independence,

1. Solemnly reiterates and reaffirms the objectives and principles enshrined in the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960;
2. Calls upon States concerned to take action without further delay with a view to the faithful application and implementation of the Declaration;
3. Decides to establish a Special Committee of seventeen members to be nominated by the President of the General Assembly at the present session;
4. Requests the Special Committee to examine the application of the Declaration, to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration, and to report to the General Assembly at its seventeenth session;
5. Directs the Special Committee to carry out its task by employment of all means which it will have at its disposal within the framework of the procedures and modalities which it shall adopt for the proper discharge of its functions;
6. Authorizes the Special Committee to meet elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters, whenever and wherever such meetings may be required for the effective discharge of its functions, in consultation with the appropriate authorities;
7. Invites the authorities concerned to afford the Special Committee their fullest co-operation in carrying out its tasks;
8. Requests the Trusteeship Council, the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and the specialized agencies concerned to assist the Special Committee in its work within their respective fields;
9. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with all the facilities and the personnel necessary for the implementation of the present resolution.

ANNEX III

Text of General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961
establishing the Special Committee on the Situation with regard
to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting
of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of that Declaration,

Recalling in particular paragraph 5 of the Declaration providing that:

"Immediate steps shall be taken, in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories or all other territories which have not yet attained independence, to transfer all powers to the peoples of those territories, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, without any distinction as to race, creed or colour, in order to enable them to enjoy complete independence and freedom",

Noting with regret that, with a few exceptions, the provisions contained in the aforementioned paragraph of the Declaration have not been carried out,

Noting that, contrary to the provisions of paragraph 4 of the Declaration, armed action and repressive measures continue to be taken in certain areas with increasing ruthlessness against dependent peoples, depriving them of their prerogative to exercise peacefully and freely their right to complete independence,

Deeply concerned that, contrary to the provisions of paragraph 6 of the Declaration, acts aimed at the partial or total disruption of national unity and territorial integrity are still being carried out in certain countries in the process of decolonization,

Convinced that further delay in the application of the Declaration is a continuing source of international conflict and disharmony, seriously impedes international co-operation, and is creating an increasingly dangerous situation in many parts of the world which may threaten international peace and security,

ANNEX IV

Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

(General Assembly resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980)

The General Assembly,

Having decided to hold a special commemorative meeting a/ on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Convinced that the Declaration has played and will continue to play an important role in assisting the peoples under colonial domination in their struggle for freedom and independence, and in mobilizing world public opinion for the complete elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations,

Reaffirming that all peoples have the right to self-determination and independence and that the subjection of peoples to alien domination constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights and is a serious impediment to the maintenance of international peace and security and the development of peaceful relations among nations,

Reaffirming also the relevant provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, b/

Deeply conscious of the fact that twenty years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples the system of colonialism continues to exist in several areas of the world,

Mindful of the courageous struggle being carried out by the peoples of southern Africa for freedom, self-determination, independence and equal rights,

Noting with satisfaction the achievement of independence in the last twenty years by a number of Trust Territories and Non-Self-Governing Territories, most recently Zimbabwe and Vanuatu,

a/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Plenary Meetings, 93rd meeting.

b/ Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

ANNEX IV (continued)

Bearing in mind the important work accomplished by the United Nations and the international community with a view to securing the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other resolutions of the United Nations on the question of decolonization,

Reiterating the importance of publicity as an instrument for furthering the aims and purposes of the Declaration and of the role played in this connexion by a number of non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization,

Recalling its resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, containing the programme of action for the full implementation of the Declaration,

Determined to take all necessary measures leading to the complete elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations without further delay,

1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of all peoples under colonial domination to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;
2. Declares that the continuation of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations, including racism, apartheid and the exploitation by foreign and other interests of economic and human resources, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration and the principles of international law;
3. Reaffirms that the policy of apartheid of the South African régime and its illegal occupation of Namibia violate the principles enshrined in the Charter and constitute a threat to international peace and security;
4. Reaffirms the inherent right of peoples under colonialism in all its forms and manifestations to struggle by all means at their disposal against those colonial and racist régimes which suppress their aspirations for freedom, self-determination and independence;
5. Categorically rejects any agreement, arrangement or unilateral action by colonial and racist Powers which ignores, violates, denies or conflicts with the inalienable right of peoples under colonial domination to self-determination and independence;
6. Adopts the Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples set forth in the annex to the present resolution.

