

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

VOLUME I

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: TWENTY-NINTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 23 (A/9623/Rev.1)

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UNITED NATIONS

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UNITED NATIONS

New York, 1976

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

The report of the Special Committee is divided into six volumes. The present volume contains chapters I to III;* volume II, chapters IV to VI; volume III, chapters VII to XIV; volume IV, chapters XV to XX; volume V, chapters XXI and XXII; and volume VI, chapters XXIII to XXIX; each volume contains a full table of contents.

* The present version of chapters I to III is a consolidation of the following documents as they appeared in provisional form: A/9623 (Part I) of 23 October 1974, A/9623 (Part II) of 19 November 1974, A/9623 (Part III) of 15 November 1974 and A/9623 (Part IV) of 23 October 1974.

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* Note by the Rapporteur: See chap. I, para. 9, foot-note 9, for the new designation of the Territory.

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CHAPTER I

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ESTABLISHMENT, ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

13 November 1974

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report to the General Assembly 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 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3163 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973. This report covers the work of the Special Committee during 1974.

(Signed) Salim Ahmed SALIM

Chairman

Special Committee on the Situation
with regard to the Implementation
of the Declaration on the Granting
of Independence to Colonial
Countries and Peoples

His Excellency
Mr. Kurt Waldheim
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York

CHAPTER I

ESTABLISHMENT, ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

A. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was established by the General Assembly pursuant to its resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961. The Committee was requested to examine the application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration.
2. At its seventeenth session, the General Assembly, following its consideration of the report of the Special Committee, 1/ adopted resolution 1810 (XVII) of 17 December 1962, by which it enlarged the Special Committee with the addition of seven new members. It invited the Special Committee "to continue to seek the most suitable ways and means for the speedy and total application of the Declaration to all Territories which have not yet attained independence".
3. At the same session, the General Assembly, in its resolution 1805 (XVII) of 14 December 1962 on the question of South West Africa, requested the Special Committee to discharge mutatis mutandis the tasks assigned to the Special Committee for South West Africa by resolution 1702 (XVI) of 19 December 1961. By resolution 1806 (XVII) of 14 December 1962, the General Assembly decided to dissolve the Special Committee for South West Africa.
4. By resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, adopted at its eighteenth session, the General Assembly decided to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. It also requested the Special Committee to take this information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration in each of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to undertake any special study and prepare any special report it might consider necessary.
5. At the same session and at each subsequent session, the General Assembly, after considering the report of the Special Committee, has adopted a resolution renewing the mandate of the Committee. 2/

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 25, document A/5238.

2/ See the reports of the Special Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its eighteenth to twenty-eighth sessions. For the most recent, see ibid., Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/8423/Rev.1); ibid., Twenty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/8723/Rev.1); ibid., Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1).

6. Following its consideration of the report of the Special Committee on the item entitled "Special programme of activities in connexion with the tenth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples" 3/ at its twenty-fifth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, containing a programme of action for the full implementation of the Declaration.

7. At its twenty-eighth session, the General Assembly, following its consideration of the report of the Special Committee, 4/ adopted resolution 3163 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, which, inter alia:

"The General Assembly,

"...

"2. Approves the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 1973, 5/ including the programme of work envisaged for 1974;

"...

"11. Requests the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 2621 (XXV) in all Territories which have not yet attained independence and, in particular, to formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism and report thereon to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session;

"12. Requests the Special Committee to make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security, and recommends that the Council take such suggestions fully into consideration;

"13. Requests the Special Committee to continue to examine the compliance of Member States with the Declaration and with other relevant resolutions on decolonization, particularly those relating to the Territories under Portuguese domination, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia;

"14. Requests the Special Committee to continue to pay particular attention to the small Territories and to recommend to the General Assembly the most appropriate methods and also the steps to be taken to enable the populations of these Territories to exercise fully and without further delay their right to self-determination and independence;

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23B (A/8023/Rev.1/Add.2).

4/ Ibid., Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1).

5/ Ibid.

"15. Calls upon those administering Powers which have not done so to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, in particular, to participate in the work of the Committee relating to the Territories under their administration and to permit the access of visiting missions to the Territories in order to secure first hand information and ascertain the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants;

"16. Requests the Special Committee to continue to enlist the support of national and international organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization in the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and in the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in particular to assist the Economic and Social Council in its consideration of the related items on its agenda;".

8. At the same session, the General Assembly also adopted 23 resolutions and 2 consensuses which assigned specific tasks to the Special Committee, as well as a number of other resolutions relevant to the work of the Special Committee. These decisions are listed below.

1. Resolutions and decisions concerning specific Territories

<u>Territory</u>	<u>Resolution No.</u>	<u>Date of adoption</u>
Papua New Guinea	3109 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
Namibia	3111 I (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
	3111 III (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
United Nations Fund for Namibia	3112 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
Territories under Portuguese administration	3113 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
Southern Rhodesia	3115 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
	3116 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
Niue	3155 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
American Samoa, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Guam, New Hebrides, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Seychelles and Solomon Islands	3156 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973

<u>Territory</u>	<u>Resolution No.</u>	<u>Date of adoption</u>
Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands	3157 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
Seychelles	3158 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
Brunei	3159 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	3160 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
Comoro Archipelago	3161 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
Spanish Sahara	3162 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Tokelau Islands	Consensus <u>6</u> /	14 December 1973
Gibraltar	Consensus <u>7</u> /	14 December 1973

6/ Ibid., Supplement No. 30 (A/9030), p. 111.

7/ Ibid.

9. With respect to the questions of Belize; 8/ French Somaliland; 9/ and Antigua, Dominica, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, decided, without objection, to postpone consideration of those questions to its twenty-ninth session. 10/

2. Resolutions concerning other items

<u>Item</u>	<u>Resolution No.</u>	<u>Date of adoption</u>
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 <u>e</u> of the Charter of the United Nations	3110 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
Establishment of the Commission of Inquiry on the Reported Massacres in Mozambique	3114 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
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 Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and Territories under Portuguese domination and in all other	3117 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973

8/ On 1 June 1973, by an Order-in-Council of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the name of British Honduras was changed to Belize.

9/ Note by the Rapporteur: Terminology Bulletin No. 240 issued by the Secretariat on 15 April 1968 (ST/SC/SER.F/240) reads as follows:

"The new name of the Territory formerly known as French Somaliland is: French Territory of the Afars and the Issas ...

"This designation, which is being introduced at the request of the administering Power, should be used in all documents with the exception of those records of texts in which the speaker or author has used a different terminology."

10/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/9030), p. 111.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Resolution No.</u>	<u>Date of adoption</u>
Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, <u>apartheid</u> and racial discrimination in southern Africa		
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	3118 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa	3119 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories	3120 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
Dissemination of information on decolonization	3164 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
International Conference of Experts for the Support of Victims of Colonialism and <u>Apartheid</u> in Southern Africa	3165 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973

3. Other resolutions and decisions relevant to the work of the Special Committee

<u>Item</u>	<u>Resolution No.</u>	<u>Date of adoption</u>
Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination	3057 (XXVIII)	2 November 1973
Effects of atomic radiation	3063 (XXVIII)	9 November 1973
Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity	3066 (XXVIII)	15 November 1973

<u>Item</u>	<u>Resolution No.</u>	<u>Date of adoption</u>
Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights	3070 (XXVIII)	30 November 1973
Strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of co-operation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States	3073 (XXVIII)	30 November 1973
Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests	3078 (XXVIII)	6 December 1973
Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace	3080 (XXVIII)	6 December 1973
Pattern of conferences	Decision <u>11/</u>	11 December 1973
Respect for human rights in armed conflicts	3102 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
Basic principles of the legal status of the combatants struggling against colonial and alien domination and racist regimes	3103 (XXVIII)	12 December 1973
Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	3134 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973

11/ Ibid., p. 135, item 82.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Resolution No.</u>	<u>Date of adoption</u>
Concerted action on the national and international levels to meet the needs and aspirations of youth and to promote their participation in national and international development	3140 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
Youth, its education and its responsibilities in the world of today	3141 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
Use of scientific and technological developments in the interests of peace and social development	3150 (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
Policies of <u>apartheid</u> of the Government of South Africa	3151 B (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
	3151 D (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
	3151 F (XXVIII)	14 December 1973
Permanent sovereignty over natural resources	3171 (XXVIII)	17 December 1973
Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security	3185 (XXVIII)	18 December 1973
Restitution of works of art to countries victims of expropriation	3187 (XXVIII)	18 December 1973

10. During its twenty-eighth session, the General Assembly had before it a letter dated 12 December 1973 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations, addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/9449), stating that Sweden had decided to withdraw from membership of the Special Committee.

11. At its 2202nd meeting, on 14 December 1973, the General Assembly, on the nomination of its President, agreed to the appointment of Denmark to fill the vacancy of the Special Committee.

12. As at 1 January 1974, the Special Committee was, therefore, composed of the following 24 members:

Afghanistan
Australia
Bulgaria
Chile
China

Congo
Czechoslovakia
Denmark
Ethiopia
Fiji
India
Indonesia
Iran
Iraq
Ivory Coast
Mali
Sierra Leone
Syrian Arab Republic
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
United Republic of Tanzania
Venezuela
Yugoslavia

B. OPENING OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S MEETINGS IN 1974

13. The first meeting of the Special Committee in 1974 (950th meeting), held on 29 January, was opened by the Secretary-General.

1. Opening statement by the Secretary-General

14. The Secretary-General observed that the Special Committee had made a very notable contribution to the process of decolonization, and had worked with energy and determination to fulfil its important mandate. He paid a particular tribute to the Committee's Chairman, Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, for his active leadership and wisdom over the past two years as he knew that all representatives would wish him to record their gratitude for Mr. Salim's devoted service to the Committee and to the cause of decolonization.

15. The work of the Special Committee had never been more important. The crisis in the Middle East, which had attracted so much international attention and concern, must not obscure the fact that a major crisis existed in Africa, where the struggle against colonialism and apartheid had entered a new stage. That situation represented a serious threat to peace in the area, and had broader implications for international stability. It was to the resolution of that problem that the efforts of the United Nations must be strenuously applied in 1974. The surge towards national sovereignty and independence in Africa, which had been one of the most important historical developments in this century, could not and would not be checked. Therefore, the question was not whether those peoples still under colonial control would become independent, but when and under what circumstances.

16. The international community had seen an intensification of repressive measures in southern Africa against the growing demands by the people for their political freedom and human rights. The shocking reports of massacres in Mozambique had resulted in the establishment by the General Assembly of the

Commission of Inquiry on the Reported Massacres in Mozambique. The international community could not be indifferent to the situation in those areas. In particular, the United Nations, which had played so central a role in the process of decolonization, having endorsed the cause of the liberation movements, must not be indifferent.

17. The United Nations was committed to the achievement of the fundamental rights and freedoms of all the peoples of Africa. At present, more than 30 million Africans were denied those rights. In that connexion he wished to recall the words of General Yakubu Gowon, Head of the Federal Military Government of Nigeria and Chairman of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), to the General Assembly:

"Nobody in Africa wishes to adopt the path of armed struggle and conflict against those minority regimes for the love of it ... It is for this reason that we made genuine efforts to assure the world of our desire for racial harmony on conditions of mutual respect and fundamental human rights of all the inhabitants of the continent." 12/

18. That was the goal towards which the United Nations had always worked. The world had seen in Africa and elsewhere that harmony between peoples of different races and colour could be achieved in a spirit of co-operation and respect. It had seen the creation of close relationships between independent nations and their former colonial rulers. Those who had doubted for so long whether that was possible had now realized that the goal could be achieved.

19. But as long as the present situation continued in the Portuguese Territories, in Southern Rhodesia and in Namibia, the hope for such a development in those areas was reduced. Unless real progress could be made in a spirit of understanding, more bloodshed, more bitterness and more suffering would result. That was in the interest of no individual and no nation.

20. An important new situation had been created by the declaration of independence by the people of Guinea-Bissau - a declaration which had been endorsed by the General Assembly. Yet disregard and defiance of the will of the international community as expressed through the United Nations continued there, as well as in southern Africa.

21. In that context, he referred particularly to the courageous action of Zambia and to the response of the international community to that action. That decision had involved determination and economic sacrifice, and the readiness of the Zambian Government and people to accept that sacrifice had resulted in a remarkable demonstration of international solidarity. The international community should determine that that international solidarity would be strengthened in 1974. It was to be hoped that those nations which continued to assist the minority régimes would be persuaded to change their policies and support the universal principle of individual freedom and the movement towards national sovereignty in compliance with the existing resolutions of the United Nations.

12/ Ibid., Twenty-eighth Session, Plenary Meetings, 2141st meeting.

22. He was confident that the Special Committee would once again address itself to its difficult tasks with the sense of urgency which was essential to the resolution of the considerable problems currently before the world community. The entry into the United Nations at the last General Assembly of the Bahamas, the attainment of internal self-government in Papua New Guinea and the imminent attainment of independence by Grenada were encouraging developments in the process of decolonization. But the United Nations mandate would not have been fulfilled until all peoples under colonial rule had achieved freedom and independence. Now, more than ever the United Nations must show determination and responsibility to secure those noble objectives so clearly enshrined in the Charter. He was confident that the Committee would make the positive new approaches which were essential to the rapid attainment of those goals.

2. Election of officers

23. At its 950th meeting, on 29 January, the Special Committee unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman: Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim (United Republic of Tanzania)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Mehdi Ehsassi (Iran)

Mr. A. Duncan Campbell (Australia)

Mr. Ivan G. Garvalov (Bulgaria)

Rapporteur: Mr. Horacio Arteaga Acosta (Venezuela)

3. Statement by the Chairman

24. The Chairman welcomed the delegation of Denmark, which had rejoined the Special Committee after an absence of several years. Much as all Committee members regretted the departure from their midst of the delegation of Sweden, whose representatives had so closely been identified with the work of the Committee and had contributed so much to its past successes, it was a source of great satisfaction that its place had been taken by the delegation of a State which would take over where Sweden had left off. He was confident that the contribution of Denmark would be major, as was only to be expected from a country whose devotion to the principles of human rights and racial justice was well known.

25. Members had listened with close attention to the important statement delivered by the Secretary-General, and the Chairman thanked him, on behalf of the Special Committee, both for his presence at the Committee's opening meeting and for the major contribution he had made to its deliberations. As the Secretary-General had rightly pointed out, the problems with which the Committee would have to contend during the coming months - and he referred particularly to those created by the brutal and ruthless repression of more than 30 million Africans by the colonial and racist régimes in southern Africa - were among the most urgent and critical problems confronting the United Nations. That the world was today faced with a situation in southern Africa which not only constituted a serious threat to international peace and security but was capable of doing lasting damage to the

whole fabric of international co-operation was due not only to the inflexible fanaticism of the racist and colonialist régimes, but also to complacency and indifference to the sufferings of the African peoples on the part of elements within the international community itself. That was precisely why the work of the Special Committee was so critical. Its task was to inform the world of what was going on, to expose the complicity of those who, out of short-sighted selfish interest, aided and abetted the racist régimes, and to mobilize effective international action in support of the heroic struggle being waged by the liberation movements in the Territories concerned. He was confident that the Committee would approach its work with an enhanced awareness of its great responsibility and of the urgent necessity to make 1974 a year of concrete and positive action.

26. As the Secretary-General had already told the Special Committee, the past year had witnessed a considerable intensification and extension of the armed struggle by the national liberation movements in southern Africa, especially in the Territories under Portuguese domination and in Zimbabwe. The most dramatic event of the year had been, of course, the attainment of independence by Guinea-Bissau as a result of the long and heroic struggle of the Partido Africano da Independência da Guiné e Cabo Verde (PAIGC). This momentous achievement, which had demonstrated once and for all that the days of Portuguese colonialism in Africa were numbered, did not mean, however, that the sufferings of the people of Guinea-Bissau were ended, for the struggle must continue until the full consolidation of their independence. The world community was aware that certain sectors of that Territory, in particular Cape Verde, continued to be illegally occupied by the Portuguese forces. Yet, when all was said and done, the proclamation of independence had given fresh heart to the freedom fighters not only in Guinea-Bissau but also in Mozambique and Angola, where the liberation struggle had entered a new and decisive phase. In both Mozambique and Angola, the freedom fighters had made significant headway during 1973, as a result of which more liberated zones had been created and brought under the control of the national liberation movements. Already there were vast areas in each of these Territories where local government was in the hands of the people, through democratically elected local institutions and in which the process of reconstruction was proceeding apace. In Mozambique, particularly, the forces of liberation had extended their operations south of the Zambezi and had made steady progress overall in their just struggle towards the elimination of Portuguese colonialism and foreign economic exploitation. It was not surprising that in its attempts to stem the tide of liberation, the fascist régime of Portugal had not flinched from perpetuating a war of suppression with extreme ferocity and with an unprecedented campaign of terror directed against the civilian populations. In 1973, the entire civilized world had been shocked by the revelation of the inhuman massacre perpetrated by Portuguese troops at the village of Wiriyamu, in which more than 400 innocent men, women and children were believed to have been brutally killed. But the world knew that this was but one of the many atrocities and an example of the ruthlessness of the colonial wars waged by the colonialist régime.

