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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

Report of the President of the Economic and Social Council on
consultations held with the Chairman of the Special Committee
on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the
Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial
Countries and Peoples and the Chairman of the Special
Committee against Apartheid

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

1. At its second regular session of 1988, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1988/53 of 26 July 1988 on 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. In paragraph 17 of that resolution, the Council requested its President to continue consultations on those matters with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid and to report thereon to the Council.
2. On 9 August 1988, the Special Committee adopted a resolution on the question, by which it decided to continue to examine the question and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session.
3. At its forty-third session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 43/30 of 22 November 1988, in paragraph 24 of which it 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 specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

4. An account of the consultations held between the President of the Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee under the terms of the above-mentioned resolutions is given below.

5. The President of the Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee, in reviewing the related developments since the Council's consideration of the item at its second regular session in 1988, welcomed the signing on 22 December 1988 of a tripartite agreement leading to the realization of the objectives of Security Council resolution 602 (1987) of 25 November 1987, which called for the withdrawal of South African armed forces from the People's Republic of Angola. They also noted with satisfaction the commencement as from 1 April 1989 of the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) of 29 September 1978 containing the United Nations plan for the independence of Namibia. The presiding officers stressed that the international community should continue to remain vigilant in ensuring the full and faithful implementation of the United Nations plan in conformity with the timetable prescribed by the Security Council and agreed to by all parties. The two officers believed that the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) should be in a position to ensure the security of the Namibian people, including the returnees, in order to enable them fully to participate in free and fair elections. All manoeuvres aimed at undermining the Namibian cause should be firmly resisted so that the aspirations of the Namibian people for genuine independence would be realized. They drew attention in that connection to the important role to be played by the United Nations bodies concerned, in particular the Security Council.

6. The two presiding officers noted that developments in South Africa showed no signs of hope and continued to be a matter of concern. Millions of South Africans continued to suffer under the inhuman, repressive policy and practice of apartheid, to be denied of their basic human rights and deprived of even the minimal educational opportunities and adequate sustenance and medical care. They expressed the strong conviction that it was incumbent upon the world community to intensify its efforts to render all possible moral, political and economic support for the people of South Africa and their national liberation movements. They called for the release forthwith of all political prisoners and the repeal of all repressive laws. They called upon the international community to continue to exert pressure on South Africa until it complied with the principles of the United Nations Charter.

7. The two presiding officers noted that, on the basis of the comprehensive information provided by a number of specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, as contained in the related report of the Secretary-General (A/44/297), a number of specialized agencies and organizations had, during the period under review, continued to extend assistance, in varying degrees within their respective spheres of competence, to the peoples of Namibia and other Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories, in response to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Special Committee. The report indicated that an increasing number of those organizations had extended or formulated such programmes of assistance from within their own budgetary resources, in addition to their respective contribution as an executing agency for projects funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the primary provider of assistance. While noting with satisfaction that a number of organizations had also

continued to co-operate closely with the front-line States and newly independent countries in meeting the related needs of the Governments of those countries, the two presiding officers considered it imperative that the specialized agencies and other organizations concerned should further intensify their support for and assistance to the peoples concerned, particularly those in southern Africa, in order to adequately meet their critical needs in all fields.

8. The two presiding officers were particularly mindful of the urgent need of the people of Namibia for international assistance during its transition to independence. They emphasized the need for increased co-operation by the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system with the United Nations Secretary-General in the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). The two presiding officers were keenly aware of the enormous tasks confronting the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP) and other organizations in respect of over 80,000 Namibian refugees, some 60,000 of whom were expected to be repatriated in the initial phase, in line with the provisions of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). They fully endorsed the view expressed by the High Commissioner that the repatriation and resettlement operation/programme was one of the key components of the transition process and that its successful completion would be an important indicator of wider progress towards an independent Namibia. In that context they noted that the assistance to refugees from Namibia continued to increase during 1988, through the efforts of the Office of the UNHCR, in close co-operation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and a number of organizations within the United Nations system. They noted with appreciation that the UNHCR programme expenditure for the year 1988 for the assistance to the Namibian and South African refugees in the neighbouring countries had amounted to \$4.3 million and its allocation for 1989 to \$6.5 million. Observing that there were nearly 6 million refugees, returnees and displaced persons in southern Africa alone, the two presiding officers called for generous contributions by all concerned to UNHCR to enable it to meet the needs of those peoples effectively and adequately. In expressing deep appreciation to OAU for having organized in August 1988 the International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa, the two officers appealed to all concerned for full co-operation in the faithful implementation of the Plan of Action adopted by that Conference.