ANNEX IV (continued)

Annex

Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the
Declaration on the Granting of Independence
to Colonial Countries and Peoples

1. Member States shall do their utmost to promote, in the United Nations and the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, effective measures for the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, in all Trust Territories and Non-Self-Governing Territories and other colonial Territories, irrespective of their size, including the adoption by the Security Council of necessary measures against Governments and régimes that engage in any form of repression of colonial peoples which would seriously impede the maintenance of international peace and security.
2. Member States shall render all necessary moral and material assistance to the peoples under colonial domination in their struggle to exercise their right to self-determination and independence.
3. Member States shall intensify their efforts to promote the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council relating to Territories and countries under colonial domination.
4. Member States shall intensify their efforts to end all political, military, economic and other forms of collaboration with South Africa, particularly in the nuclear field, including the supply of nuclear material and equipment or components thereof, the transfer of nuclear technology and financial, technical or other assistance to the nuclear programme of South Africa, the sale of uranium enrichment facilities to, and the purchase of uranium from, South Africa, and shall take measures to prevent such collaboration and purchases by corporations, institutions and other bodies or individuals within their jurisdiction.
5. Member States shall endeavour to adopt, both individually and collectively, measures to achieve the cessation of all new foreign investments in and financial loans to South Africa.
6. Member States shall continue to wage a vigorous and sustained campaign against activities and practices of foreign economic, financial and other interests operating in colonial Territories which are detrimental to the interests of the population of those Territories and shall adopt legislative, administrative or other measures to bring about the discontinuance of such activities and practices on the part of their nationals and companies within their jurisdiction.

ANNEX IV (continued)

7. Member States, as well as the organizations within the United Nations system, having regard to the relevant provisions of the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, contained in General Assembly resolution 3201 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, contained in Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, shall ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the countries and Territories under colonial, racist and alien domination over their natural resources shall be fully respected and safeguarded.

8. Member States shall adopt the necessary measures to discourage or prevent the systematic influx of outside immigrants and settlers into Territories under colonial domination, which disrupts the demographic composition of those Territories and may constitute a major obstacle to the genuine exercise of the right to self-determination and independence by the people of those Territories.

9. Member States shall oppose all military activities and arrangements by colonial and occupying Powers in the Territories under colonial and racist domination, as such activities and arrangements constitute an obstacle to the full implementation of the Declaration, and shall intensify their efforts with a view to securing the immediate and unconditional withdrawal from colonial Territories of military bases and installations of colonial Powers.

10. Member States shall also adopt the necessary measures to prevent the recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries in their territories for use against the national liberation movements struggling for their freedom and independence from the yoke of colonialism, racism and apartheid.

11. Member States shall recognize that armed conflicts in which peoples are fighting against colonial and racist domination and occupation in exercise of their right to self-determination are international armed conflicts as provided for by Additional Protocol I ^{c/} to the Geneva Conventions of 1949. ^{d/} The legal status envisaged to apply to the combatants in the 1949 Geneva Conventions shall apply to persons engaged in armed struggle against colonial and alien domination and racist régimes. Those persons captured as prisoners shall be accorded the status of prisoners of war and their treatment shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, of 12 August 1949. ^{e/}

12. Member States and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system shall intensify their moral and material assistance to the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity.

^{c/} A/32/144, annex I.

^{d/} United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

^{e/} Ibid., No. 972, p. 135.

ANNEX IV (continued)

13. All States shall undertake measures aimed at enhancing public awareness of the need for active assistance to bring about the complete eradication of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations, including racism and apartheid, through the exercise of the right to self-determination. In particular, States shall endeavour to create satisfactory conditions for activities by national and international non-governmental organizations in support of the peoples under colonial domination.

14. All States shall co-operate fully with the United Nations Council for Namibia, the legal Administering Authority of the Territory until independence, in discharging the mandate entrusted to it under the terms of General Assembly resolution 2248 (S-V) of 19 May 1967 and subsequent resolutions of the Assembly.

15. All States shall also co-operate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in the performance of its mandate.

16. The General Assembly draws the attention of the Security Council to the need to continue to give special attention to those situations where the denial of the right of peoples to self-determination, as defined in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), poses a threat to international peace and security and, in particular, the need:

(a) To consider imposing mandatory economic sanctions against South Africa, under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, including in particular a mandatory embargo on the supply of petroleum and petroleum products to South Africa;

(b) To reinforce the arms embargo against South Africa by adopting comprehensive mandatory measures to end all military and nuclear collaboration with the apartheid régime of South Africa.