27. If the situation were not alarming enough, there was also evidence of an increasing resort to terror tactics on the part of the racist minority régime in Zimbabwe and of the growing co-operation and collaboration between the armed forces of the colonialist régimes concerned. Inevitably, as the intensity of colonial and racist repression mounted and as the racist usurpers became increasingly desperate, due to their impending defeat, so also did the threat to international

peace and especially to the security of independent African States, particularly those that border Territories under colonial and racist occupation. The members of the Committee must have no illusions as to the recklessness of the colonialist and racist régimes and their willingness to stop at nothing if it would help them to prolong the enslavement of the African peoples who were still under their domination. The past year had seen further evidence of this in the imposition by the Ian Smith régime against Zambia of an economic blockade accompanied by numerous acts of subversion, harassment and outright aggression. As a Tanzanian, as an African, and as the Chairman of the Special Committee, he could not but feel proud of the steadfastness and courage shown by the Government and people of Zambia and gratified at the support which they had received from the international community.

28. In the colonial Territories of southern Africa, there could be no doubt that the tide of liberation had taken a new and more vigorous turn. The African peoples had made it clear beyond any possible doubt that, regardless of the cost, regardless of the sacrifice, they could no longer accept being denied their human rights and being exploited and subjugated by bigoted and racist minorities and that they would continue to struggle and resist until the stain and degradation of alien domination had been removed and they had won their rightful place among the free and independent peoples of the world.

29. Unfortunately, the logical inevitability of this process still escaped the colonial authorities concerned, whose only response had been one of intransigence, obduracy and intensified repression, and who had so far shown nothing but arrogant contempt for the resolutions of the General Assembly and the decisions of the Security Council. That they had been able to do so for so long was largely due to the failure of certain major Powers to lend their support to the application of effective measures by the international community and especially to the large scale economic, military and political support which the colonial régimes continued to receive from their collaborators and allies and from the many Western capitalist monopolies which were engaged in exploiting the natural and human resources of the Territories.

30. What the Special Committee must seek to accomplish during the current session was to match the successes achieved in the national liberation struggle by concrete and positive action on the international level. The urgency of the situation demanded an even greater effort on the part of the Committee to maintain the spotlight of international attention on what was happening in southern Africa and to mobilize real and effective support and assistance for the anti-colonial struggle. In 1973, the Committee had played an important role in arousing the conscience of the world, especially in regard to the atrocities perpetrated by the Portuguese colonialists, and the results of the Committee's efforts had been reflected in the actions of the General Assembly. But condemnation of the colonialist and racist régimes was not sufficient, nor could it be a substitute for effective measures and, during the coming year, the Committee must strive to intensify the pressures on them and do all in its power to convince their friends and allies, as well as those who covertly lend them support and assistance, that there were no longer any grounds for complacency and that it was in their own best interests to bring about change before it was too late. He had no illusions as to the difficulty of that task, but the Committee owed it to its African brothers and to itself to confront the colonialists at every opportunity, to expose their evil actions and policies and, also, to expose their accomplices.

31. Another area to which the Special Committee must continue to give priority attention was the provision of material aid to the national liberation movements of the colonial Territories and to the peoples in the liberated areas. At its 1973 session, the Committee, through its Working Group on the Implementation by the Specialized Agencies and the International Institutions Associated with the United Nations of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other Relevant Resolutions of the United Nations and through the Special Mission established by the Special Committee at its 912th meeting, on 14 May 1973, which had visited the headquarters of several of the specialized agencies for consultations with their executive heads, had initiated a detailed study of the problems in meeting the urgent needs of the suffering people in the colonial Territories and, as a result, had been able to formulate a number of useful proposals. 13/

32. It was his hope that continued in-depth study and discussion with the specialized agencies during the current session would enable the Special Committee to assist those organizations in ensuring the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly. The Committee must, for the purpose of rendering effective aid to the peoples concerned, devote particular attention to the need for a more intensive effort to mobilize international support for the struggle of the colonial peoples by means of a world-wide campaign of publicity.

33. He believed that the formulation and implementation of a strategic campaign of publicity, which should be aimed especially at making public opinion in the developed countries more aware of the plight of the colonial peoples and of the seriousness of the issues involved, could do much to enhance and facilitate government action. In that context, the newly established Information Unit on Decolonization must be made to play a dynamic and leading role. At the same time, the enormous potential for co-ordinated action by non-governmental bodies in support of whatever the Special Committee might be able to accomplish in the field of publicity should not be forgotten. In expanding its contacts with non-governmental organizations, the Committee must try as much as possible to include organizations in those countries which directly or indirectly were helping the colonial régimes, for it was in those countries that the need to arouse public opinion was most acute.

34. An essential requirement for the success of the Special Committee's work was, of course, that it should maintain the closest possible contacts with the national liberation movements recognized by OAU, and also with OAU itself and its Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa. The practice, which had already been established and approved by the General Assembly, of inviting the representatives of the liberation movements concerned to participate, as observers, in the Special Committee's proceedings relating to their respective countries had contributed greatly to the effectiveness of the Committee's work, as had its close co-operation with the General Secretariat of OAU. During the coming session, the Committee should do everything possible to develop these contacts and to promote co-operation to the fullest possible extent.

35. Although the situation in southern Africa was inevitably uppermost in the members' minds, there were many other problems of decolonization which the Special Committee must examine. Not only would it be required, in response to invitations extended by the Governments of New Zealand and Australia, as administering Powers concerned, to dispatch visiting missions to several Territories in the Pacific,

13/ Ibid., Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1), chap. VI, annex I.

it must also in 1974 give serious and in-depth consideration to the problems of decolonization in a number of other Territories. It must not permit its preoccupation with the crisis in Africa to detract from the fulfilment of its responsibility to assist those colonial peoples towards the enjoyment of their inalienable rights.

36. The Special Committee's tasks in that respect had been made more difficult by the negative attitudes of the administering Powers concerned to the sending of visiting missions and the refusal by two of those Powers to assist the Committee in its deliberations. He wished, therefore, to appeal to those Powers to reconsider their attitude and, in particular, to respond favourably to the repeated appeals of the General Assembly that United Nations missions be allowed access to the Territories.

37. As he had said earlier, he had no illusions about the difficulty of the tasks confronting the Special Committee. He knew that its work would be long and arduous, but in the four years he had been associated with the Committee he had become convinced that it had a most important and positive role to play towards the attainment of the goals set forth in the Declaration. The Committee was, in a sense, a bridge between the international community and the colonial peoples and it was its duty to keep the welfare and interests of the latter constantly in the forefront of its attention. The Committee's responsibility was not only to arouse the conscience of the international community to the plight of the colonial peoples, but also to help and assist the administering Powers, when that was possible, towards the fulfilment of their moral obligations. With the members' co-operation and assistance, and with the collaboration of the Committee's secretariat, he was confident that the Committee could live up to its responsibilities and make a further significant contribution to bringing about the final and complete eradication of colonialism.

C. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

38. The Special Committee discussed the organization of its work for the year at its 950th and 951st meetings, on 29 January and 8 February. Statements in that connexion were made, at the 950th meeting, by the Chairman and by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/AC.109/PV.950) and, at the 951st meeting, by the representatives of Bulgaria, Chile, Indonesia and India, as well as by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.951).

39. At its 950th meeting, on 29 January, the Special Committee, on the proposal of the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.950), decided to maintain its Working Group, which would continue to function as a steering committee.

40. At its 951st meeting, on 8 February, the Special Committee requested the Working Group to consider and submit recommendations regarding the Committee's programme of work, including the order of priorities for the consideration of items. In taking that decision, the Committee also requested the Working Group to take into account the various tasks assigned to the Committee in the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, as well as the tasks envisaged by the Committee itself for 1974, an outline of which was contained in the note by the Secretary-General (A/AC.109/L.917). Further, the Committee requested the Working Group to bear in mind the observations made by members during the exchange of views relating to the organization of its work.

41. At the same meeting, the Special Committee, on the proposal of the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.951), decided, without objection, to maintain Sub-Committees I and II, the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information and the Working Group on the Implementation by the Specialized Agencies and the International Institutions Associated with the United Nations of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other Relevant Resolutions of the United Nations.

42. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, by adopting the seventy-first report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.), the Special Committee requested its subsidiary bodies, in addition to considering the items indicated in paragraph 43 below, to carry out the specific tasks assigned to the Committee by the General Assembly concerning the items referred to them. At the same meeting, on the basis of the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group, the Special Committee took further decisions regarding the terms of reference of the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information and the working group dealing with the international organizations concerned, as reflected in paragraphs 50 to 67 below.

43. The Special Committee further decided to adopt the following allocation of items and procedure for their consideration:

<u>Question</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Procedure for consideration</u>
Territories under Portuguese domination	Plenary	As separate item
Southern Rhodesia	"	"
Namibia	"	"
Spanish Sahara	"	"
French Somaliland	"	"
Belize	"	"
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	"	"
Gibraltar	"	"
Antigua, Dominica, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent	"	"
Comoro Archipelago	"	"
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under article 73 <u>e</u> of the Charter and related questions	"	"
Special Committee resolution of 30 August 1973 concerning Puerto Rico	"	"

<u>Question</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Procedure for consideration</u>
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 Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and Territories under Portuguese domination and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, <u>apartheid</u> and racial discrimination in southern Africa	Sub-Committee I	To be decided by sub-committee
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	"	"
Seychelles	"	"
St. Helena	"	"
Gilbert and Ellice Islands, <u>14/</u> Pitcairn and the Solomon Islands	Sub-Committee II	"
New Hebrides	"	"
American Samoa and Guam	"	"
Niue <u>14/</u>	"	"
Tokelau Islands	"	"
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands	"	"
Papua New Guinea <u>14/</u>	"	"
Cocos (Keeling) Islands <u>14/</u>	"	"
Brunei	"	"
United States Virgin Islands	"	"

14/ See para. 46 below.

<u>Question</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Procedure for consideration</u>
British Virgin Islands	Sub-Committee II	To be decided by sub-committee
Bermuda	"	"
Turks and Caicos Islands	"	"
Cayman Islands	"	"
Montserrat	"	"
Question of participation of national liberation movements in the work of the United Nations	Working Group	As separate item
Pattern of Conferences	"	"
Question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable	"	"
Question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters	"	"
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	Plenary/Working Group on specialized agencies	"
Dissemination of information on decolonization	Plenary/sub-committees	"
Question of sending visiting missions to Territories	"	"
Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Equal Rights	"	"
Matters relating to the small Territories	"	As appropriate
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (article 15 of the Convention)	"	"

<u>Question</u>	<u>Procedure for consideration</u>
Deadline for the accession of Territories to independence	To be taken into consideration by bodies concerned in their examination of specific Territories
Compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on the question of decolonization	"
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories	"
United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa	"
International Conference of Experts for the Support of Victims of Colonialism and <u>Apartheid</u> in Southern Africa	"
Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination	"
Effects of atomic radiation	"
Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity	"
Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights.	"
Strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of co-operation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States	"
Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests	"
Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace	"

<u>Question</u>	<u>Procedure for consideration</u>
Respect for human rights in armed conflicts	To be taken into consideration by bodies concerned in their examination of specific Territories
Basic principles of the legal status of the combatants struggling against colonial and alien domination and racist régimes	"
Concerted action on the national and international levels to meet the needs and aspirations of youth and to promote their participation in national and international development	"
Youth, its education and its responsibilities in the world today	"
Use of scientific and technological developments in the interests of peace and social development	"
Policies of <u>apartheid</u> of the Government of South Africa	"
Permanent sovereignty over natural resources	"
Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security	"
Restitution of works of art to countries victims of expropriation	"

44. At its 952nd, 956th and 974th meetings, on 26 February, 11 March and 17 May, the Special Committee took further decisions concerning its programme of work for 1974, including the order of priorities for the consideration of the items before it, on the basis, inter alia, of the recommendations contained in the seventy-first and seventy-second reports of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1 and L.945). Those decisions are reflected in paragraphs 68 and 69 below.

45. At its 974th and 976th meetings, on 17 May and 20 August, the Special Committee took decisions concerning:

(a) An invitation to the Chairman to participate, in a series of meetings of the Special Committee on Apartheid, held at Berlin (see para. 110 below);

(b) An invitation to the Committee to be represented at the twenty-third ordinary session of the Council of Ministers and the Eleventh Ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU held at Mogadiscio (see para. 115 below);

(c) An invitation to the Chairman to participate in a meeting of a mission of the United Nations Council for Namibia held at Georgetown, and for the Committee to be represented at a special meeting of the Council in commemoration of Namibia Day held at United Nations Headquarters (see para. 107 below).

46. At its 976th meeting, on 20 August, the Special Committee, in modification of the decision taken at its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, decided, on the proposal of the Chairman of Sub-Committee II (A/AC.109/PV.976 and Corr.1), to take up at plenary meetings the questions of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Niue and Papua New Guinea.

47. At its 980th meeting, on 3 September, the Special Committee, on the basis of the recommendations contained in the seventy-third report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.978), took decisions concerning the question of the participation of national liberation movements in the work of the United Nations. An account of the Committee's consideration of the question is set out in paragraphs 81 to 86 below.

48. At the same meeting, on the basis of recommendations contained in the same report, the Special Committee took a decision concerning the question of inviting certain individuals to appear before it for the purpose of securing information on specific aspects of the situation in colonial Territories (see paras. 87 to 88 below).

49. At the same meeting, on the basis of recommendations contained in the same report, the Special Committee took decisions concerning its programme of work for 1975 (see paras. 136 to 139 and 148 to 151 below).

D. MEETINGS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

1. Special Committee

50. The Special Committee held 39 meetings during 1974, as follows:

First session:

950th to 975th meetings, 29 January to 1 July

Second session:

976th to 988th meetings, 20 August to 13 November

2. Working Group

51. At its 950th meeting, on 29 January, the Special Committee decided to maintain its Working Group. At its 951st meeting, on 8 February, the Special Committee further decided that the composition of the Working Group should be as follows: Congo, Iraq, Trinidad and Tobago and Tunisia, together with its five officers, namely, the Chairman (United Republic of Tanzania), the three Vice-Chairmen (Iran, Australia and Bulgaria) and the Rapporteur (Venezuela).

52. During the period covered by the present report, the Working Group held three meetings, on 15 February, 14 May and 29 August, and submitted three reports. 15/

3. Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information

53. At its 951st meeting, on 8 February, the Special Committee decided to maintain its Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, by adopting the seventy-first report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1), the Special Committee further decided that, in addition to its tasks relating to petitions and other communications, the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information should be requested to follow the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3164 (XXVIII) on the dissemination of information on decolonization and to submit recommendations to the Committee for its consideration, as appropriate, so as to enable the Committee to assist effectively in the efforts of the Secretary-General in the discharge of the specific mandate entrusted to him in the above-mentioned and other related resolutions of the United Nations. In accordance with decisions taken at the same meeting and at the 966th meeting, on 29 March, the composition of the Sub-Committee was as follows:

Czechoslovakia

India

Indonesia

15/ A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1, L.945 and L.978.

Iraq
Ivory Coast
Mali
Sierra Leone
Syrian Arab Republic

54. At its 198th meeting, on 27 February, the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information elected Mr. Amer Salih Araim (Iraq) as Chairman.

55. The Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information held 13 meetings, between 27 February and 14 June, and submitted four reports to the Special Committee. 16/ An account of the Committee's consideration of the reports of the Sub-Committee on the question of the dissemination of information on decolonization is set out in chapter II of the present report (A/9623 (Part IV)).

56. During the period under review, the Sub-Committee considered a total of seven communications, six of which it decided to circulate as petitions. The petitions circulated by the Sub-Committee are listed in the chapters of the present report dealing with the items to which they refer. The petitions included two requests for hearing which the Sub-Committee recommended to the Special Committee for approval.

