



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

E/5709
22 July 1975

Original: ENGLISH

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 19

Dual Distr.

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

1. At its fifty-seventh session, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1892 (LVII) of 1 August 1974, on the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations". By paragraph 12 of that resolution, the Council requested its President to continue consultations on this matter 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.
2. At its 988th meeting, on 13 November 1974, the Special Committee adopted a resolution on the question, by paragraph 12 of which it requested its Chairman to continue his consultations on the subject with the President of the Council.^{1/}
3. At its twenty-ninth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 3300 (XXIX) of 13 December 1974, by paragraph 12 of which it requested the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for co-ordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.
4. An account of the consultations held, in the light of the foregoing, between the President of the Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee is set out below.

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9623/Rev.1), chap.VI.

5. The President of the Economic and Social Council informed the Chairman of the Special Committee that the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination had during the past year continued to give close attention to the question.^{2/} The two presiding officers reviewed the results of the meeting between representatives of the agencies and the general secretariat of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) held in Rome on 21 March 1975, in accordance with paragraph 10 of Council resolution 1892 (LVII) of 1 August 1974 and in keeping with previous practice.^{3/} They noted that the meeting had provided useful guidance to the agencies as to the priorities of the OAU in regard to assistance to the national liberation movements in Africa, and had clarified a number of issues arising in that connexion. They considered it extremely important and useful that consultations should be continued on a regular basis with a view to ensuring the effectiveness of the arrangements concerning the representation of liberation movements at agency meetings.

6. The Chairman of the Special Committee informed the President of the Council that, in pursuance of paragraph 11 of Council resolution 1892 (LVII), the Special Committee's attention had been drawn to that resolution as well as to the discussions leading thereto during the Council's fifty-seventh session.^{4/} He also informed the President of the Council that the Committee, at the beginning of its current session, had re-established its working group to follow the implementation by the specialized agencies and the institutions associated with the United Nations of the Declaration and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including in particular General Assembly resolution 3300 (XXIX). In the light of the positive results of the contacts established in 1974 with representatives of a number of agencies, the Special Committee, through its working group, had continued similar consultations during its current session. The Chairman of the Special Committee also informed the President of the Council that during its session held at Lisbon in June 1975 the Special Committee had received further information on the relevant activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the World Food Programme (WFP), whose representatives actively participated in the

^{2/} E/5675 (Part I), paras. 30-39.

^{3/} Ibid., paras. 35-38.

^{4/} E/AC.24/SR.538-541, 543; E/SR.1919.

Committee's consideration of the colonial Territories in southern Africa.^{5/} The information thus furnished to the Committee, as well as the report of its working group, together with an account of the Council's consideration of the related item, would be taken into account fully by the Special Committee when it considered the item in August 1975. The two presiding officers noted with appreciation the readiness of these and other United Nations organizations to continue to co-operate with the United Nations bodies concerned in the implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions.

7. The Chairman of the Special Committee informed the President of the Council that, in its recent review of the situation in the colonial territories in Africa, the Committee had given special attention to the territories formerly under Portuguese administration and to the findings^{6/} of a visiting mission it had dispatched to Cape Verde in February 1975. The two officers agreed that the recommendations adopted by the Committee, particularly those regarding assistance to these Territories in their efforts to consolidate their national independence and to rehabilitate their economies, should be taken into account by the Council and the Assembly in the context of their consideration of the item relating to economic, financial and technical assistance for these Territories. The two presiding officers also noted that, for its consideration of this item, the Council would have before it two reports by the Secretary-General prepared in pursuance of General Assembly resolutions 3339 (XXIX) and 3340 (XXIX).

8. In welcoming the accession of these Territories to independence, as well as the assistance provided by the agencies in support of their progress towards independence, the two presiding officers were in full accord that the international community should intensify its support for the peoples in the remaining colonial Territories, especially Southern Rhodesia and Namibia, and in the newly independent, emerging States, and should enlist whatever resources were available in providing the necessary assistance to these peoples. In that context, the two officers were of the firm view that the support of the major funding institutions within the United Nations system, such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and UNDP, was essential in securing the flow of funds required for the preparation of extended programmes of assistance. In the same context, they welcomed the establishment by UNDP of the indicative planning figures for the Territories formerly administered by Portugal and for Namibia. It was noted, at the same time, that in addition to the resources available under these IPFs, there were massive emergency and quasi-emergency needs that had to be met.