17. The Special Committee shall continue to examine the full compliance of all States with the Declaration and with other relevant resolutions on the question of decolonization. Questions of territorial size, geographical isolation and limited resources should in no way delay the implementation of the Declaration. Where General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) has not been fully implemented with regard to a given Territory, the Assembly shall continue to bear responsibility for that Territory until all powers are transferred to the people of the Territory without any conditions or reservations and the people concerned have had an opportunity to exercise freely their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration. The Special Committee is hereby directed:

ANNEX IV (continued)

(a) To continue to seek the most suitable ways for the speedy and total application of the Declaration to all Territories which have not yet attained independence and to propose to the General Assembly specific measures for the complete implementation of the Declaration;

(b) To undertake a thorough review of the list of Trust and Non-Self-Governing and other Territories which have not yet attained independence to which the Declaration applies and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

(c) To continue to send visiting missions to the colonial Territories at periodic intervals in order to enable the Special Committee to obtain first-hand information on conditions in those Territories;

(d) To continue to examine the views expressed, orally or in writing, by the peoples of the colonial Territories as well as by representatives of non-governmental organizations and individuals with knowledge of conditions in those Territories. Particular consideration shall be given to oral petitions and written communications regarding the Territories on which information is not being transmitted as provided for by Article 73 e of the Charter or to which the Special Committee is denied access;

(e) To assist the General Assembly in making arrangements, in co-operation with the administering Powers, to secure a United Nations presence in the colonial Territories to enable it to participate in the elaboration of the procedural arrangements for the implementation of the Declaration and to observe or supervise the final stages of the process of decolonization in those Territories.

18. The United Nations shall intensify its efforts in disseminating information by all available means, including publications, radio and television, on the struggle of peoples for self-determination, independence and equal rights and against colonial domination, on the activities of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and on the role of the national liberation movements.

19. The specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system shall render, or continue to render, all possible moral and material assistance to the peoples of the colonial Territories and to their national liberation movements.

20. Those non-governmental organizations with a special interest in the field of decolonization and actively opposed to colonialism in all its forms and manifestations are requested to intensify their activities in co-operation with the Secretary-General and the relevant organs of the United Nations.

ANNEX IV (continued)

13. All States shall undertake measures aimed at enhancing public awareness of the need for active assistance to bring about the complete eradication of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations, including racism and apartheid, through the exercise of the right to self-determination. In particular, States shall endeavour to create satisfactory conditions for activities by national and international non-governmental organizations in support of the peoples under colonial domination.

14. All States shall co-operate fully with the United Nations Council for Namibia, the legal Administering Authority of the Territory until independence, in discharging the mandate entrusted to it under the terms of General Assembly resolution 2248 (S-V) of 19 May 1967 and subsequent resolutions of the Assembly.

15. All States shall also co-operate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in the performance of its mandate.

16. The General Assembly draws the attention of the Security Council to the need to continue to give special attention to those situations where the denial of the right of peoples to self-determination, as defined in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), poses a threat to international peace and security and, in particular, the need:

(a) To consider imposing mandatory economic sanctions against South Africa, under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, including in particular a mandatory embargo on the supply of petroleum and petroleum products to South Africa;

(b) To reinforce the arms embargo against South Africa by adopting comprehensive mandatory measures to end all military and nuclear collaboration with the apartheid régime of South Africa.

17. The Special Committee shall continue to examine the full compliance of all States with the Declaration and with other relevant resolutions on the question of decolonization. Questions of territorial size, geographical isolation and limited resources should in no way delay the implementation of the Declaration. Where General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) has not been fully implemented with regard to a given Territory, the Assembly shall continue to bear responsibility for that Territory until all powers are transferred to the people of the Territory without any conditions or reservations and the people concerned have had an opportunity to exercise freely their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration. The Special Committee is hereby directed:

ANNEX IV (continued)

Recorded vote on resolution 35/118:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Belgium, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Luxembourg, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Mauritius, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden.

Absent: Dominica, Grenada, Haiti, India,* Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Solomon Islands, Upper Volta.

* The delegation of India subsequently informed the Secretariat that it wished to have its vote recorded as having been in favour of the draft resolution.

ANNEX V

Twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting
of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

(General Assembly resolution 40/56 of 2 December 1985)

The General Assembly.