4. Sub-Committee I

57. At its 951st meeting, on 8 February, the Special Committee decided to maintain Sub-Committee I. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, the Committee further decided that the membership of Sub-Committee I should be as follows:

Chile
China
Congo
Mali
Sierra Leone
Syrian Arab Republic
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
United Republic of Tanzania
Yugoslavia

58. At its 128th meeting, on 27 February, Sub-Committee I elected Mrs. Famah Josephine Joka-Bangura (Sierra Leone) as Chairman.

16/ A/AC.109/L.924, L.933, L.938 and L.975.

59. Sub-Committee I held 13 meetings between 27 February and 10 July, as well as a series of unofficial meetings thereafter, and submitted reports on the following items which had been referred to it for consideration:

(a) Seychelles and St. Helena;

(b) 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 Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and Territories under Portuguese domination and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa;

(c) 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.

60. An account of the Special Committee's consideration of the reports of the Sub-Committee relating to the above items is contained in chapter X (A/9623/Add.4 (Part I)), chapter IV (A/9623 (Part V)) and chapter V (A/9623 (Part VI)).

5. Sub-Committee II

61. At its 951st meeting on 8 February, the Special Committee decided to maintain Sub-Committee II. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, the Committee further decided that the membership of Sub-Committee II should be as follows:

Afghanistan

Australia

Bulgaria

Chile

Czechoslovakia

Denmark

Ethiopia

Fiji

India

Indonesia

Iran

Iraq

Ivory Coast

Trinidad and Tobago

Venezuela

62. At its 189th meeting, on 27 February, Sub-Committee II elected Mr. Yilma Tadesse (Ethiopia) as Chairman, Mr. Mohamad Sidik (Indonesia) as Vice-Chairman and Mr. Vincent David Lasse (Trinidad and Tobago) as Rapporteur.

63. Sub-Committee II held 27 meetings, as well as a series of unofficial meetings between 27 February and 24 July, and submitted reports on the following items which had been referred to it for consideration:

- (a) New Hebrides;
- (b) Tokelau Islands;
- (c) American Samoa and Guam;
- (d) Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands;
- (e) Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Pitcairn and the Solomon Islands;
- (f) Bermuda;
- (g) United States Virgin Islands;
- (h) British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

64. An account of the Special Committee's consideration of the reports of the Sub-Committee relating to the above-mentioned Territories is contained in chapters XV to XVIII, XXI and XXIII to XXV of the present report (A/9623/Add.5 (Parts I, III and IV) and Add.6 (Part I)). The decision of the Committee relating to Brunei is set out in chapter XIX of the present report (A/9623/Add.5 (Part I)).

6. Working Group on the Implementation by the Specialized Agencies and the International Institutions Associated with the United Nations of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other Relevant Resolutions of the United Nations

65. At its 951st meeting, on 8 February, the Special Committee decided to maintain the Working Group it had established in 1973 to follow the implementation by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations. At the 952nd meeting, on 26 February, by adopting the seventy-first report of its working group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1), the Special Committee further decided that the Working Group on specialized agencies should be requested to examine, inter alia, the compliance by the organizations concerned with the relevant United Nations resolutions, particularly resolution 3118 (XXVIII). At the same meeting, the Special Committee further decided that the membership of the Working Group should be as follows:

Bulgaria
Denmark
India
Iraq
Tunisia
United Republic of Tanzania

66. At its 14th meeting, on 27 February, the Working Group elected Mr. Barakat Ahmad (India) as Chairman.

67. During the year, the Working Group held nine meetings between 27 February and 31 May and submitted one report to the Special Committee. ^{17/} An account of the Special Committee's consideration of this report is contained in chapter VI of the present report (A/9623 (Part VII)).

E. CONSIDERATION OF TERRITORIES

68. During the period covered by the present report, the Special Committee considered the following Territories:

<u>Territories</u>	<u>Meetings</u>
Territories under Portuguese domination	952-960, 963, 966, 969, 971, 979-981
Southern Rhodesia	961-968
Namibia	968-973
Spanish Sahara	981
Comoro Archipelago	978, 979, 981, 982
Antigua, Dominica, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent	981
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	981
Gibraltar; Belize; French Somaliland	981
<u>Territories referred to Sub-Committee I</u>	
Seychelles and St. Helena	974-976, 978
<u>Territories referred to Sub-Committee II</u>	
Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Pitcairn and Solomon Islands	975, 976, 987, 988
Tokelau Islands	976, 977
Bermuda	952, 975-977
British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands	976, 977
New Hebrides	971, 975-977
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	974, 976, 987, 988
Papua New Guinea	976, 982

^{17/} A/AC.109/L.981. The conclusions and recommendations of the Working Group have been reproduced in chap. VI of the present report (A/9623 (Part VII), annex II).

Territories referred to Sub-Committee II
(continued)

Meetings

American Samoa and Guam	976, 977
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands	976, 977
Brunei	976
United States Virgin Islands	975-977
Niue	974, 976, 986, 988

69. An account of the Special Committee's consideration of the Territories listed above, together with the resolutions and/or conclusions and recommendations adopted thereon, is contained in chapters VII to XXVIII of the present report (A/9623/Add.1-6).

F. QUESTION OF THE LIST OF TERRITORIES TO WHICH
THE DECLARATION IS APPLICABLE

70. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, the Special Committee, by approving the seventy-first report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1), decided, inter alia, to take up as a separate item the question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable and to refer it to the Working Group for consideration and recommendation. In taking that decision, the Special Committee recalled that, in its report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, 18/ it had stated that, subject to any directives which the General Assembly might wish to give in that connexion, it would continue, as part of its programme of work for 1974, to review the list of Territories to which the Declaration applied. The Committee further recalled that, in paragraph 2 of its resolution 3163 (XXVIII), the General Assembly had approved the report of the Special Committee, including the programme of work envisaged by the Committee during 1974.

71. At its 980th meeting, on 3 September, the Special Committee considered the question on the basis of the recommendations contained in the seventy-third report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.978). The relevant paragraph of that report read as follows:

"16. Having regard to the question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable, the Working Group decided to recommend that the Special Committee continue consideration of the item at its next session, subject to any directives which the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session might give in that connexion."

18/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1), chap. I, para. 197.

72. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted without objection the above-mentioned recommendation.

Report of the Rapporteur submitted in pursuance of paragraph 3
of the Special Committee's resolution of 30 August 1973
concerning Puerto Rico 19/

73. At its 983rd to 985th meetings, on 30 October and 1 November, the Special Committee considered the report of the Rapporteur submitted in pursuance of paragraph 3 of the Special Committee's resolution of 30 August 1973 concerning Puerto Rico.

74. At the 983rd meeting, on 30 October, the Rapporteur, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/PV.983), introduced the report (A/AC.109/L.976).

75. At the same meeting, the Chairman informed the Special Committee of the receipt of two communications, dated 28 and 29 October 1974, respectively, from Mr. Rubén Berríos Martínez, President, Puerto Rican Independence Party, and Mr. Juan Mari-Bras, Secretary General, Puerto Rican Socialist Party, expressing their wish to be heard by the Committee in connexion with its consideration of the Rapporteur's report.

76. The Chairman also informed the Special Committee, at the same meeting, that the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations had indicated his wish to make a statement in connexion with the Committee's consideration of the question. The Committee decided to accede to that request.

77. At the same meeting, Mr. Mari-Bras made a statement (A/AC.109/PV.983) with the Committee's consent. The representative of Chile made a statement (A/AC.109/PV.983).

78. At the 984th meeting, on 1 November, Mr. Berríos made a statement (A/AC.109/PV.984) with the Committee's consent.

79. At the 985th meeting, on the same date, the representative of Cuba made a statement (A/AC.109/PV.985).

80. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided, without objection, that, subject to any directives which the General Assembly might give in that regard at its twenty-ninth session, it would resume consideration of the matter during its first session in 1975.

G. QUESTION OF THE PARTICIPATION OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS
IN THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS

81. In its report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, the Special Committee, in connexion with its programme of work for 1974, stated, inter alia, as follows:

19/ Ibid., para. 84.

"196. In view of the importance which it attaches to maintaining close relations with the national liberation movements of the colonial Territories, and in conformity with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly, the Committee will once again invite the representatives of the national liberation movements recognized by OAU to participate as observers in its proceedings relating to their respective countries ...". 20/

82. At its twenty-eighth session, the General Assembly, in paragraph 2 of resolution 3163 (XXVIII), approved the programme of work envisaged by the Committee for 1974, including the decision quoted above.

83. In the light of the foregoing, and taking into account the related decision of the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, the Special Committee, in consultation with OAU and through it, invited representatives of the national liberation movements concerned to participate as observers in its consideration of the related Territories. In response to the invitation, the following national liberation movements took part in the relevant proceedings of the Special Committee:

<u>Territories</u>	<u>National liberation movements</u>
Angola	Frente Nacional para a Libertação de Angola (FNLA) Movimento Popular de Libertação de Angola (MPLA)
Cape Verde	Partido Africano da Independência da Guiné e Cabo Verde (PAIGC)
Mozambique	Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (FRELIMO)
Southern Rhodesia	Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU)
Namibia	South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO)
Comoro Archipelago	Mouvement de Libération national des Comores (MOLINACO)

84. An account of the Special Committee's consideration of the above-mentioned Territories, including references to the meetings at which statements were made by the representatives of the national liberation movements concerned, is set out in chapters VII-IX and XI of the present report (A/9623/Add.1-3 and Add.4 (Part II)).

85. At its 980th meeting, on 3 September, the Special Committee considered the question of the participation of the national liberation movements concerned in the work of the United Nations on the basis of the recommendations contained in the seventy-third report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.978). The relevant paragraphs of the report read as follows:

20/ Ibid., para. 196.

"13. ... the Working Group recalled that, at its twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth sessions, the General Assembly, in approving the related recommendations of the Special Committee, had made the necessary financial provision for the participation as observers of the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in the relevant proceedings of the Special Committee in 1973 and 1974. The representatives of those movements had accordingly taken part as observers in the Committee's consideration of the related items in 1973 and 1974. Bearing in mind the positive results thus achieved in the Committee's work as a consequence of the participation of those representatives, the Working Group agreed to recommend that, in connexion with its consideration of the related items in 1975 and subject to any directives it might receive in that regard from the General Assembly at the latter's twenty-ninth session, the Committee should invite representatives of the national liberation movements concerned to continue to take part as observers in its proceedings relating to their countries. In addition, the Working Group agreed that the Committee might consider including in the appropriate section of its report to the General Assembly a recommendation that, in making the necessary financial provisions to cover the activities of the Committee during 1975, the Assembly should also take this into account.

"14. In the same connexion, the Working Group agreed to recommend to the Special Committee that, taking into account the contributions made by the representatives of the national liberation movements who had participated in the work of the Fourth Committee at the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth sessions of the General Assembly, it should propose that the Assembly, at its forthcoming session, invite the leaders of the national liberation movements of the colonial Territories in Africa, recognized by OAU, to continue to participate as observers in the proceedings of the Fourth Committee relating to their respective countries. In that regard, the Special Committee might also suggest to the General Assembly that at the outset of its session, the Fourth Committee should consider making the necessary arrangements to ensure their participation, including the requisite financial provisions."

86. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted without objection the above recommendations of the Working Group.

Arrangements for securing information from individuals

87. At the same meeting, on the basis of the recommendations contained in the above-mentioned report of its Working Group, the Special Committee also considered the question of the arrangements to be made, whenever necessary, for securing from individuals such information as it might deem vitally important to its consideration of specific aspects of the situation obtaining in colonial Territories. The relevant paragraph of the report read as follows:

"15. ... the Working Group agreed to recommend to the Special Committee that it should continue to invite, in consultation, as appropriate, with OAU and the national liberation movements concerned, individuals who could furnish it with information on specific aspects of the situation in colonial Territories, which it might not be able to secure otherwise. The Special Committee might therefore include in the appropriate section of its report to the General Assembly a recommendation that, in making the necessary financial provisions to cover the Committee's activities during 1975, the Assembly should also take this into account."

88. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted without objection the above recommendations of the Working Group.

H. MATTERS RELATING TO THE SMALL TERRITORIES

89. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, the Special Committee, by approving the seventy-first report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1), decided, inter alia, to include in its agenda for the current session an item entitled "Matters relating to the small Territories" and to consider it at its plenary and sub-committee meetings, as appropriate. At the same meeting, on the basis of a recommendation contained in the same report, the Committee also decided to hold a general exchange of views on the item, which could subsequently be taken into account by the sub-committees concerned in connexion with their examination of the specific items allocated to them.

90. In taking these decisions, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of resolution 3163 (XXVIII), by paragraph 14 of which the General Assembly requested the Committee "to continue to pay particular attention to the small Territories and to recommend to the General Assembly the most appropriate methods and also the steps to be taken to enable the populations of these Territories to exercise fully and without further delay their right to self-determination and independence". The Special Committee also paid due regard to other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly those concerning the small Territories.

91. The general exchange of views on the item took place at the 970th meeting, on 4 April, during which statements were made by the representatives of Venezuela, Australia, Indonesia, Denmark, Fiji, Iraq, India and Bulgaria, as well as by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.970). At the same meeting, statements were also made by the representatives of the United Kingdom and New Zealand (A/AC.109/PV.970).

92. Subsequently, the Special Committee, in approving the various relevant reports of Sub-Committees I and II, noted that these bodies had taken into account the pertinent provisions of the above-mentioned General Assembly resolutions in examining the specific Territories referred to them for consideration.

I. WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE COLONIAL PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA AND
CAPE VERDE FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM, INDEPENDENCE AND EQUAL RIGHTS

93. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, the Special Committee, by approving the seventy-first report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1), decided, inter alia, to include in its agenda for the current session an item entitled "Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa and Cape Verde Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Equal Rights" and to consider it at its plenary and sub-committee meetings, as appropriate.

94. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee was guided by the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2911 (XXVII) of 2 November 1972, by paragraph 2 of which the Assembly recommended that, "on the occasion of the Week, meetings should be held, appropriate materials should be published in the press and broadcast on radio and television and public campaigns should be conducted with a view to obtaining contributions to the Assistance Fund for the Struggle against Colonialism and Apartheid established by the Organization of African Unity".

95. In the light of the foregoing and on the basis of the related recommendation of the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information (A/9623 (Part IV), chap. II), the activities organized by the Special Committee in observance of the Week of Solidarity included the following:

(a) On 15 May 1974, the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information held a briefing for representatives of the news media accredited to the United Nations, during which he explained the significance of the Week and gave details on the events envisaged by the Special Committee to mark its observance;

(b) On 22 May, in co-operation with the Office of Public Information, of the Secretariat, the Chairman of the Special Committee opened a public exhibition of photographs, books and magazines depicting the struggle of the colonial peoples for freedom and independence, with particular emphasis on the work of reconstruction carried out by the peoples and the national liberation movements concerned in the liberated areas of the colonial Territories in southern Africa;

(c) On the same day, the Chairman of the Special Committee officially marked the opening of the Week of Solidarity with a press conference, during which he emphasized the importance of public information and the role of the news media in rallying support for the liberation struggle of colonial peoples, and urged the international press to lend its fullest possible co-operation;

(d) On 22 and 23 May, an informal panel discussion was held, in the context of the 205th to 207th meetings of the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information (A/AC.109/SC.1/SR.205-207), to consider ways and means of improving the dissemination of information on decolonization. In addition to members of the Special Committee, participants in the panel included members of a number of permanent missions of Member States to the United Nations, representatives of the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, members of the United Nations Council for Namibia, the Special Committee on Apartheid and the Commission on Human Rights, representatives of national liberation movements from colonial Territories in Africa, as well as a large number of representatives of the information media and non-governmental

organizations active in the field of decolonization. The Assistant Executive Secretary of OAU to the United Nations also participated in the panel discussion;

(e) On 23 May, the Office of Public Information held a public screening of two films depicting the liberation struggle of the peoples of the colonial Territories in southern Africa.

J. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

96. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, the Special Committee, by approving the seventy-first report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1), decided, inter alia, to include in its agenda for the current session an item entitled "International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination" and to consider it at its plenary and sub-committee meetings, as appropriate.

97. The Special Committee considered the item at its 974th and 981st meetings, on 17 May and 5 September.

98. At its 974th meeting, by approving the seventy-second report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.945), the Special Committee recalled that, having regard to the tasks entrusted to the Committee under article 15 of the Convention, the General Assembly, in paragraph 3 of resolution 3134 (XXVIII), had endorsed the request addressed to the Special Committee by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination for certain specific information which the latter Committee wished to secure from the administering Powers on the Territories under their administration. 21/ In the light of the foregoing, the Special Committee, by approving the same report, decided to request its Chairman to bring to the attention of the administering Powers concerned, for appropriate action, the relevant parts of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Accordingly, by notes verbales dated 28 May 1974, the Chairman drew the attention of the Governments of Australia, France, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to the relevant parts of the above-mentioned report.