9. The two presiding officers also noted the intentions of UNDP to collect data in Namibia and expressed the hope that such data on economic, financial and social spheres of Namibia would further enhance the capacity of the United Nations family of organizations to effectively assist the Government of an independent Namibia in providing essential services immediately after independence and in preparing a development programme for further economic and social development of the country. Both officers stressed the need for close co-operation with the United Nations Council for Namibia in that vital exercise. They noted the intention of the UNDP Governing Council to take up the question of the indicative planning figure (IPF) for Namibia at its thirty-seventh session in February 1990, when additional information would become available in assessing the global requirements of Namibia for international assistance.

10. The two presiding officers expressed deep appreciation of the active and consistent role played by the United Nations Council for Namibia since its inception, in mobilizing world support for and assistance to the people of Namibia, in particular through its Nationhood Programme. They also expressed deep gratitude to those specialized agencies and other organizations, in particular UNDP, for the programmes of assistance undertaken by them in close co-operation with the United Nations Council for Namibia. They noted that the total cost of the 44 projects currently under way for the Nationhood Programme amounted to \$28.9 million. In addition, 40 projects totalling \$6.9 million had already been completed during 1979-1988. They also noted that of the total costs of the projects, more than \$20 million, or 69 per cent, was covered by the Fund for Namibia; about \$7.7 million, or 27 per cent, by UNDP; and approximately \$1.2 million, or 4 per cent, by the executing agencies. It was noted that revised indicative allocations under the General Account for 1988 amounting to \$2.2 million had been approved. In addition, a crash training course in immigration and customs for some 400 Namibians had commenced in February 1989. Ninety-seven new scholarships were awarded, increasing the total number to 351 in December 1988. During the period under review, a total of 1,407 Namibians had benefited from the various training activities under the assistance programmes of the Council for Namibia. The two presiding officers further noted that all financial resources in the Nationhood Programme Account and the General Account of the Fund for Namibia and the IPF for Namibia had fully been committed.

11. The two presiding officers noted that UNDP had continued to play a leading role in the extension of assistance to the peoples concerned. While its assistance extended to such diverse areas as mechanical repair and maintenance services and the integration of women in development processes, UNDP continued to place particular emphasis on formal education and other types of training, with a view to preparing those peoples for eventual technical, managerial and administrative responsibilities in their respective countries, as well as fostering a degree of self-reliance in the countries of asylum, in such areas as the administration and management of community services including educational and health services, vocational trades and crafts and agriculture and food production. They noted that the total UNDP commitment under the IPF allocated to national liberation movements amounted to \$11,301,000.

12. The two presiding officers observed that of the 29 projects included in the programme proposal for 1987-1991 under the IPF for national liberation movements, 18 projects had been approved and were being implemented by the end of 1988 - 8 for SWAPO, 3 each for the African National Congress (ANC) and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) and 4 benefiting all three movements. The two presiding officers noted that, in addition to eight projects in the education sector, with a combined commitment of \$4.7 million representing 41.2 per cent of the total allocated resources, over \$3.1 million or 27.2 per cent of the resources were allocated for two projects for training and supporting health personnel of the movements; \$1.8 million or 15.7 per cent for four projects in planning, programming and aid co-ordination; the same amount for three projects in food production; and \$15,000 for a preparatory assistance project in the maintenance and repair of mechanical equipment. They also noted that 10 further projects for 1987-1991 were in various phases of formulation and approval, with a total estimated resources of

\$3.5 million. Of the 10 projects, 6 were for ANC and 2 each for SWAPO and PAC. They also noted that, in the light of the developments in respect of Namibia's independence, due consideration was given by UNDP during the latter part of 1988 to the concept of transition of development assistance given to SWAPO. Preliminary guidelines and basic principles were considered to facilitate the rephrasing and relocation of project activities from the present host countries of SWAPO to an independent Namibia.

13. The two presiding officers noted that in 1988 four projects, at a total cost of \$3.1 million, continued to benefit all three national liberation movements jointly, three executed by the UNDP Office for Project Services (OPS) and one by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Two of the projects dealt with assistance in the programming, monitoring and evaluation of national liberation movement projects and assistance in the training of national liberation movement personnel. It was noted that with regard to the latter, 95 national liberation movement cadres participated in training in selected medical schools and institutions in the United Republic of Tanzania. The project with a total UNDP contribution of \$2.48 million was to be continued until the end of 1991. During 1988, 30 students successfully completed their studies and 50 new students were expected to begin their studies in 1989. The third project, with a total of \$116,000, continued to finance the participation of one representative from each national liberation movement to the sessions of the Governing Council of UNDP.