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

Having held, in the year of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations, a special commemorative plenary meeting in observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, a/

Recalling the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, in which the peoples of the world proclaimed their determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Recalling also the relevant provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, b/

Recalling its resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, containing the programme of action for the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980, the annex to which contains the Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration,

Considering that the process of national liberation is irresistible and irreversible, and recalling that the Declaration solemnly proclaimed the necessity immediately and unconditionally to put an end to colonialism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recognizing the significant and commendable role played by the United Nations, since its very inception, in the field of decolonization and noting the emergence, during this period, of about one hundred States into sovereign existence,

a/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Plenary Meetings, 36th meeting.

b/ Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Noting with satisfaction, in particular, that during the past twenty-five years a large number of former colonial Territories have achieved independence, mainly through the courageous liberation struggle carried out by the peoples of those countries, led by their national liberation movements, and that many former Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories have exercised their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration,

Noting also with satisfaction the important contribution made by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in furthering the aims and objectives of the Declaration with a view to the liberation of peoples from colonial rule,

Noting further with satisfaction the active and important role being played by former colonial Territories, as States Members of the United Nations and members of the other organizations of the United Nations system, in the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter, the preservation of international peace and security, decolonization and the promotion of human progress, as well as the profound impact thereof on contemporary international relations,

Conscious of the fact that the Declaration has played an important role in assisting the peoples under colonial rule and will continue to serve as an inspiration in their efforts to achieve self-determination and independence in accordance with the Charter and in mobilizing world public opinion for the complete elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations,

Deeply concerned at the fact that, twenty-five years after the adoption of the Declaration, colonialism in the world has not yet been totally eradicated, particularly in Namibia,

Strongly condemning the continuing illegal occupation of Namibia and the colonial oppression of its people by the racist régime of Pretoria, which completely disregards the inalienable right of the people of Namibia to self-determination and independence,

Reaffirming that all peoples have the right to self-determination and independence and that the subjection of peoples to colonial domination constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights and is a serious impediment to the maintenance of international peace and security and the development of peaceful relations among nations,

Increasingly aware of the importance of economic, social and cultural development and self-reliance of colonial countries and peoples for the attainment and consolidation of genuine independence,

Convinced that the total eradication of racial discrimination, apartheid and violations of the basic human rights of the peoples in the remaining colonial Territories, particularly in Namibia, will be achieved peacefully and most expeditiously by the faithful and complete implementation of the Declaration,

Determined to take effective measures leading to the complete and unconditional elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations without further delay,

1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of all peoples under colonial rule to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

2. Declares that the continuation of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations, including racism and apartheid, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration and the principles of international law;

3. Expresses its conviction that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration should provide an opportunity for Member States to rededicate themselves to the principles and objectives enunciated in that document and for concerted efforts to be made to remove the last vestiges of colonialism in all regions of the world;

4. Strongly condemns South Africa's continued illegal occupation of Namibia, its defiance of United Nations resolutions, its brutal repression of the Namibian people, its aggressive activities and acts of destabilization against neighbouring independent African States and its policies of apartheid, as well as its acquisition of nuclear-weapon capability, which constitute a threat to international peace and security;

5. Calls upon Member States, in particular colonial Powers, to take effective steps with a view to the complete, unconditional and speedy eradication of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations and to the faithful and strict observance of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, c/ as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and those of the Security Council;

6. Urges Member States to do their utmost to promote, in the United Nations and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, effective measures for the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in all colonial Territories to which the Declaration applies;

c/ Resolution 217 A (III).

7. Calls upon Member States to render, as a matter of urgency, all moral and material assistance to the peoples under colonial rule in their struggle to exercise their right to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the Charter and the Declaration;

8. Urges the administering Powers and other Member States to ensure that the activities of foreign economic and other interests in colonial Territories do not run counter to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories and do not impede the implementation of the Declaration;

9. Requests Member States to take legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that illegally own and operate enterprises, including transnational corporations, in the international Territory of Namibia in order to put an end to such operations;

10. Urges Member States to discontinue all economic, financial, trade and other relations with the racist minority régime of South Africa in respect of Namibia and to refrain from entering into any relations with South Africa which may lend legitimacy or support to its continued illegal occupation of that Territory;

11. Requests Member States, as well as the organizations of the United Nations system, to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the colonial Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded;

12. Reaffirms that all administering Powers are obliged, under the Charter and in accordance with the Declaration, to create economic, social and other conditions in the Territories under their administration which will enable those Territories to achieve genuine independence and economic self-reliance;

13. Requests the administering Powers concerned to adopt the necessary measures to discourage or prevent any systematic influx of immigrants and settlers into Territories under their administration which might disrupt the demographic composition of those Territories and prevent the genuine exercise of the right to self-determination and independence by their peoples, and to avoid any forced displacement, complete or partial, of the population of colonial Territories;

14. Further requests the administering Powers to preserve the cultural identity, as well as the national unity, of the Territories under their administration and to encourage the full development of the indigenous culture, with a view to facilitating the unfettered exercise of the right to self-determination and independence by the peoples of those Territories;