99. At the 981st meeting, on the proposal of the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.981), the Special Committee, having regard to the information requested of it under the relevant decisions of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination contained in the latter's statement of 29 January 1970, 22/ decided, without objection, to authorize its Chairman to transmit to that Committee:

(a) Copies of the petitions relevant to the Convention;

(b) Such other Special Committee documents as might contain information about the petitioners concerned;

21/ Ibid., Supplement No. 18 (A/9018), chap. VII, para. 335, and chap X, sect. B, decision 2 (VIII).

22/ Ibid., Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/8023/Rev.1), chap. I, para. 91.

(c) An indication to the effect that the information contained in those petitions was fully taken into account by the Special Committee in its consideration of the relevant items; and

(d) Records of the meetings at which the relevant items were considered and the petitioners were heard.

100. As regards the petitions referred to in paragraph 99 (a) above, the Special Committee authorized its Chairman to transmit to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination the following petitions, which had been circulated as documents of the Special Committee in 1974:

<u>Petition</u>	<u>Territory</u>
A/AC.109/PET.1253	Southern Rhodesia
A/AC.109/PET.1254	Spanish Sahara

101. In taking the foregoing decisions relating to the Convention, the Special Committee recalled that an integral part of the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly in resolution 1514 (XV), namely, to bring about the immediate and full application of the Declaration to "all Territories which are not yet independent", was a call for the attainment of that objective "without any distinction as to race, creed or colour". Further, the Committee recalled that the General Assembly, in resolution 3163 (XXVIII), had reaffirmed its view that "racial discrimination, apartheid and violations of basic human rights of the peoples in colonial Territories can be eradicated fully and with the greatest speed by the faithful and complete implementation of the Declaration". In the view of the Committee, the full implementation of the Declaration necessarily implied the exercise by all peoples under colonial domination of the right to self-determination and of all other basic human rights.

K. RELATIONS WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS BODIES AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

1. Security Council

102. In paragraph 12 of its resolution 3163 (XXVIII), the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security", and recommended that the Council "take such suggestions fully into consideration".

103. In accordance with this request, the Special Committee drew the attention of the Security Council to a number of its decisions relating to colonial Territories in southern Africa, as follows:

<u>Decision</u>	<u>Relating to</u>	<u>Document</u>
Resolution of 15 March 1974	Territories under Portuguese domination	S/11247

<u>Decision</u>	<u>Relating to</u>	<u>Document</u>
Resolution of 2 April 1974	Southern Rhodesia	S/11262
Resolution of 5 April 1974	Territories under Portuguese domination	S/11261
Consensus of 8 April 1974	Namibia	S/11260

104. Details of the Special Committee's consideration of the items leading to the above-mentioned decisions are set out in chapters VII-IX of the present report (A/9623/Add.1-3).

2. Trusteeship Council

105. During the year, the Special Committee continued to follow closely the work of the Trusteeship Council relating to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and Papua New Guinea. An account of the Committee's consideration of these Territories is set out in chapters XVIII and XX of the present report (A/9623/Add.5 (Parts I and II)).

3. Economic and Social Council

106. In connexion with the Special Committee's consideration of the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, and in accordance with paragraph 12 of resolution 3118 (XXVIII) relating to that item, consultations were held in June 1974 between the President of the Economic and Social Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee and, in July between the Chairman of the Council's Policy and Programme Co-ordination Committee and the Vice-Chairman of the Special Committee, to consider "appropriate measures for co-ordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies ... in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly". An account of these consultations, as well as of the Special Committee's consideration of the item, is reflected in chapter VI of the present report (A/9623 (Part VII)).

4. United Nations Council for Namibia

107. Having regard to its own mandate, the Special Committee followed closely during the year the work of the United Nations Council for Namibia. Their respective officers maintained a close and continuous working relationship. In addition, the President of the Council and his representatives participated in the work of the Committee relating to the question of Namibia, in accordance with established practice. Further, with a view to facilitating the work of the respective bodies, arrangements were made on a number of occasions for a co-ordinated representation of the Special Committee, the United Nations Council for Namibia and the Special Committee on Apartheid at various meetings organized during the year by non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization (see paras. 117-127 below). Further, in accordance with a decision taken by the Special Committee at its 976th meeting, on 20 August, the Chairman and one of the Vice-Chairman of the Committee made statements at special meetings organized by the Council on 26 August at Georgetown, Guyana, and at United Nations Headquarters in observance of Namibia Day (A/AC.131/SR.207).

5. Commission on Human Rights

108. During the year, the Special Committee followed closely the work of the Commission on Human Rights, particularly in regard to the question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the policies of racial discrimination and segregation and of apartheid, in all countries, with special reference to colonial and other dependent countries and Territories, and to the implementation of United Nations resolutions relating to the right of peoples under colonial and alien domination to self-determination.

109. In its consideration of the dependent Territories in southern Africa, the Special Committee paid close attention in particular to the Commission on Human Rights' consideration of an item entitled "The adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to colonial and racist régimes in southern Africa". The Committee also took into account the interim report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts submitted under resolution 19 (XXIX) of the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/1135), relating specifically to developments concerning the policies of apartheid and racial discrimination prevailing, inter alia, in Namibia, Southern Rhodesia, Angola and Mozambique. Further, the Committee paid due regard to the report of the Seminar on the Study of New Ways and Means for Promoting Human Rights with Special Attention to the Problems and Needs of Africa (ST/TAO/HR/48), which was organized by the Secretary-General, under the terms of General Assembly resolution 2860 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971, in co-operation with the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, and which was held at Dar es Salaam from 23 October to 5 November 1973.

6. Special Committee on Apartheid

110. Bearing in mind the repercussions of the policies of apartheid on the situation in the dependent Territories in southern Africa, the Special Committee also paid close attention during the year to the work of the Special Committee on Apartheid and the respective committee officers maintained close contact as regards matters of common interest. In addition, the Chairman of the Special Committee, on 23 May, sent a message to the Special Committee on Apartheid in connexion with the latter's special session in Europe, with a request that his statement be placed in the record of that Committee. Further, as indicated in paragraph 107 above, arrangements were made on various occasions during the year to co-ordinate the representation of the Special Committee, the Special Committee on Apartheid and the United Nations Council for Namibia at meetings organized by non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization (see paras. 117-127 below).

7. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

111. At its 952nd, 974th and 981st meetings, on 26 February, 17 May and 5 September, the Special Committee took decisions relating to the relevant provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, in the light of the requests addressed to it by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (see paras. 96-101 above).

8. Specialized agencies and international institutions
associated with the United Nations

112. In accordance with the requests contained in the relevant General Assembly resolutions, the question of 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 continued to engage the close attention of the Special Committee. In the same context, the Committee, through its working group on the item, held consultations with officials of several organizations. An account of these consultations, as well as of the Special Committee's consideration of the question, is set out in chapter VI of the present report (A/9623 (Part VII)).

113. During the year, the Special Committee adopted a number of decisions relating to the extension of assistance to the peoples of colonial Territories in southern Africa. These decisions are reflected in chapters VII to IX of the present report (A/9623/Add.1-3).

L. CO-OPERATION WITH THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

114. Bearing in mind its earlier decision to maintain contact with OAU on a regular basis in order to assist in the effective discharge of the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly, the Special Committee, as in previous years, followed closely the work of OAU during the year and maintained close liaison with its General Secretariat on matters of common interest. In particular, the Special Committee again received the full co-operation of the Executive Secretary of that organization who, in accordance with the standing invitation extended by the Special Committee, attended and actively participated in the work of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies.

115. The Special Committee was represented by Mr. Rachid Driss, the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, one of its members, at the twenty-third ordinary session of the Council of Ministers and the Eleventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU held at Mogadiscio from 6 to 11 and from 12 to 15 June 1974 respectively. The report of the representative of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/L.969) to the above-mentioned meetings, which was approved at the 982rd meeting, on 6 September, contains an account, inter alia, of his participation in the related proceedings and of his consultations with officials of OAU and representatives of the national liberation movements.

116. During the year, the Special Committee also maintained close liaison with OAU in the context of the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant United Nations resolutions by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, particularly on matters relating to the extension of assistance to the peoples of the colonial Territories in Africa, including the populations of the liberated areas of these Territories and their national liberation movements. In connexion with the consideration of the related item by the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-seventh session, Mr. Mehdi Ehsassi, Vice-Chairman of the Special Committee had the opportunity to hold extensive consultations on behalf of the Committee with the Executive Secretary of OAU at Geneva on the subject (see A/9623 (Part VII), chap. VI).

M. CO-OPERATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

117. As in previous years, the Special Committee followed closely the activities of non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization. In particular, having regard to the relevant provisions of resolution 3163 (XXVIII) and 3164 (XXVIII), and in accordance with its own related decisions, the Special Committee was represented during the year at meetings organized by several organizations. In addition, consultations were held with officials of these organizations on matters of common concern, including the dissemination of information on decolonization and the extension of assistance to the peoples in the colonial Territories and their liberation movements. An account of the Committee's endeavours to enlist the support of the organizations concerned in these fields is set out in chapter II of the present report (A/9623 (Part IV)). An outline of the contacts maintained by the Committee during the year with some of these organizations is given below.

1. World Peace Council

118. During the year, the World Peace Council (WPC) invited the Special Committee to be represented on the following occasions:

(a) Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Apartheid and Decolonization of the Special Non-Governmental Organizations' Committee on Human Rights (Geneva), held at Geneva on 28 January;

(b) Session of the World Peace Council held at Sofia, between 16 and 19 February (A/AC.109/PV.951);

(c) Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Apartheid and Decolonization of the Special Non-Governmental Organizations' Committee on Human Rights (Geneva), held at Geneva on 23 and 24 February (A/AC.109/PV.954);

(d) Twenty-fifth anniversary session of the World Peace Council Presidential Committee and Anniversary Conference, held at Paris between 26 and 30 May (A/AC.109/PV.951 and 974);

(e) International Non-Governmental Organizations' Conference against Apartheid and Colonialism in Africa, held at Geneva between 2 and 5 September (A/AC.109/PV.976 and Corr.1).

119. As regards the invitation referred to in paragraph 118 (a) above, the Chairman sent a message to the Secretary-General of the World Peace Council expressing the Special Committee's appreciation of the Council's invitation and its continued solidarity with the aims and purposes of that organization.

120. With respect to paragraph 118 (b) above, the Special Committee, in the light of a decision taken at its 951st meeting, on 8 February (A/AC.109/PV.951), and bearing in mind the related decision of the Special Committee on Apartheid to be represented on that occasion, decided to request the representative of that Committee, with the latter's concurrence, to follow the relevant proceedings on its behalf. The Special Committee, in connexion with its consideration of the pertinent items on its agenda, took due account of the related report submitted to the Special Committee on Apartheid by the latter's representative (A/AC.115/SR.275).

121. As concerns the invitation referred to in paragraph 118 (c) above, the Special Committee, on the basis of the Chairman's consultations with members and bearing in mind the decision of the United Nations Council for Namibia to be represented at that meeting, agreed to request the representative of Zambia, who would attend the meeting on behalf of the Council, to represent it as well. At the 954th meeting, on 7 March, Mr. Gibson Roberts Zimba, the representative of Zambia, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/PV.954), submitted a report on his participation in the meeting of the Sub-Committee. The Chairman made a statement in that connexion (A/AC.109/PV.954).

122. Having regard to the invitation referred to in paragraph 118 (d) above, the Special Committee decided that it should be represented by its Chairman and its Rapporteur at the meetings of the World Peace Council. At its 978th meeting, on 28 August, the Special Committee decided to take into account the relevant

observations included in the related reports to the Special Committee by the Chairman and the Rapporteur (see A/9623 (Part IV) chap. II, annexes II and III) containing an account of their participation in the Conference and consultations with officials of the World Peace Council.

123. As regards paragraph 118 (e) above, the Special Committee was represented at the Conference by Mr. Philip Johnathan Palmer, the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations, and by Mr. Stanislav Suja, the representative of Czechoslovakia. An oral report covering the activities of the representatives of the Special Committee is reproduced in the record of the 983rd meeting of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/PV.983).

2. Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization

124. At the 952nd meeting of the Special Committee on 26 February, the Chairman drew attention to a communication from the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) inviting the Committee to be represented at: (a) the eleventh session of the AAPSO Council, to be held at Baghdad from 24 to 27 March; and (b) a preparatory meeting for an International Conference in Support of the Zimbabwe People's Struggle for Freedom and Independence, to be held in the same city on 28 March. The Special Committee was represented on these occasions by Mr. Nicolas Mondjo, the Permanent Representative of the Congo to the United Nations.

3. Anti-Apartheid Movement in the United Kingdom

125. During his visit to London in May 1974, the Chairman held consultations with officials of the Anti-Apartheid Movement in the United Kingdom and, on 30 May, addressed a meeting organized by that organization and attended by members of the United Kingdom Parliament, members of the Commonwealth Secretariat, several High Commissioners and other representatives of the diplomatic corps and the press, as well as members of the national and local committees of the Anti-Apartheid Movement in the United Kingdom and other non-governmental organizations. An account of the Chairman's consultations with, inter alia, representatives of the Anti-Apartheid Movement is set out in chapter II of the present report (A/9623 (Part IV), annex II).

4. World Federation of Democratic Youth

126. In connexion with the holding, on 3 February, of a Day of Solidarity with the People of Angola, the Bureau of the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY), in a communication to the Special Committee dated 16 January 1974, appealed to world public opinion to strengthen political and material solidarity with the people of the Territory and expressed its support for all actions to this end. In response to the appeal, the Chairman, in a telegram dated 21 January 1974 addressed to the Bureau of the Federation, sent a message expressing the Special Committee's support for the struggle of the peoples of the Territories under Portuguese domination and reaffirming the Committee's solidarity with the activities of the Federation in the field of decolonization.

5. Other non-governmental organizations

127. On the occasion of a visit to Canada in June 1974 within the framework of the activities of the Working Group dealing with the specialized agencies, the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information held consultations with several non-governmental organizations in that country, including the OXFAM (Oxford Committee for Famine Relief), the Programme d'animateurs pour l'éducation au développement (DEAP) and the United Nations Association in Canada. An account of these consultations is set out in chapter II of the present report (A/9623 (Part IV), chap. II, annex IV).

N. CONSIDERATION OF OTHER MATTERS

1. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations and related questions

128. In accordance with the relevant provisions of resolution 3110 (XXVIII), the Special Committee continued its study of the above item. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is set out in chapter XXIX of the present report (A/9623/Add.7).

2. 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 Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and Territories under Portuguese domination and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa

129. In accordance with paragraph 13 of resolution 3117 (XXVIII), the Special Committee continued its study of the above item. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is set out in chapter IV of the present report (A/9623 (Part V)).

3. 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

130. As envisaged in its programme of work for 1974, 23/ which was approved by the General Assembly in paragraph 2 of resolution 3163 (XXVIII), the Special Committee continued its study of the above item. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is set out in chapter V of the present report (A/9623 (Part VI)).

4. Compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on the question of decolonization

131. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, the Special Committee, by approving the

23/ Ibid., Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1), chap. 1, para. 198.

seventy-first report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1), decided inter alia, to request the bodies concerned to take the above item into consideration in the discharge of the tasks entrusted to them by the Committee.

132. The subsidiary bodies accordingly took that decision into account in examining the items referred to them for consideration. The Special Committee also took that decision into account in its consideration of specific items in plenary meetings.

5. Deadline for the accession of Territories to independence

133. In its report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, the Special Committee, with reference to its programme of work for 1974, stated, inter alia, as follows:

"In line with the expressed wish of the Assembly, the Special Committee will recommend, whenever it considers proper and appropriate, a deadline for the accession to independence of each Territory in accordance with the wishes of the people and the provisions of the Declaration ...". 24/

134. At its twenty-eighth session, the General Assembly, in paragraph 2 of resolution 3163 (XXVIII), approved the programme of work envisaged by the Special Committee for 1974, including the decision quoted above.

135. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, the Special Committee, by approving the seventy-first report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/920 and Corr.1), and in requesting Sub-Committees I and II to carry out the tasks assigned to them, drew their attention to the above decision. The sub-committees accordingly took that decision into account in examining the specific Territories referred to them for consideration. The Committee also took the above-mentioned decision into account in its consideration of specific Territories in plenary meetings.