14. The two presiding officers noted that the Office for Project Services was responsible for the execution of four projects relating to the administration of health services in the settlements in Angola and Zambia, agricultural production at the United Nations Vocational Training Centre for Namibia in Cuacra (Angola) and the training of teachers in SWAPO settlements. The total commitment by UNDP for those projects amounted to \$2.2 million. It was further noted that three projects were executed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) with a total UNDP contribution of \$2.3 million. Two of those projects were directly supporting the education of more than 5,300 Namibian students in Angola and Zambia. The aim of the third UNESCO-executed project was to strengthen women's participation in the planning and implementation of development programmes.

15. It was noted that the Governing Board of the United Nations Vocational Training Centre, a project funded by UNDP and the United Nations Fund for Namibia and executed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), decided, at its sessions in Geneva in October 1988 and in New York 1989, that a feasibility study should be undertaken on the transfer of the Centre from Angola to Namibia. In respect of ongoing activities carried out by ILO in 1988 relating to training of junior labour administrators for Namibia, the two officers noted that the project had been relocated from Lusaka to the African Regional Labour Administration Centre in Zimbabwe and that a two-month consultancy mission had been undertaken in September-October 1988 to evaluate the project and make proposals for further assistance to Namibia in the field of labour administration. It was also noted that under a subregional project on vocational rehabilitation of war victims and other disabled persons, sponsored by the African Rehabilitation Institute, a joint

ILO/OAU regional programme, 45 disabled Namibians had completed both basic education and skills training in a number of Zambian institutions by the end of 1988, and efforts were made for more Namibians to begin their training in early 1989.

16. The two presiding officers noted that the three ongoing projects of assistance to ANC at a total allocation of \$1.6 million were all in the education sector. Executed by UNESCO, the projects provided university, technical and professional education to 29 ANC students, preschool, primary and secondary education to 700 pupils in the United Republic of Tanzania and placed about 100 ANC youths in established primary and secondary schools in countries of asylum. Six new ANC projects, with an estimated UNDP contribution of \$2.8 million, were under consideration. Those projects represented more than one half of the total number of the active national liberation movements IPF programme and consisted of one project each in the areas of health service support, development aid co-ordination, livestock production, repair and maintenance services, and two in the education sector. The support extended to PAC through three projects, the two presiding officers observed, included assistance in agriculture, post-secondary education and professional training benefiting 20 students and primary and secondary education benefiting 90 pupils. The agricultural project was executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), while the other projects were executed by the Office for Project Services. It was noted that the three projects accounted for a resource allocation of \$1.2 million.

17. The two presiding officers noted that assistance had also been rendered to other dependent Territories; UNDP had allocated \$1,354,000 to Tokelau from its IPF resources for 1987-1991 in order to assist the Territory in accelerating its economic and social development progress. It was noted that, from its Special Programme Resources (SPR), UNDP had also made available \$195,000 to Tokelau for rehabilitation and reconstruction purposes in the aftermath of the natural disasters which struck the islands in 1987. Two projects had been approved, one aimed at restoring the telecommunications network and the other for the rehabilitation of communities and Tokelau's water resources and the reconstruction of major structures for education and development purposes. The presiding officers further noted that Tokelau was also benefiting from the UNDP South Pacific Regional programme in such areas as telecommunications, disaster management, fisheries, water resources assessment and atoll development. They also noted that the revised single IPF for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands amounted to \$3.034 million, consisting of \$1.598 million for the Islands of Micronesia, \$363,000 for Palau and \$1.073 million for the Marshall Islands.

18. The two presiding officers noted also that UNDP adjusted IPF programme resources for 1987-1991 allocated to other Territories amounted to \$4,616,500, as follows: Anguilla, \$1,389,200, Bermuda, \$102,900; British Virgin Islands, \$262,900; Cayman Islands, \$604,500; Montserrat, \$699,800; St. Helena, \$765,200; and Turks and Caicos Islands, \$792,000. They observed that the projects were mostly in the fields of education, agriculture and vocational training. Deeply conscious of the fragile economies of those island Territories and the continuing critical need of their people, the presiding officers, while noting with appreciation the increased assistance being rendered to them, appealed to the specialized agencies

and other organizations concerned to expand and increase their assistance programmes to all dependent Territories. The presiding officers were particularly mindful of the pressing need for external assistance of a number of small dependent Territories for which no IPF had yet been established.