15. Reaffirms its strong conviction that the presence of all kinds of military bases and installations in colonial Territories could constitute a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration and that it is the responsibility of the administering Powers concerned to ensure that the existence of such bases and installations does not hinder the peoples of the Territories from exercising their right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and the Declaration;

16. Calls upon 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 and to comply fully with the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Declaration and the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration;

17. Requests Member States, in particular the administering Powers, to adopt appropriate measures to prevent the recruitment, financing, training and transit of mercenaries in their Territories for use against the national liberation movements struggling for freedom and independence from the yoke of colonialism, racism and apartheid;

18. Considers it incumbent upon the United Nations to continue to play an active role in the process of decolonization and to intensify its efforts for the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with a view to the further mobilization of international public opinion in support of complete decolonization;

19. Urges Member States to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

20. Invites the Security Council to continue to give special attention to the situation in and around Namibia and to consider imposing mandatory sanctions against South Africa under Chapter VII of the Charter;

21. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to render, or continue to render, within their respective spheres of competence, all possible moral and material assistance to the peoples of the colonial Territories and to their national liberation movements, to take measures to withhold from the apartheid régime of South Africa any form of collaboration or assistance in the financial, economic and technical fields and to discontinue all support to that régime until the people of Namibia have exercised their right to self-determination and independence in a united Namibia and until apartheid has been eradicated and a non-racial, united and democratic State based on the will of all South African people has been established in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council;

22. Invites non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization to intensify their activities in co-operation with the United Nations;

23. Requests the Special Committee to continue to examine the full compliance of all States with the Declaration and with other relevant resolutions on the question of decolonization, to seek the most suitable ways for the speedy and total application of the Declaration to all Territories to which it applies and to propose to the General Assembly specific measures for the complete implementation of the Declaration in the remaining colonial Territories;

24. Invites all States to co-operate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in the complete fulfilment of its mandate.

22. Invites non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization to intensify their activities in co-operation with the United Nations;

23. Requests the Special Committee to continue to examine the full compliance of all States with the Declaration and with other relevant resolutions on the question of decolonization, to seek the most suitable ways for the speedy and total application of the Declaration to all Territories to which it applies and to propose to the General Assembly specific measures for the complete implementation of the Declaration in the remaining colonial Territories;

24. Invites all States to co-operate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in the complete fulfilment of its mandate.

D E C L A R A T I O N
ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO
COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

The General Assembly.

Mindful of the determination proclaimed by the peoples of the world in the Charter of the United Nations to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Conscious of the need for the creation of conditions of stability and well-being and peaceful and friendly relations based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of all peoples, and of universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recognizing the passionate yearning for freedom in all dependent peoples and the decisive role of such peoples in the attainment of their independence,

Aware of the increasing conflicts resulting from the denial of or impediments in the way of the freedom of such peoples, which constitute a serious threat to world peace,

Considering the important role of the United Nations in assisting the movement for independence in trust and non-self-governing territories,

Recognizing that the peoples of the world ardently desire the end of colonialism in all its manifestations,

Convinced that the continued existence of colonialism prevents the development of international economic co-operation, impedes the social, cultural and economic development of dependent peoples and militates against the United Nations ideal of universal peace,

Affirming that peoples may, for their own ends, freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international economic co-operation, based upon the principle of mutual benefit, and international law,

Believing that the process of liberation is irresistible and irreversible and that, in order to avoid serious crises, an end must be put to colonialism and all practices of segregation and discrimination associated therewith,

Welcoming the emergence in recent years of a large number of dependent territories into freedom and independence, and recognizing the increasingly powerful trends towards freedom in such territories which have not yet attained independence,

Convinced that all peoples have an inalienable right to complete freedom, the exercise of their sovereignty and the integrity of their national territory,

Solemnly proclaims the necessity of bringing to a speedy and unconditional end colonialism in all its forms and manifestations;

And to this end

Declares that:

1. The subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights, is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and is an impediment to the promotion of world peace and co-operation.

2. All peoples have the right to self-determination; by virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

3. Inadequacy of political, economic, social and educational preparedness should never serve as a pretext for delaying independence.

4. All armed action or repressive measures of all kinds directed against dependent peoples shall cease in order to enable them to exercise peacefully and freely their right to complete independence, and the integrity of their national territory shall be respected.

5. Immediate steps shall be taken, in trust and non-self-governing territories or all other territories which have not attained independence, to transfer all powers to the peoples of those territories, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, without any distinction as to race, creed or colour, in order to enable them to enjoy complete independence and freedom.

6. Any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

7. All states shall observe faithfully and strictly the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the present Declaration on the basis of equality, non-interference in the internal affairs of all States and respect for the sovereign rights of all peoples and their territorial integrity.