6. Question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters

136. In its report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, the Special Committee, in connexion with its work programme for 1974, stated, inter alia, as follows:

"... In the same connexion, the Committee took into consideration the provisions of paragraph 6 of resolution 1654 (XVI) and paragraph 3 (9) of resolution 2621 (XXV), by which the Assembly authorized the Committee to meet elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters whenever and wherever such meetings might be required for the effective discharge of its functions. Following its consideration of the matter, the Committee, bearing in mind the constructive results flowing from the holding of meetings away from Headquarters in previous years, decided to inform the General Assembly that it might consider holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters during 1974 and to recommend that, in making the necessary financial provision to cover the activities of the Committee during that year, the General Assembly should take that possibility into account. In reaching this decision, the Committee recalled that it had not held meetings away from Headquarters during 1973, although the General Assembly had made the necessary financial provision for that purpose." 25/

24/ Ibid., para. 197.

25/ Ibid., para. 203.

137. At its twenty-eighth session, the General Assembly, in paragraph 2 of resolution 3163 (XXVIII), approved the programme of work envisaged by the Special Committee for 1974, including the decision quoted above.

138. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, the Special Committee, by approving the seventy-first report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1), decided, inter alia, to take up the question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters as a separate item and to consider it at its plenary and sub-committee meetings, as appropriate.

139. At its 980th meeting, on 3 September, on the basis of the recommendations contained in the seventy-third report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.978), the Special Committee considered the question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters in 1975. At the same meeting, by approving that report, the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to include in the appropriate section of its report to the General Assembly, first, a statement to the effect that it might consider holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters during 1975, and secondly, a recommendation that, in making the necessary financial provisions to cover the activities of the Committee during that year, the General Assembly should take such a possibility into account. The Special Committee recalled in that connexion that, although the General Assembly had made the necessary financial provision for that purpose, the Committee had not held meetings away from Headquarters since 1972.

7. Co-operation and participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee

140. In paragraph 15 of its resolution 3163 (XXVIII), the General Assembly called upon the administering Powers which had not done so "to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, in particular, to participate in the work of the Committee relating to the Territories under their administration." In response to the above request, the administering Powers listed below participated in the work of the Special Committee.

Australia

141. By virtue of its membership in the Special Committee, the Government of Australia continued to participate actively in the Committee's consideration of the Territories under its administration, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Papua New Guinea. In particular, as reflected in chapter XX of the present report (A/9623/Add.5 (Part II)), the Government of Australia extended its full co-operation to the Committee in connexion with the work of the visiting mission sent in August to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

New Zealand

142. In regard to the Territories under its administration, the Government of New Zealand also continued to participate actively in the related work of the Special Committee. In particular, as reflected in chapter XXII of the present report (A/9623/Add.5 (Part V)), the Government of New Zealand extended its full co-operation to the Committee in connexion with the work of the visiting mission sent in August-September to Niue.

Portugal

143. In a letter dated 24 July 1974, addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/452), the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations stated, inter alia, as follows:

"... I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Portugal intends to co-operate with the Special Committee.

"We consider that this co-operation will contribute to the affirmation and strengthening of the principles and rules of the United Nations Charter."

As reflected in chapter VII of the present report (A/9623/Add.1 (Parts I and II)), the representative of Portugal kept the Chairman of the Special Committee informed of the related developments in the Territories concerned.

Spain

144. During the year, the Government of Spain indicated its continued readiness to participate in the substantive consideration by the Special Committee of the question of Spanish Sahara.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

145. In a letter dated 13 June 1974 addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/450), the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations stated, inter alia, as follows:

"... I should also like to inform you that we shall be happy to provide the Special Committee with up-to-date information on recent developments in Non-Self-Governing Territories for which we are responsible, and to use our best endeavours to respond to any request for further information that the Special Committee may make. We also stand ready to take part in meetings of the Special Committee and its sub-committees on United Kingdom Non-Self-Governing Territories should we be asked to do so.

"My Government now looks forward to a period of far greater mutual co-operation with the Special Committee than has been the case in the recent past. The Special Committee's objectives are shared by the United Kingdom, and my Government's earnest hope is that our work can be carried forward in this way."

146. In keeping with the undertaking given in the above communication, the Government of the United Kingdom participated in the related work of the Special Committee, as reflected in chapters X, XV, XXI, XXIII and XXV of the present report (A/9623/Add.4 (Part I), Add. 5 (Parts I, III and IV) and Add. 6 (Part I)). In particular, as indicated in chapter XXI of the report, the Government of the United Kingdom extended its full co-operation to the Committee in connexion with the work of a visiting mission sent in August to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

United States of America

147. The Government of the United States continued to participate actively in the work of the Special Committee relating to American Samoa, Guam and the United States Virgin Islands.

8. Pattern of conferences

148. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, the Special Committee, by approving the seventy-first report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1), decided, inter alia, to take up separately an item entitled "Pattern of conferences" and to refer the item to its Working Group for consideration and recommendations.

149. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee was guided by the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions.

150. At its 980th meeting, on 3 September, the Special Committee, by approving the seventy-third report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.978), decided that, in the light of its experience in previous years, and taking into account the probable workload for 1975, the Committee should hold two sessions during 1975, the first of which should extend from the middle of January to the first week of July, and the second from the first week of August to the first week of September. It was the understanding of the Committee, in taking the foregoing decision, that the programme recommended would not preclude the holding of extra-session meetings on an emergency basis if developments so warranted. Further, the first session would include such meetings away from Headquarters as the Committee might decide to hold during 1975 (see paras. 136-139 above). It was also understood that the Committee might review its meetings programme for 1975 early in that year on the basis of any developments which might affect its programme of work.

151. With regard to the programme of meetings of the Special Committee for 1976, it was agreed that, subject to any directives the General Assembly might give in that connexion, the Committee should adopt a programme similar to that suggested for 1975.

9. Control and limitation of documentation

152. At its 974th and 980th meetings, on 17 May and 3 September, the Special Committee, on the basis of the recommendations contained in the seventy-second and seventy-third reports of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.945 and L.978), examined the possibility of taking further measures to control and limit its documentation in the light of the relevant decisions of the General Assembly.

153. At its 980th meeting, on 3 September, the Special Committee decided to maintain the existing form and organization of its report to the General Assembly for the current year and to continue its examination of appropriate measures to be taken in that regard at its next session, subject to any decision which the General Assembly might take at its twenty-ninth session and on the basis of such additional information as might be received from the Department of Conference Services in that connexion.

10. Other questions

154. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, the Special Committee, by approving the seventy-first report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1), decided, inter alia, to request the bodies concerned, in their examination of specific Territories, to take into account the relevant provisions of the following General Assembly resolutions:

- (a) Resolution 3120 (XXVIII) concerning offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;
- (b) Resolution 3119 (XXVIII) concerning the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa;
- (c) Resolution 3165 (XXVIII) concerning the International Conference of Experts for the Support of Victims of Colonialism and Apartheid in Southern Africa;
- (d) Resolution 3057 (XXVIII) concerning the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;
- (e) Resolution 3063 (XXVIII) concerning the effects of atomic radiation;
- (f) Resolution 3066 (XXVIII) concerning co-operation between the United Nations and OAU;
- (g) Resolution 3070 (XXVIII) concerning the importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights;
- (h) Resolution 3073 (XXVIII) concerning the strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of co-operation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States;
- (i) Resolution 3078 (XXVIII) concerning the urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests;
- (j) Resolution 3080 (XXVIII) concerning the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace;
- (k) Resolution 3102 (XXVIII) concerning the respect for human rights in armed conflicts;
- (l) Resolution 3103 (XXVIII) concerning the basic principles of the legal status of the combatants struggling against colonial and alien domination and racist régimes;
- (m) Resolution 3140 (XXVIII) concerning concerted action on the national and international levels to meet the needs and aspirations of youth and to promote their participation in national and international development;
- (n) Resolution 3141 (XXVIII) concerning youth, its education and its responsibilities in the world today;
- (o) Resolution 3150 (XXVIII) concerning the use of scientific and technological developments in the interests of peace and social development;
- (p) Resolutions 3151 B, D, and F (XXVIII) concerning the policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa;

(q) Resolution 3171 (XXVIII) concerning permanent sovereignty over natural resources;

(r) Resolution 3185 (XXVIII) concerning the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security;

(s) Resolution 3187 (XXVIII) concerning the restitution of works of art to countries victims of expropriation.

155. This decision was taken into account during the consideration of specific Territories and other items at both sub-committee and plenary meetings.

156. In addition, having regard to subparagraph 154 (d) above, the Chairman, in accordance with a decision taken by the Special Committee at its 952nd meeting on the basis of a recommendation contained in the seventy-first report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1, para. 15), issued, in connexion with the observance on 21 March of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, a statement concerning the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. The text of the statement is set out in the related report of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council under General Assembly resolution 3057 (XXVIII) (see E/5474, para. 25).

O. REVIEW OF WORK 26/

157. In its resolution 3163 (XXVIII), the General Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of resolutions 1514 (XV) and 2621 (XXV) in all Territories which had not attained independence and, in particular, to formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism. The Assembly further requested the Special Committee to continue to examine the compliance of Member States with the Declaration and with other relevant resolutions on decolonization, particularly those relating to the Territories under Portuguese domination, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia. In addition, the Assembly requested the Special Committee to make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that were likely to threaten international peace and security, and recommend that the Council should take such suggestions fully into consideration. In the same resolution, the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to pay particular attention to the small Territories and to recommend to the General Assembly the most appropriate methods and also the steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise fully and without any further delay their right to self-determination and independence. The Assembly also requested the Special Committee to continue to enlist the support of national and international organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization in the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and in the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. Further, in its resolutions 3163 (XXVIII) and 3164 (XXVIII), the General Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the effective dissemination of information on decolonization, and called upon the administering Powers to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, in particular, to participate in the work of the Committee relating to the Territories under their administration. In addition, the General Assembly, in a number of other resolutions, assigned to the Special Committee specific tasks relating to individual Territories and other items on its agenda.

158. In the course of its work during the year, the Special Committee, bearing in mind the specific requests addressed to it by the General Assembly in resolution 3163 (XXVIII), reviewed the implementation of the Declaration and the programme of action as well as the various United Nations resolutions relating to the colonial Territories and, in the light of developments, formulated recommendations for the application of further measures by States, by the competent United Nations organs, and by the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, with a view to accelerating the pace of

26/ This section contains a brief review of the principal decisions taken by the Special Committee during its 1974 session. A full account of these and other decisions is given in the relevant chapters of the present report. The views and reservations expressed by individual members on matters reviewed in this section are contained in the records of the meetings at which they were discussed, references to which are also included in the relevant chapters referred to above.

decolonization and the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants. The Committee also continued, in accordance with resolution 3117 (XXVIII), its study of the activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration in Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and Territories under Portuguese domination and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa. In addition, the Committee, in the light of the relevant provisions of resolutions 3163 (XXVIII) and 3156 (XXVIII), continued its consideration of the military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration and are incompatible with the provisions of relevant General Assembly resolutions. Further, the Committee under the terms of the relevant provisions of resolution 3118 (XXVIII), continued its examination of the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations and adopted a series of recommendations for the attention of the General Assembly. Further, taking into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, the Committee examined the questions of sending visiting missions to Territories and the publicity to be given to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization. Finally, the Committee carried out a number of other specific responsibilities entrusted to it by the General Assembly in various resolutions and undertook other tasks arising from its own previous decisions.

159. The programme of work of the Special Committee, as outlined above, kept the Committee fully occupied throughout its session. Moreover, many of the matters entrusted to the Committee had called for its intensified consideration. Furthermore, the Committee undertook an extensive examination of conditions prevailing in smaller Territories, including in particular the sending of visiting missions to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in the Indian Ocean and Niue and the Gilbert and Ellice Islands in the Pacific. Nevertheless, the Committee was able, by adhering to a heavy schedule of meetings between January and November and by holding, as appropriate, a series of informal consultations among the members, to give adequate consideration to, and submit recommendations on, most of the items on its agenda and, as regards the remaining ones, to transmit information to the General Assembly which would facilitate their consideration by the Assembly at its twenty-ninth session.

160. As envisaged in its report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session and taking into account the related decision of the Assembly at that session, the Special Committee, bearing in mind the progress towards independence and freedom made by the national liberation movements of several Territories under colonial domination and mindful of the need to maintain close contact with these movements in the discharge of the tasks entrusted to it by the Assembly, again invited the representatives of the liberation movements concerned, in consultation with OAU, to participate as observers in its proceedings relating to their respective countries. Thus, the Committee had the benefit of receiving valuable information on the Territories concerned through the active participation in its work of representatives of ZANU and ZAPU, in connexion with its consideration of Zimbabwe; FRELIMO, PAIGC, MPLA and FNLA, in connexion with its consideration of the African Territories under Portuguese domination; SWAPO, in connexion with its consideration of Namibia; and MOLINACO, in connexion with its consideration of the Comoro Archipelago. In addition, the Committee was able to take into account the views

expressed during the meetings held, in conformity with the relevant provisions of resolution 2911 (XXVII), to mark the Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa and Cape Verde Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Equal Rights.

161. At the beginning of its 1974 session, the Special Committee once again examined closely the critical situation obtaining in the Territories under Portuguese domination and, with a view to the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration with respect to those Territories, adopted resolutions demanding that the Government of Portugal should cease forthwith its colonial wars and discontinue all practices which violate the inalienable right of their peoples to freedom and independence. The Committee also appealed to all Governments, the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system and to the non-governmental organizations concerned, to render to the peoples of those Territories all the moral, material and economic assistance necessary to continue the struggle for their liberation.

162. In the view of the Special Committee, the overthrow on 25 April of the fascist régime in Lisbon constituted a clear demonstration of the inevitable bankruptcy of Portuguese colonialism. In noting that the entire world had long been cognizant of the futility of the policy of colonial oppression which the Portuguese régime had pursued in Africa, members emphasized that the changes had only been made possible by the determined efforts of the peoples of the Territories, led by their national liberation movements, in their struggle to regain their human dignity and their fundamental rights. These changes signalled the beginning of a new era of hope and expectation for the realization of the long-fought-for freedom and independence of the millions of Africans in the Portuguese-dominated Territories. Bearing in mind its particular responsibility concerning the Territories and in accordance with the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly in that regard, the Special Committee maintained close contact on a continuing basis during that period with leaders of the national liberation movements and the Executive Secretary of the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa, as well as with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in order to assist in the expeditious implementation of the related United Nations resolutions. In addition, both the Secretary-General and the Chairman of the Special Committee had an opportunity to hold useful and encouraging consultations with representatives of the new Government of Portugal. Following the further evolution of events in Portugal, the Government of Portugal categorically renounced the colonialist policy of the previous régime and accepted fully the relevant provisions of the Charter and the right of the peoples concerned to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration, as well as all the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. In reiterating its firm conviction that the close co-operation of the administering Powers was an essential element in the effective discharge of its tasks, the Committee welcomed these developments and, in particular, the official undertaking of the Portuguese Government to co-operate closely in the work of the competent organs of the United Nations in the implementation of the resolutions. Although encouraged by these developments, the Special Committee reiterated its firm belief that only through total and unequivocal decolonization could an era of peace be restored in the Territories under Portuguese domination. The Special Committee therefore called upon the Government of Portugal to translate into reality, as a matter of priority and without hesitation or ambiguity, its acceptance of the principles and obligations set out in the above-mentioned United Nations decisions. In that connexion, members stressed that the first and the foremost action to be taken by the Portuguese Government should be to ensure the satisfactory conclusion,

without delay, of the negotiations with the national liberation movements of the Territories concerned, by working out concrete modalities for the speediest possible transfer of all powers to the inhabitants of the Territories led by their national liberation movements and by adopting forthwith all necessary measures to remove all obstacles standing in the way of their complete and full independence. Any arrangements falling short of such measures or any undue delays in arriving at a satisfactory solution would only create obstacles to the process of decolonization and would have far-reaching implications for the peace and stability of the Territories concerned. In that context, the Special Committee welcomed the agreement reached between Guinea-Bissau and Portugal and expressed its hope that all the necessary measures would be taken without any delay towards the total decolonization of Cape Verde. At the same time, the Committee welcomed the resumption of the talks between Portugal and FRELIMO and expressed its confidence that these talks would result in a final agreement leading to the total independence of Mozambique. In paying a particular tribute to the national liberation movements whose resilience, dedication and sacrifice had made the new situation possible, the Special Committee reaffirmed its continued and unwavering support of and solidarity with the peoples of those Territories under the leadership of these movements in their determined efforts to achieve freedom and independence. At the same time, the Committee appealed to all Governments as well as the specialized agencies and the institutions associated with the United Nations to continue to extend all possible moral and material assistance to the peoples of the Territories as they entered a new and critical stage of their legitimate endeavour to attain freedom and independence. The Committee further requested all Governments to exert their efforts with a view to accelerating the process of decolonization in the Portuguese-dominated Territories as expeditiously as possible.