19. Deeply conscious of the continuing critical needs of the people concerned, the presiding officers, while noting with appreciation the intensified level of international co-operation in assistance programmes, appealed to the organizations concerned to enlist whatever resources were available in order to provide them with the assistance required, in particular in respect of Namibia, both in transition to independence and immediately thereafter, especially the repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees and the preparation and consolidation of an independent nationhood. As regarded the small Non-Self-Governing Territories, the two officers noted the need for assistance to those Territories in ensuring the advancement of their inhabitants in political, economic, social and educational areas. To that end, the two officers called for renewed efforts to secure an increased flow of funds required for the preparation of the programmes of assistance and, in particular, for the support of the major funding institutions within the United Nations system. They strongly urged that those institutions, bearing in mind the need for maximum flexibility, should take steps to remove any existing constraints or difficulties so as to ensure the availability of the added resources required. They emphasized that the role of the executive heads of the institutions concerned was of special importance. They hoped that, in keeping with paragraph 22 of General Assembly resolution 43/30 and paragraph 15 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/53, the executive heads would formulate concrete proposals for consideration by the respective governing and legislative organs. The two presiding officers also stressed that the agencies and organizations that had in large measure depended on extrabudgetary sources for financing of assistance projects should continue to endeavour to find ways and means of including or increasing provision in their regular budgets for initiating and for expanding projects beneficial to the peoples concerned.

20. The two presiding officers noted that the close liaison established by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system with national liberation movements, OAU and the United Nations Council for Namibia had greatly enhanced their efforts to render effective assistance to the peoples concerned. They noted with satisfaction that national liberation movements had continued to be represented at the relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations contributing to the positive consideration by the organizations concerned of measures in support of colonial peoples. They also noted that, in conformity with paragraph 6 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2015 (LXI) of 3 August 1976, a number of agencies continued to defray the cost of travel and other related expenses of representatives of national liberation movements invited to attend such meetings and urged those international institutions that had not yet done so to make such arrangements without delay. They further noted with satisfaction the inclusion of Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia, in the membership of various agencies and organizations and expressed the confidence that the Government of an independent Namibia would continue to draw benefits through its active participation in the related activities of those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system.

21. The two presiding officers agreed that those close contacts facilitated further increases in the volume and scope of the assistance provided by the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and enhanced the ability of agencies to respond more quickly and with greater flexibility to needs as they were identified. The two presiding officers hoped that in order to make maximum use of the available resources, the agencies and organizations would take further steps to strengthen the existing measures and explore additional ways and means of co-ordination, as those were essential to ensure the effectiveness of the assistance projects and other activities of the various agencies.

22. The two presiding officers noted that measures adopted by a number of agencies and other organizations to withhold all assistance from the Government of South Africa continued to be in force. They agreed that the agencies and other organizations associated with the United Nations system should, in accordance with their respective mandates, strengthen such measures until the apartheid régime complied with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies concerned. They noted in that regard that, while South Africa had been excluded from membership in the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) since 1977 and had not been attending the General Conference since 1979 when the South African credentials to that session were rejected, the General Conference of IAEA, at its thirty-second session held in September 1988, had resolved "to consider and take a decision on the recommendation of the Board of Governors contained in its report GC/(XXXI)/807 [of 1987] to suspend South Africa from the exercise of the privileges and rights of membership in accordance with Article XIX B of the Statute", at its thirty-third session to be held in September 1989.

23. The Chairman of the Special Committee informed the President of the Council that, in pursuance of paragraph 16 of Council resolution 1988/53, the Special Committee's attention had been drawn to that resolution and to the discussions leading up to it during the second regular session of 1988 of the Economic and Social Council. He also informed the President that the Special Committee's Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance continued to follow the implementation by the specialized agencies and the institutions associated with the United Nations of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including in particular General Assembly resolution 43/30. The Chairman also indicated that, during its examination of the question in August 1989, the Special Committee would take into account the results of the consultations being held by the Sub-Committee at its current session, and the outcome of the Council's consideration of the item at its second regular session of 1989.

24. The two presiding officers agreed that, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give at its forty-fourth session and in conformity with such decisions as might be taken by the Council and the Special Committee, they should maintain close contact with each other on matters raised in the present report.