^{5/} A/AC.109/PV.1001-1003, 1006, 1007.

^{6/} A/AC.109/L.1002 and Add.1

They noted with satisfaction the arrangements made by some of the agencies for additional financing from extra-budgetary sources, including funds-in-trust, and expressed the hope that other organizations might consider adopting similar measures. They also noted the measures taken by the twenty-eighth World Health Assembly with a view to the extension of emergency assistance to the newly independent, emerging States.

9. The two presiding officers noted with satisfaction the closer contacts and liaison established by the organizations within the United Nations system with the national liberation movements and OAU, including the co-operation agreements recently concluded with OAU by UNDP, WMO and WFP. They considered that the practice of dispatching multidisciplinary missions, such as those undertaken by UNDP, WHO, UNICEF, FAO/WFP, ILO and UNHCR, should be continued in order that the needs of the peoples concerned in terms of specific assistance programmes could be identified and receive appropriate priority. They also noted that the specialized agencies were extending their co-operation in support of the Institute for Namibia, in consultation with the United Nations Council for Namibia. As the Institute would require adequate finance for obtaining the services of a number of lecturers and research specialists, the role to be played by the organizations within the United Nations system in that regard was extremely important.

10. The two presiding officers noted that assistance to refugees from colonial Territories had continued to be extended through UNHCR, in close co-operation with a number of organizations within the United Nations system and with OAU. It was noted that in 1974 UNHCR had provided aid amounting to \$1.1 million for projects drawn up at the request of or in consultation with the Governments of a number of the African countries adjoining the colonial Territories, which had benefited over 570,000 refugees. These projects assisted in financing educational and health facilities, food production and the consolidation of rural settlements. To meet the proposed repatriation programmes for the Territories formerly administered by Portugal, UNHCR had envisaged an expenditure amounting to \$7 million, subject to the availability of resources. The presiding officers also noted that WFP assistance to refugees, by the end of 1974, included eight emergency operations, three quasi-emergency projects and six settlement projects, entailing an expenditure of \$8.3 million, had benefited over 125,000 refugees from countries under colonial rule. They noted the assurances given by a number of agencies that would continue to co-operate with the Secretary-General by, inter alia, making their facilities available to assist in the selection, placement and productive employment of

beneficiaries of the existing United Nations programmes of assistance to colonial peoples. In the opinion of the presiding officers, it was necessary to ensure the closest possible co-ordination of all these activities in order to achieve the maximum utilization of the limited resources available.

11. As regards the representation of the colonial Territories in Africa by their national liberation movements at meetings of the specialized agencies, the two presiding officers noted that the arrangements made by several agencies and organizations had resulted in the active participation in those meetings of representatives of the national liberation movements, thus contributing towards the effective consideration by the organizations concerned of the measures in support of the colonial peoples. They also noted with satisfaction that, in conformity with paragraph 2(d) of Council resolution 1892 (LVII), UNDP, WHO and FAO had adopted measures with a view to defraying all travel and other related expenses of representatives of the national liberation movements invited to attend such proceedings. The two presiding officers hoped that the agencies and other organizations would continue to take measures, in compliance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 5300 (XXIX) and Council resolution 1892 (LVII) and, in consultation with OAU, would enable the national liberation movements to participate in proceedings of conferences, meetings or seminars held under their auspices. In the same connexion, they welcomed the fact that the Council for Namibia had been represented at a number of agency conferences and meetings and had become an associate member of UNESCO and WHO.

12. The two presiding officers noted that measures adopted by a number of agencies to withhold all assistance from the Government of South Africa and the illegal régime in Southern Rhodesia continued to be in force and that further decisions, such as the one adopted by WMO at its Seventh Congress, had been taken by some agencies to discontinue formal collaboration with these régimes. The two officers agreed that the United Nations system of organizations should strengthen such measures so as to bring about the maximum isolation of these régimes until they renounced their policies of colonial and racial domination.

13. Bearing in mind that the matters raised in this report would require continuous review by the Economic and Social Council and by the Special Committee, the two presiding officers agreed that, subject to any directives which the General Assembly might give at its thirtieth 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 the question.