163. The question of Southern Rhodesia was also given high priority and received the close attention of the Special Committee during the year. In this regard, the Committee, in condemning the continued oppression of the people of Zimbabwe by the illegal racist minority régime, strongly deplored the failure of the Government of the United Kingdom, as the administering Power, to comply with the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions. In reaffirming the inalienable right of the people of Zimbabwe to self-determination, freedom and independence and the legitimacy of the struggle waged by them and their national liberation movements to secure the enjoyment of that right, the Committee reaffirmed the principle that there should be no independence before majority rule in the Territory and that any settlement relating to the Territory's future must be worked out with the participation of the genuine political leaders and the leaders of the national liberation movements, including in particular the Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole, the President of ZANU, and Mr. Joshua Nkomo, the President of ZAPU, and must be endorsed freely and fully by the people. Accordingly, the Committee called upon the Government of the United Kingdom to take all effective measures to terminate the illegal régime and to ensure the country's attainment of independence by a democratic system of government in accordance with the aspirations of the majority of the population. The Committee also called upon the Government of the United Kingdom to ensure that, in any exercise to ascertain the wishes and aspirations of the people of Zimbabwe as to their political future, the procedure should be in accordance with the principle of universal adult suffrage and by secret ballot, and without regard to any consideration of race, education or income. The Committee was deeply disturbed in particular at the negative attitude of the United Kingdom authorities in respect of the activities of the national liberation movements of the Territory, including the refusal of those authorities to issue passports and travel documents to members of the national liberation movements. The Committee requested the Government of the United Kingdom to bring about the conditions necessary to enable the people of Zimbabwe to exercise fully and freely

their right to self-determination and independence, including the expulsion of all South African forces from the Territory; the unconditional release of all political prisoners, detainees and restrictees; the repeal of all repressive and discriminatory measures; the discontinuance of the current immigration campaign; the removal of all restrictions on political activity; and the convening, as a matter of urgency, of a national constitutional conference where the genuine representatives of the people, including the national liberation movements, would be able to work out a settlement relating to the future of the Territory. In addition, in noting with satisfaction the recent achievements of the national liberation movements of Zimbabwe through their determined struggle for freedom and independence, the Committee requested all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system of which they are members, as well as the non-governmental organizations concerned and the various programmes within the United Nations, to extend to the people of Zimbabwe, through their national liberation movements, all the moral and material assistance necessary in their struggle for the restoration of their inalienable rights. With respect to the sanctions imposed on the illegal minority régime by the Security Council, the Special Committee strongly deplored that the measures taken so far had failed to bring the rebellion in Southern Rhodesia to an end and expressed deep concern in particular at recent reports of widespread violations of those mandatory sanctions. In reaffirming its conviction that sanctions would not put an end to the illegal régime unless they were comprehensive, effectively supervised, enforced and complied with, the Committee condemned all violations of the sanctions as well as the failure of certain Member States to enforce strictly the sanctions as being contrary to their obligations under Article 25 of the Charter. In particular, the Committee strongly condemned the policies of those Governments which continued to collaborate with the illegal minority régime in its domination of the people of Zimbabwe and called upon those Governments to cease such collaboration immediately. The Committee also strongly condemned the continued importation by the Government of the United States of chrome and nickel from the Territory and called upon that Government to observe faithfully and without exception the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions. In the light of these considerations, the Committee requested all Governments which had not yet done so to take stringent enforcement measures to ensure strict compliance by all individuals, associations and bodies corporate under their jurisdiction with the sanctions imposed by the Security Council and to ensure that they would discontinue any form of collaboration with the illegal régime. Further, in view of the continued deterioration of the situation resulting from the intensified repressive measures taken by that régime against the people of Zimbabwe, the Committee was of the opinion that the scope of sanctions against the régime should be widened to include all the measures envisaged under Article 41 of the Charter and accordingly invited the Security Council to consider taking the necessary measures in that regard. Having regard to the persistent refusal of the Government of South Africa to carry out the mandatory decisions of the Security Council, the Committee also drew the attention of the Council to the urgent need to consider imposing sanctions against that Government. Finally, the Committee appealed to those permanent members of the Security Council whose negative votes on various proposals relating to the question had continued to obstruct the effective discharge by the Council of its responsibilities, to reconsider their negative attitudes in order to eliminate the threat to international peace and security resulting from the situation in the Territory.

164. As regards the question of Namibia, which it considered within the context of the implementation of the Declaration, the Special Committee again expressed its

profound concern at the extremely dangerous situation created by South Africa's continued violation of its obligations under the Charter with regard to the Territory, its outright defiance of world public opinion, and its increasing resort to violence, torture and intimidation to stifle the opposition of the Namibian people to its inhuman policy of bantustanization and apartheid and their demand for the exercise of their inalienable right to freedom and national independence in accordance with United Nations decisions. The Committee noted in particular that, during the past year, and especially after the Security Council had adopted its resolution 342 (1973) terminating further efforts on the basis of its resolution 309 (1972), there had been an escalation of police terror and intimidation of Namibians both by the illegal régime of South Africa and by the authorities of the so-called "homelands". By mass arrests and detentions, brutal public floggings and denial of the basic freedoms of political expression and assembly, the South African authorities were seeking to destroy all organized political opposition in the Territory. The Committee condemned those actions as not only contrary to the assurances given to the Secretary-General by the Government of South Africa concerning its recognition and acceptance of the need for freedom of speech and freedom of political activity, but as constituting a flagrant violation of basic human rights which could only serve to render the situation in the Territory more dangerous and explosive. The Committee also expressed its profound concern for the safety of the Namibians arrested and held in detention by the South African authorities and endorsed the action taken by the United Nations Council for Namibia in bringing the matter to the attention of the Security Council. Further, the Committee considered that the recent mass arrests, the detention and trial of political leaders and the efforts to restrict the freedom of the press constituted a grave escalation of repression by the South African authorities which seriously endangered peace and security in the region. In the light of these developments and of South Africa's continued defiance of United Nations decisions, and bearing in mind the direct responsibility of the United Nations for the Territory and its people, the Committee expressed the hope that the Security Council would consider, as a matter of urgency, taking effective measures, in accordance with the Charter, to secure South Africa's compliance with its resolution 310 (1972) and previous resolutions calling for the latter's immediate withdrawal from the Territory. The Committee also condemned the support which South Africa received in perpetuating its illegal occupation of Namibia, especially from those members of NATO which continued to collaborate with the racist régime, and, in particular, from its major trading partners and from those financial, economic and other interests which, for selfish motives, had joined with the illegal régime in exploiting and exhausting the Territory's natural resources to the detriment of their rightful owners. The Committee, accordingly, called upon all States to discontinue all such support and to comply with the relevant United Nations resolutions. In the same context, the Committee noted the important decision taken by the Arab States to impose an embargo on oil exports to South Africa, in view of the repressive racist policy pursued by its Government. The Committee commended the people of Namibia for their courageous stand in the face of South Africa's ruthless and brutal repression, reaffirmed its solidarity with the Namibian people in their legitimate struggle to free their country from the racist and colonialist oppressors, and called upon all States and the specialized agencies and institutions within the United Nations system, in close co-operation with the United Nations Council for Namibia and in consultation with OAU, to provide the Namibian people, through their national liberation movement, with the increased moral and material assistance which they required in their struggle for liberation. Finally, the Committee commended the United Nations

Council for Namibia for the vigorous measures which it had taken to discharge the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly and, in particular, to protect and safeguard the interests and welfare of Namibia and its people, and it called upon all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to co-operate fully with the Council as the legitimate authority for the administration of Namibia.

165. In addition to its examination of conditions in specific Territories, the Special Committee also devoted considerable attention to the activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration in Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and Territories under Portuguese domination and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa. On the basis of its study, the Committee again expressed its concern at the fact that, during the year under review, the colonial Powers and States whose companies and nationals were engaged in such activities had continued to disregard the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and that, particularly in the colonial Territories of southern Africa, no steps had been taken to end or to restrain the activities of those foreign interests which continued to deprive the colonial peoples of the resources needed for a viable independence. In the Committee's view, the common characteristics of the activities of foreign economic interests in the majority of the colonial Territories had remained unchanged. Guided solely by their own interests, the foreign monopolies concerned had continued to follow economic and financial policies without regard to the legitimate interests of the inhabitants, exploiting the cheap labour and ruthlessly depleting the natural resources of those areas. In the colonial Territories of southern Africa, where, the Committee noted, foreign investments exceeded \$US 6 billion and monopolized practically all the local industries, foreign economic interests had continued to develop only the most profitable economic sectors and to manipulate agricultural production by emphasizing export crops -- a policy which reduced the Territories to the role of suppliers of agricultural products and raw materials and was directly counter to the inherent rights and legitimate interests of the peoples of the Territories concerned. The high profits earned by foreign monopolies continued to be returned to the colonialist countries or to remain in the hands of the exploitative minority of foreign settlers rather than be invested for the improvement of the economic, cultural and social conditions of the indigenous peoples. As a result, the broad masses of the inhabitants of the colonial Territories of southern Africa had been plunged into an abyss of misery. In that regard, the Committee noted with concern that certain States -- such as the United Kingdom, the United States, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan and Belgium, whose bodies corporate were exploiting the natural and human resources of the colonial Territories concerned -- had continued to give political and military support to the racist régimes in southern Africa. The Committee also found that the financial and technological participation of certain members of NATO in the exploitation of these Territories was tantamount to strengthening the oppressive minority racist régimes in the region. Those activities of foreign economic interests, in the Committee's view, were thus directly related to the perpetuation of colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination. In that connexion, the Committee noted with satisfaction that protest campaigns against the involvement of foreign economic interests in the exploitation of the colonial Territories had taken place during the past year in several countries. On the basis of these considerations, the Committee reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of the colonial Territories to self-determination and independence and to the

enjoyment of their natural resources, as well as their right to dispose of such resources in their best interests. It also reaffirmed that the activities of foreign economic, financial and other interests at present operating in the colonial Territories constituted a major obstacle in the way of political independence, as well as social and economic justice for the indigenous peoples. The Committee strongly condemned the present activities and operating methods of those interests in the colonial Territories as being designed to keep the colonial peoples subjugated and to thwart their efforts towards self-determination and independence. At the same time, it condemned the colonial Powers and the support given by other States to the foreign economic and other interests which were exploiting the natural and human resources of the Territories and it requested the States concerned to take effective measures to stop all such support to the colonial régimes. Further, the Committee requested all Governments and the organizations within the United Nations system, having regard to the activities of those interests which were impeding the implementation of the Declaration in the colonial Territories, to implement the relevant principles and decisions contained in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order contained in General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974. The Committee requested once again the colonial Powers and States concerned to take all necessary measures in respect of their companies and nationals who owned and operated enterprises in the colonial Territories, so as to put an end to those activities. In addition, it appealed to all Governments and the organizations within the United Nations system to bring new pressure to bear upon the colonialist and racist régimes in southern Africa with a view to their acceptance forthwith of the right to independence of the peoples concerned, and to extend assistance to the national liberation movements of the Territories for the consolidation of their national independence and reconstruction programmes, as well as for the full enjoyment of their natural resources. The Committee further requested the Office of Public Information of the Secretariat to undertake an intensified campaign of publicity to inform world public opinion of the facts concerning the pillaging of natural resources and the exploitation of the indigenous populations by foreign monopolies and the support given by them to the colonialist and racist régimes, and it requested the Secretary-General to give the widest possible publicity to the decisions of the General Assembly on this question. Finally, the Committee recommended that the question should be included as a continuing item on the agenda of the General Assembly during each of its regular sessions and that its Fourth Committee should also hold a separate debate thereon.

166. The Special Committee also continued its examination of the military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration. The Committee found that during the period under consideration, the objectives of these activities and arrangements in the colonial Territories had remained substantially as described in its previous reports, that is, to subjugate and repress the colonial peoples concerned and their national liberation movements, or to serve the strategic military interests of the colonial Powers and their allies. In noting with regret that the colonial Powers and their allies had further intensified these activities, the Committee concluded that the military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in the dependent Territories remained one of the main obstacles to decolonization. On the basis of its study, the Committee especially deplored the grave situation prevailing in southern Africa, where the colonialist and racist régimes in power had for years been waging large-scale

warfare against the colonial peoples and their national liberation movements. The information before the Committee revealed that, in their desperate efforts to stem the tide of liberation, the régimes concerned, during recent years, had substantially increased their military expenditures and expanded their armed forces, equipping them with weapons largely obtained from Western countries. In that regard, the Committee condemned in the strongest possible terms the military and naval co-operation between NATO and the colonial and racist régimes in southern Africa. With respect to the Territories under Portuguese domination, the Committee, in the light of the pledge given by the new Government of Portugal, expressed the hope that the latter would put an immediate end to the brutal and inhuman colonial wars against the peoples of the African Territories concerned, withdraw all military and paramilitary forces from those Territories and enable their peoples to exercise fully and freely their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions. As regards Southern Rhodesia, the Committee noted that the illegal minority régime in the Territory had continued to increase its military and police forces in order to repress the African freedom fighters. The racist régime of South Africa had also continued to strengthen its military capability, increasing its military budget and its use of conscription. Furthermore, the régime's nuclear programme had led to concern in East Africa that it might already be manufacturing atomic weapons. With respect to the smaller Territories, such as Guam, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Bermuda and others, the Committee noted that the colonial Powers and their allies had continued to maintain and establish military bases and other installations, contrary to the interests of the peoples of the Territories. In the light of these developments, the Committee reiterated its earlier conclusion that military activities in the dependent Territories inevitably delayed the process of decolonization of the Territories concerned and interfered with the development of their economies. It also confirmed once again that such activities, besides creating a threat to international peace and security in certain areas, were contrary to the spirit of the Charter and constituted an abuse by the administering Powers of their responsibilities towards the peoples under their administration. In view of the foregoing, the Committee demanded the immediate cessation of wars to suppress the national liberation movements, the withdrawal of all foreign troops from colonial Territories and the dismantling of military bases in those Territories. The Committee further called upon all States, particularly those members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) which continued to maintain relations with the colonialist and racist régimes in southern Africa, to withhold from those régimes all support and assistance. In addition, it requested all States having responsibility for the administration of colonial and Trust Territories to comply unconditionally with the provisions of all the relevant General Assembly resolutions, to discontinue all military activities which impede the implementation of the Declaration, and to withdraw all foreign armed forces from the Territories concerned. The Committee also requested the Office of Public Information of the Secretariat to undertake an intensified publicity campaign to inform world public opinion of the facts concerning military activities and arrangements impeding the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV).

167. In accordance with the request contained in the relevant General Assembly resolutions, the Special Committee also continued to examine the question of the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. In so doing, the Special Committee took into account the views expressed by the representatives of those

national liberation movements of the colonial Territories in Africa who had participated as observers in its work relating to their respective countries, as well as the views expressed by OAU during related consultations with the Chairman and with the members of the working group on the item. The Committee, therefore, continued to be fully apprised of the urgent and pressing need of the peoples concerned for concrete assistance from the specialized agencies and other institutions associated with the United Nations in the administration of their countries and the reconstruction programmes being undertaken by their national liberation movements. In that connexion, the Committee noted with deep concern that, although progress had been maintained in the extension of assistance to refugees from the colonial Territories in Africa, mainly through the continued efforts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the actions so far taken by the organizations concerned to assist the peoples of those Territories through their national liberation movements remained far from adequate to meet the urgent needs of these peoples. The Committee reaffirmed that the recognition by the United Nations of the legitimacy of the struggle of colonial peoples to achieve freedom and independence entailed, as a corollary, the extension by the organizations within the United Nations system of all the necessary moral and material assistance to those peoples, including especially the populations in the liberated areas of the Territories concerned and their national liberation movements. In that regard, while expressing its appreciation to those specialized agencies and organizations which had continued to co-operate, in varying degrees, with the United Nations in the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Committee reiterated its appeal to all specialized agencies and international institutions concerned as well as to all States to render, as a matter of urgency, all possible assistance to the colonial peoples in Africa struggling for their liberation. In particular, it recommended that those organizations should initiate or broaden contacts and co-operation with those peoples in consultation with OAU and, specifically, that they should work out and implement concrete programmes for such assistance with the active collaboration of the national liberation movements. Furthermore, the Committee reiterated its urgent request that the organizations concerned, including in particular the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank, should take measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to increase the scope of their assistance to refugees from colonial Territories, including assistance to the Governments concerned in the preparation and execution of projects beneficial to those refugees, and, in that connexion, that they should introduce the greatest possible measure of flexibility in their relevant procedures. The Committee also urged the organizations concerned to withhold all assistance from, and discontinue all support to, the Government of South Africa and the illegal régime of Southern Rhodesia until they restored to the peoples of Namibia and Zimbabwe their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, and to refrain from taking any action which might imply recognition of the legitimacy of the domination of the Territories by those régimes. The Committee, in welcoming the Portuguese Government's categorical renunciation of the colonialist policy of its predecessors, and in particular that Government's unequivocal acceptance of its obligations under the Charter and of the right of the peoples concerned to self-determination and independence in accordance with all the relevant United Nations resolutions, drew the attention of the organizations concerned to the steps towards decolonization taken by the new Government of Portugal, thus enabling them to resume their co-operation with the present Government. Further, in noting with satisfaction that measures had been taken by several organizations to grant observer status to the national liberation

movements, the Committee requested those organizations which had not yet done so to make appropriate procedural arrangements and, if necessary, to amend their relevant instruments, with a view to enabling representatives of the national liberation movements of the colonial Territories, recognized by OAU, to participate fully as observers in all proceedings relating to their countries, particularly so as to ensure that assistance projects of the agencies and organizations were carried out to the benefit of the national liberation movements and peoples of the liberated areas. The recommendation was also made that all Governments should intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other international organizations of which they were members to ensure the full and effective implementation of all the relevant United Nations resolutions and, in that connexion, that they should accord priority to the question of providing assistance on an emergency basis to the peoples in the colonial Territories and their national liberation movements. In that regard, the Committee considered that the executive heads of the agencies and organizations concerned should be urged to submit to their respective governing bodies or legislative organs, as a matter of priority, and in co-operation with OAU, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant United Nations decisions, in particular specific programmes of assistance to the peoples in colonial Territories and their national liberation movements, together with a comprehensive analysis of the problems, if any, confronted by those agencies and organizations. Finally, in the light of the foregoing, the Special Committee requested its Chairman to continue his consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council and to maintain contact with OAU.

168. In the light of the request addressed to the Secretary-General by the General Assembly to continue to take concrete measures through all the media at his disposal to implement its previous decisions on the matter, the Special Committee continued its consideration of the question of the publicity to be given to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization. The Committee once again stressed the need to publicize the plight of the colonial peoples and the urgent necessity for concerted efforts to assist those peoples in their struggle for liberation and national independence. Aware of the important role played during the past several years by a number of non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization, the Committee continued its consultations with several organizations and took part in meetings organized by them on matters of common interest. On the basis of those consultations, as well as of its own consideration of the question, the Committee noted that as a result of actions undertaken by non-governmental organizations such as AAPSO, the Angola Comité in the Netherlands, the Anti-Apartheid Movement, the Committee for Freedom in Angola, Mozambique and Guiné, the World Council of Churches and the World Peace Council, the barrier of silence imposed by the Western press seemed at last to have been penetrated and the policies of certain Western Governments appeared increasingly to have become opposed to the colonial and racist domination of the peoples of southern Africa. The Committee was assured in this regard of the continued and intensified support of the organizations for the work of the United Nations bodies concerned in the final elimination of the remaining vestiges of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations. In addition to its relevant consultations with non-governmental organizations, the Committee also devoted considerable attention during the year to the question within the framework of the observance of the Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa and Cape Verde Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Equal Rights. In that regard, the Chairman of the Committee, during a press conference attended by a large number of representatives of the international news media, emphasized the importance of public information as

a means of rallying support for the liberation struggle of the colonial peoples concerned and urged the international press to lend its fullest possible co-operation. Among the activities organized in connexion with the Week of Solidarity, a panel discussion held in co-operation with the Office of Public Information of the Secretariat provided a forum for an exchange of views regarding the dissemination of information on decolonization and the modalities by which the United Nations could contribute towards the effective utilization of all available ways and means in this field.

169. During the year, the Special Committee gave intensified consideration to the problem of decolonization of other Territories. As reflected in paragraphs 89 to 92 above, the Committee once again held an exchange of views regarding the smaller Territories and approved a series of concrete recommendations and proposals in regard to individual Territories. The Committee's effort to assist in accelerating the process of decolonization in those Territories was further enhanced as a result of the continued co-operation of the Governments of Australia, New Zealand and the United States, as administering Powers. In the same context, the Committee welcomed the positive decision of the Government of the United Kingdom, which is responsible for the administration of the majority of the Territories still under colonial rule, to participate in the relevant work of the Committee and to permit United Nations visiting missions access to the Territories, as appropriate. The Committee's conclusions and recommendations in regard to each specific Territory are set out in the relevant chapters of the present report.

170. The Special Committee, aware of the vital importance of securing adequate and first-hand information regarding the political, economic and social conditions prevailing in the colonial Territories, as well as on the views and aspirations of their peoples, again examined the question of visiting missions. In that regard, the Committee was particularly guided by the constructive results achieved by previous United Nations visiting missions in enhancing the capacity of the United Nations to assist the colonial peoples in attaining the goals set forth in the Charter and the Declaration. As reflected in chapters XX to XXII of the present report (A/9623/Add.5 (Parts II-V)), the Committee, at the invitation of the administering Powers concerned and in accordance with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly and of the Special Committee, dispatched visiting missions to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands and Niue. A Special Mission was sent to Niue for the purpose of observing the proceedings relating to the act of self-determination by the Niuean people. On the basis of the findings of the Special Mission, the Committee determined that, as a result of the act, the people of Niue had freely expressed their wishes and had exercised their right to self-determination in accordance with the principles of the Charter and the Declaration. As a consequence, the Committee considered that the transmission of information in respect of Niue under Article 73 e of the Charter would no longer be necessary. The Committee expressed appreciation to the members of these visiting missions for the contributions they had made, and to the administering Powers and the local Governments concerned for the assistance and co-operation extended to the missions. The Committee, on the other hand, deplored the negative attitude of certain administering Powers towards the receiving of United Nations visiting missions and called upon them to reconsider their attitude. In that regard, the Chairman was requested to continue his consultations with the representatives of the administering Powers concerned with a view to ensuring an early dispatch of such missions to the Territories under their administration. The Committee, at the same time, noted the express readiness of the Government of Portugal to co-operate closely with the Committee in connexion with the dispatch of visiting missions to the Territories concerned.

171. The Special Committee also continued its review of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable. As indicated in paragraphs 70-80 above, the Committee decided, subject to any directives which the General Assembly might wish to give in that regard at its twenty-ninth session, to take up, during its first session in 1975, the report of the Rapporteur submitted in pursuance of paragraph 3 of its resolution of 30 August 1973 relating to Puerto Rico.

172. Finally, bearing in mind the positive results achieved in its work as a consequence of the participation of representatives of the national liberation movements (see para. 160 above), the Special Committee decided that, in its consideration of the related items during 1975 and subject to any directives which it might receive in that regard from the General Assembly at the twenty-ninth session, it should invite representatives of the national liberation movements concerned to continue to take part as observers in its proceedings related to their countries. In the same connexion, the Committee decided to continue to invite, in consultation, as appropriate, with OAU and the national liberation movements concerned, individuals who could furnish it with information on specific aspects of the situation in colonial Territories, which might not be obtainable otherwise. Further, taking into account the contributions made by the representatives of the national liberation movements who had participated in the work of the Fourth Committee at the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth sessions of the General Assembly, the Special Committee decided to propose that the Assembly, at its forthcoming session, invite the leaders of the national liberation movements of the colonial Territories in Africa, recognized by OAU, to continue to participate as observers in the proceedings of the Fourth Committee relating to their respective countries. In that regard, the Special Committee suggested to the Assembly that the Fourth Committee, at the outset of the session, should consider making the necessary arrangements to ensure their participation, including the requisite financial provisions (A/C.4/770).

P. FUTURE WORK

173. In accordance with its mandate, and subject to any further directives which it may receive from the General Assembly during the twenty-ninth session, and bearing in mind the provisions of the relevant Assembly resolutions, especially resolutions 2621 (XXV) and 3163 (XXVIII), the Special Committee intends during 1975 to intensify its efforts in seeking the best ways and means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration in all Territories which have not yet attained independence. In particular, the Committee will keep under scrutiny developments concerning each Territory, as well as the compliance by the colonial Powers with the decisions and resolutions of the United Nations addressed to them. The Committee will also examine the extent of compliance by all Member States with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the programme of action for its full implementation and other United Nations resolutions on the question of decolonization. On the basis of this review and examination, the Committee will submit conclusions and recommendations as to the specific measures necessary for the achievement of the objectives set out in the Declaration and the relevant provisions of the Charter.

174. In undertaking the above-mentioned tasks, the Special Committee will continue to be guided by the provisions of paragraph 12 of resolution 3163 (XXVIII), whereby the General Assembly requested it to make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security. The Committee intends to undertake a further comprehensive review of the situation concerning these Territories, including, in particular, Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and the Territories under Portuguese domination.

175. In view of the importance which it attaches to maintaining close relations with the national liberation movements of the colonial Territories, and in conformity with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly, the Committee will once again invite the representatives of the national liberation movements recognized by OAU to participate as observers in its proceedings relating to their respective countries. Further, whenever necessary, the Committee will invite, in consultation, as appropriate, with OAU and the national liberation movements concerned, individuals who could furnish it with information on specific aspects of the situation obtaining in colonial Territories, which it might not be able to secure otherwise.

176. In line with the express wish of the General Assembly, the Special Committee will recommend, whenever it considers proper and appropriate, a deadline for the accession to independence of each Territory in accordance with the wishes of the people and the provisions of the Declaration. In addition, the Committee, as requested in paragraph 14 of resolution 3163 (XXVIII), will continue to pay particular attention to the small Territories and to recommend to the Assembly the most appropriate methods and steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise fully and without further delay their right to self-determination and independence. The Committee will also continue at its

next session to review the list of Territories to which the Declaration applies, subject to any directives which the Assembly might wish to give in that connexion.

177. Taking into account the provisions of resolution 3117 (XXVIII) concerning the activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration in Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and the Territories under Portuguese domination and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa, and of other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Special Committee intends to continue its consideration of further measures with a view to bringing to an end the activities of those foreign economic and other interests. Moreover, in the light of its conclusions and recommendations contained in chapter V of the present report (see A/9623 (Part VI)), the Committee intends to continue as appropriate its study of military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration. In doing so, the Committee will be guided by the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 9 of resolution 3163 (XXVIII) and paragraphs 5 and 11 of resolution 3156 (XXVIII).

178. As regards the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, the Special Committee intends to continue its consideration of the question during 1975. In doing so, the Committee will once again undertake a review of the action taken or envisaged by international organizations in the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in particular the provisions of those resolutions relating to the Territories in Africa. The Committee intends to maintain the Working Group to follow closely the implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions by these organizations, and, in particular, to hold further consultations and contacts with them, as appropriate. The Committee will also be guided by the results of further consultations to be held in 1975 between its Chairman and the President of the Economic and Social Council within the context of relevant decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Special Committee itself. Moreover, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of resolution 3118 (XXVIII), the Committee will maintain close contact on a regular basis with the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU as well as senior members of the organization, as also with the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and its subsidiary bodies, with a view to facilitating the effective implementation of the decisions of the various United Nations bodies by the specialized agencies and other organizations concerned.

179. In paragraph 15 of resolution 3163 (XXVIII), the General Assembly called upon the administering Powers to co-operate fully with the Special Committee by permitting the access of visiting missions to the colonial Territories in accordance with decisions previously taken by the Assembly and by the Committee. A similar provision is contained in paragraph 6 of resolution 3156 (XXVIII) and paragraph 5 of resolution 3157 (XXVIII). As will be noted in the relevant chapters of the present report, the Committee, having regard to the constructive role played by previous United Nations visiting groups, continues to attach great importance to the dispatching of such groups as a means of collecting adequate first-hand information on conditions in the Territories and on the wishes and aspirations of the people concerning their future status. Accordingly, and in the light of its resolution of 22 August 1974 (A/9623 (Part IV), chap. III, para. 13), the

Committee intends to continue to seek the full co-operation of the administering Powers in order to enable it to obtain such information through the sending, as appropriate, of visiting groups to the Territories in the Caribbean, Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean areas, and to the Territories in Africa. The Committee believes that the General Assembly will wish to address once again an appeal to the administering Powers to extend their co-operation by facilitating visits to Territories in accordance with the decisions previously taken by the Committee and with other decisions which the Committee may adopt in 1975.

180. The Special Committee, conscious of the importance which the General Assembly has attached to the mounting of a world-wide campaign of publicity in the field of decolonization and bearing in mind the provisions of resolution 3164 (XXVIII) and other relevant resolutions of the Assembly, intends to give this question continuous attention during the coming year. The Special Committee expects to continue its review of the relevant programmes of publications and other information activities envisaged by the newly established unit on information relating to decolonization and by the Office of Public Information of the Secretariat. In particular, the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information, in close co-operation and collaboration with the Secretariat, will give further consideration to ways and means of effecting the widest possible dissemination of the relevant information and will carry out a continuing programme of activities to this end. In addition, the officers of the Committee will maintain close contact on a regular basis with the appropriate offices within the Secretariat with a view to the implementation of paragraph 4 of resolution 3164 (XXVIII), by which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Special Committee and through the unit on information relating to decolonization, to collect, prepare and disseminate on a continuous basis, basic material, studies and articles relating to various aspects of decolonization. In this connexion, the Assembly will no doubt wish to invite the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts and to urge the administering Powers to co-operate with him in promoting the large-scale dissemination of information in the field of decolonization.

181. The Special Committee also attaches great importance to the contribution of non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field in support of the colonial peoples struggling for liberation. During the coming year, the Special Committee will continue to seek the close collaboration of such non-governmental organizations with a view, inter alia, to enlisting their support in the dissemination of the relevant information and in the mobilization of world public opinion in the cause of decolonization. To that end, the Committee plans to dispatch during 1975 groups of its members to hold consultations with the organizations concerned at their respective headquarters and to participate in conferences, seminars and special meetings dealing with decolonization, arranged by these organizations. In the same context, the Committee will also continue to co-operate with the Economic and Social Council in its examination of how non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council assist in the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

182. In the light of the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions concerning the pattern of conferences, and taking into consideration its experience in previous years, as well as its probable workload for next year, the Special Committee has approved a tentative programme of meetings for 1975 which it

commends for approval by the Assembly. In the same connexion, the Committee took into consideration the provisions of paragraph 6 of resolution 1654 (XVI) and paragraph 3 (9) of resolution 2621 (XXV), by which the Assembly authorized the Committee to meet elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters whenever and wherever such meetings might be required for the effective discharge of its functions. Following its consideration of the matter, the Committee, bearing in mind the constructive results flowing from the holding of meetings away from Headquarters in previous years, decided to inform the Assembly that it might consider holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters during 1975 and to recommend that, in making the necessary financial provision to cover the activities of the Committee during that year, the Assembly should take that possibility into account. In reaching this decision, the Committee recalled that it had not held meetings away from Headquarters during 1973 and 1974, although the Assembly had made the necessary financial provision for that purpose.

183. The Special Committee suggests that when the General Assembly examines the question of the implementation of the Declaration at its twenty-ninth session it may wish to take into account the various recommendations of the Committee which are reflected in the relevant chapters of the present report and, in particular, to endorse the proposals outlined in the present section, in order to enable the Committee to carry out the tasks envisaged by it. In addition, the Committee recommends that the Assembly should renew its appeal to the administering Powers to take immediately all necessary steps for the implementation of the Declaration and the relevant United Nations resolutions. In that connexion, the Committee, bearing in mind the useful results achieved as a consequence of the active participation by some of the administering Powers in its work, recommends that the Assembly should once again request the administering Powers concerned to co-operate with the Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, in particular, to participate actively in its work relating to the Territories under their respective administration. Bearing in mind the affirmation by the Assembly that direct association of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies is an effective means of promoting the progress of the peoples of those Territories towards a position of equality with Member States of the United Nations, the Committee also recommends that the Assembly should invite the administering Powers to allow representatives of the Territories concerned to participate in the discussion in the Fourth Committee and the Special Committee of the items relating to their respective countries. Further, the Assembly might also wish to renew its appeal to all States, the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, to comply with the various requests addressed to them by the Assembly and by the Security Council in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on the question of decolonization.

184. The Special Committee recommends that, in approving the programme of work outlined above, the General Assembly should also make adequate financial provision to cover the activities of the Committee envisaged for 1975. The Committee was informed that the financial implications of the sending of visiting groups as envisaged in paragraph 179 above, would be of the order of \$US 133,000. A series of meetings away from Headquarters, should the Committee decide to hold one within the context of paragraph 6 of resolution 1654 (XVI), and paragraph 3 (9) of resolution 2621 (XXV), would result in the expenditure of about \$US 186,000. Further, it is estimated that the additional programme of publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization envisaged by the Committee for

1975 (see para. 180 above) would give rise to an expenditure of approximately \$US 70,000. The further consultations and contacts envisaged with the specialized agencies and the United Nations system of organizations in connexion with the programme of work of the Working Group would entail an expenditure of some \$US 6,800. In addition, the consultations scheduled to take place between the Chairman of the Special Committee and the President of the Economic and Social Council (see para. 178 above), together with the related consultations with the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and its Preparatory Committee, would entail an expenditure of about \$US 5,500. In the same context, the consultations with OAU on a regular basis would entail a further expenditure of \$US 5,000 (see para. 178 above). The consultations and contacts with non-governmental organizations would amount to some \$US 14,500 (see para. 181 above). Further, the participation of the representatives of the national liberation movements in the Committee's work (see para. 175 above) would give rise to an expenditure in the order of \$US 25,000. The arrangements, in consultation with OAU and the national liberation movements, for securing information from individuals (see para. 175 above) would entail an expenditure of \$US 12,700. Finally, the Special Committee expresses the hope that the Secretary-General will continue to provide it with all the facilities and personnel necessary for the discharge of its mandate, taking into account the various additional tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly as well as those arising from decisions taken by it during the current year.

Q. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

185. At its 975th meeting, on 1 July, the Special Committee decided without objection to authorize its Rapporteur to submit directly to the General Assembly the chapters of its report relating to the questions of Territories under Portuguese domination, Southern Rhodesia and Namibia. At its 982nd meeting, on 6 September, the Special Committee also authorized its Rapporteur to submit directly to the General Assembly the chapters of its report relating to the remaining items on its agenda.

186. At its 986th meeting, on 8 November, the Special Committee decided without objection to approve sections O and P above. The representative of Denmark made a statement in that regard at the 988th meeting, on 13 November (A/AC.109/PV.988).

187. At the 988th meeting on 13 November, statements on the occasion of the closing of the Special Committee's 1974 session were made by the Chairman and by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (on behalf of Eastern European members), Trinidad and Tobago (on behalf of Latin American members), Indonesia (on behalf of Asian members and Yugoslavia) and Mali (on behalf of African members), as well as by the representatives of Iran and Bulgaria (as Vice-Chairmen), Australia (on behalf of Denmark and Australia, and as Vice-Chairman), and Venezuela (as Rapporteur). The representative of Sierra Leone also made a statement (A/AC.109/PV.988).

CHAPTERS II AND III

(A/9623 (Part IV))

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CHAPTER II

DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON DECOLONIZATION

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 951st meeting, on 8 February 1974, the Special Committee decided without objection to maintain its Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February, by approving the seventy-first report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1), the Committee further decided that, in addition to its task relating to petitions and other communications, the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information should be charged with following the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3164 (XXVIII) on the dissemination of information on decolonization and should be requested to submit recommendations to the Committee for its consideration, as appropriate, so as to enable the Committee to assist effectively in the efforts of the Secretary-General in the discharge of the specific mandate entrusted to him in the above-mentioned and other related resolutions of the United Nations. By the same decision, the Committee agreed to take up the item separately and to consider it at its plenary and sub-committee meetings.
2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 972nd and 978th meetings, on 5 April and 28 August.
3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, particularly resolution 3164 (XXVIII). By paragraph 3 of that resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, having regard to the suggestions of the Committee, "to continue to take concrete measures through all the media at his disposal, including publications, radio and television, to give widespread and continuous publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, to the situation in the colonial Territories and to the continuing struggle for liberation being waged by the colonial peoples ...". By paragraph 9 of the same resolution, the Assembly requested the Committee "to continue to seek suitable means for the effective dissemination of information on decolonization and, in particular, to hold consultations, as appropriate, with the Organization of African Unity and the national liberation movements concerned, as well as with the non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization". By paragraph 10 of the same resolution, the Assembly further requested the Committee to follow the implementation of the resolution and to report thereon to the Assembly at its twenty-ninth session. The Committee was also guided by the provisions of General Assembly resolution 3163 (XXVIII), by paragraph 16 of which the Assembly requested the Committee "to continue to enlist the support of national and international organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization in the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and in the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in particular to assist the Economic and Social Council in its consideration of the related items on its agenda". In addition, the Committee paid due regard to the relevant information furnished to it by the representatives

of the national liberation movements of the colonial Territories in Africa who had appeared before it and its subsidiary bodies during the year.

4. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee also took into account the relevant observations contained in the following reports relating to the item, as well as, whenever appropriate, the statements by members pertaining to these reports:

(a) Report of the Chairman on his consultations on behalf of both the Special Committee and the United Nations Council for Namibia, with the organizations participating in the World Congress of Peace Forces, held at Moscow from 25 to 31 October 1973 (see annex I to the present chapter);

(b) Report of the Chairman on his consultations with the World Peace Council on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary celebrations, held at Paris from 26 to 30 May 1974, as well as with other non-governmental organizations (see annex II to the present chapter);

(c) Report of the Rapporteur on his participation in the above-mentioned session of the World Peace Council (see annex III to the present chapter);

(d) Report of the delegation of the Special Committee, consisting of Mr. Philip Johnathan Palmer (Sierra Leone) and Mr. Stanislav Suja (Czechoslovakia), on its participation in the International Non-Governmental Organizations Conference against Apartheid and Colonialism in Africa, held at Geneva from 2 to 5 September (A/AC.109/PV.983);

(e) Report of Mr. Arturo Montoya (Peru) on his consultations, on behalf of both the Special Committee and the Special Committee on Apartheid, with the World Peace Council on the occasion of the Council's session held at Sofia from 16 to 19 February (A/AC.115/SR.275);

(f) Report of Mr. Gibson R. Zimba (Zambia) on his consultations, on behalf of both the Special Committee and the United Nations Council for Namibia, with the Sub-Committee on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Apartheid and Decolonization of the Special Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on Human Rights (Geneva) on the occasion of the Sub-Committee's session held at Geneva on 23 and 24 February (A/AC.109/PV.954).

An account of the Special Committee's co-operation with the above-mentioned and other non-governmental organizations is set out in chapter I of the present report (A/9623 (Parts I-III), paras. 117-127).

5. At the 972nd meeting, on 5 April, the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/PV.972) introduced the 188th report of the Sub-Committee, containing its third report on the item (A/AC.109/L.938), which included suggestions concerning the observance for the current year of the Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa and Cape Verde Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Equal Rights. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Australia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Bulgaria, as well as by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.972). An account of the activities held by the Special Committee in observance of the Week of Solidarity is set out in chapter I of the present report (A/9623 (Parts I-III), paras. 93-95).

6. At its 978th meeting, on 28 August, the Special Committee considered the 189th report of the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information, containing its fourth report on the item, which included a summary of the views expressed by the participants in a panel discussion held on 22 and 23 May in connexion with the observance of the Week of Solidarity, as well as an account of the consultations held by the Chairman of the Sub-Committee with several non-governmental organizations in Canada (see annex IV to the present chapter).

B. DECISIONS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

7. At its 972nd meeting, on 5 April, the Special Committee adopted the third report of its Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information on the item (see para. 5 above) and endorsed in principle the suggestions contained therein. In taking that decision, the Special Committee agreed that the necessary consultations would be held subsequently, as appropriate, with a view to the implementation of the specific measures envisaged in the report.

8. At its 978th meeting, on 28 August, the Special Committee adopted without objection the fourth report of its Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information on the item (see para. 6 above). The Committee also decided to take into account the relevant observations and recommendations contained in the report, as well as the observations contained in the related reports of the Chairman and the Rapporteur (see paras 4 (b) and (c) above) in connexion with its further consideration of the item.

9. During the year under review, the Special Committee also took the following decisions concerning the publicity to be given to matters relating to specific items on its agenda:

(a) At its 960th meeting, on 15 March, the Special Committee decided, in paragraph 12 of a resolution on the question of Territories under Portuguese domination (A/9623/Add.1 (Part I) chap. VII, annex II A), to invite the Secretary-General, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of resolution 3164 (XXVIII), to continue to take effective and concrete measures through all the media at his disposal to give widespread and continuous publicity to information relating to the situation obtaining in these Territories;

(b) At its 968th meeting, on 2 April, the Special Committee decided, in paragraph 10 of a resolution on the question of Southern Rhodesia (A/9623/Add.2, chap. VIII, para. 14), to invite all Governments, the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, the United Nations bodies concerned and non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization, as well as the Secretary-General, to take steps, as appropriate, to give widespread and continuous publicity through all the media at their disposal to information on the situation in Zimbabwe and the relevant decisions and actions of the United Nations, with particular reference to the application of sanctions against the illegal régime;

(c) At its 979th meeting, on 29 August, the Special Committee, by adopting the report of Sub-Committee I concerning foreign economic activities in colonial Territories (A/9623 (Part V), chap. IV, annex), decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it request the Office of Public Information of the

Secretariat to undertake an intensified campaign of publicity with a view to informing world public opinion of the facts concerning the pillaging of natural resources and the exploitation of the indigenous population by foreign monopolies and the support they give to the colonialist and racist régimes. In addition, the Committee recommended to the Assembly that it request the Secretary-General to undertake measures aimed at giving the widest possible publicity to the decisions of the General Assembly taken in connexion with the activities of foreign economic and other interests in colonial Territories;

(d) At the same meeting, the Special Committee, by adopting the report of Sub-Committee I concerning military activities in colonial Territories (A/9623 (Part VI), chap. V, annex), decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it request the Office of Public Information of the Secretariat to undertake an intensified campaign of publicity with a view to informing world public opinion of the facts concerning military activities and arrangements impeding the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

Annex I*

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN, MR. SALIM AHMED SALIM
(UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA), RELATING TO
THE WORLD CONGRESS OF PEACE FORCES, MOSCOW,
OCTOBER 1973

1. In a letter dated 9 November 1972, the Secretary of the World Peace Council informed the Chairman of the Special Committee of the proposal to hold a World Congress of Peace Forces at Moscow in the autumn of 1973.
2. At its 903rd meeting, on 8 March 1973, the Special Committee, in deciding to dispatch a delegation of its members to visit the headquarters of various non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization, agreed to request the delegation to attend an International Consultative Meeting for the World Congress of Peace Forces, held at Moscow from 16 to 18 March. The delegation of the Special Committee, consisting of its Vice-Chairman, Mr. Frank O. Abdulah (Trinidad and Tobago), and the Chairman of its Sub-Committee I, Mrs. Famah Joka-Bangura (Sierra Leone), accordingly attended the meeting and submitted a report thereon to the Committee. a/
3. Subsequently, in the course of the consultations undertaken by the Chairman with officials of the World Peace Council in April 1973, a discussion was held concerning the participation of the Special Committee in the proposed World Congress of Peace Forces. b/
4. At its 949th meeting, on 14 September 1973, the Special Committee decided to request its Chairman to represent it at the World Congress of Peace Forces. At the request of the United Nations Council for Namibia, the Chairman also represented the Council on the same occasion.
5. The World Congress of Peace Forces, held from 25 to 31 October 1973 at the Kremlin Palace of Congresses, was attended by more than 3,000 delegates representing some 120 international and over 1,100 national organizations from 143 countries. The Secretary-General of the United Nations was represented by the Assistant Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, who delivered the Secretary-General's message to the Congress on its opening day (see appendix I below). The Special Committee on Apartheid was also represented by one of its members, the Permanent Representative of Somalia to the United Nations.
6. On 26 October, Mr. Leonid I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, addressed the World Congress.

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.916.

a/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1), vol. I, chap. II, annex II.

b/ Ibid., annex I.

In his statement, which covered all the items on the agenda of the Congress, Mr. Brezhnev welcomed the participation of representatives of the United Nations and of its committees and specialized agencies. On the question of colonialism, Mr. Brezhnev said that "the entire course of post-war development has proved convincingly that colonialism and aggression, the policy of colonial tyranny and the policy of force are essentially two sides of one and the same medal. There is therefore every justification for the fact that in the very name of the Congress the struggle for peace is associated closely with the struggle for national liberation".

7. On the same day, the Chairman of the Special Committee also made a statement (see appendix II below). In brief, the Chairman expressed gratitude to the organizers of the World Congress, the people and Government of the Soviet Union, for the opportunity to meet in Moscow. He also thanked the Soviet people and their Government for the constant support which they had rendered to the fighters for national liberation, against colonialism, racism and apartheid. The Chairman noted that the active support of the peoples, world public opinion and democratic organizations in particular was needed above all to achieve the full implementation of the United Nations resolutions concerning those matters. The proclamation of independence of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, which had by then been recognized by 60 States, was the result of 12 years of heroic struggle by the people of that country. Mr. Amílcar Cabral, an outstanding son of the Guinean people, had contributed much strength to this struggle, and the Chairman wished to pay tribute to his memory.

8. The world public considered the presence of Portuguese troops in Guinea-Bissau not only an act of aggression, a violation of the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of that country, but a threat to universal peace. The situation in Africa was still complicated. The racist régimes in Portugal, South Africa and Southern Rhodesia were persistently violating the decisions adopted by the United Nations. He called upon the participants in the World Congress and the progressive world public which they represented to lend their support to the United Nations bodies concerned and to unite their forces in the struggle for peace and against colonial and racist oppression.

9. Of the 14 commissions established by the World Congress, Commission VII, presided over by Mr. Marcelino dos Santos (Mozambique), dealt with "National Liberation - the Struggle against Colonialism and Racism". Over 300 delegates participated in the deliberations of the Commission. At the close of its session, the Commission adopted a draft programme of action for consideration by the World Congress, the relevant parts of which are reproduced in appendix III below.

10. On 31 October, the World Congress adopted the report of Commission VII. It also approved a "Declaration of the World Congress of Peace Forces for International Security and Disarmament, for National Independence, Co-operation and Peace", the relevant parts of which are reproduced in appendix IV below. The World Congress also adopted an appeal calling for among other things, the elimination of racism, colonialism and neo-colonialism in all their manifestations and a report on the follow-up action.

11. Although the topics covered by the World Congress extended beyond the problem of colonialism, it none the less provided another opportunity to examine closely the situation in southern Africa and other colonial Territories and enabled the

national liberation movements concerned to draw attention once again to their achievements as well as their problems and to identify the needs and requirements for their reconstruction and development programmes.

12. The delegations to the World Congress represented mainly non-governmental organizations whose actions could, primarily in the Western countries, constitute a source of information and of pressure which might help reorient or revise support to colonial and racist régimes. Their determined efforts could successfully arouse world public opinion against the policies and activities of those Governments which continue to assist those régimes.

13. In view of the successful outcome of the World Congress and bearing in mind the valuable contacts the Special Committee had already established with many non-governmental organizations, the Chairman is confident that the Committee will further intensify its efforts to enlist the support of these organizations in the discharge of the tasks entrusted to it by the General Assembly. Conferences and meetings such as the World Congress of Peace Forces would no doubt supplement the efforts of the United Nations in this regard and mobilize public support for the struggle for liberation and new sources of assistance to the liberation movements.

Appendix I

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warm greetings and sincere wishes to the World Congress of Peace Forces, the participants of which have gathered here from all parts of the globe and represent a broad spectrum of international and national organizations dedicated to the promotion of peace and well-being of all mankind.

As I have stressed on more than one occasion, I attach great importance to the role played by non-governmental organizations in supporting the activities of the United Nations. This co-operation is absolutely necessary for the United Nations to meet the interests of mankind and to make its hopes a reality. The Congress has gathered after several preparatory conferences attended by the heads of many important non-governmental organizations which adhere to most varied views and traditions. At the Congress a number of vital present-day issues will be discussed, including the promotion of international peace and security, disarmament, the liquidation of colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination and environmental protection. Recent world developments impart special urgency to these discussions. The encouraging process of relaxation must be carried on through the joint efforts of the Governments and peoples of all countries so as to put an end to existing conflicts and make attempts to find solutions to serious and urgent problems facing all mankind.

The tragical conflict in the Middle East, to which we all are witnesses, once again shows how fragile peace is and how much effort must be exerted to achieve durable peace in all corners of the earth.

I am sure that the efforts of national and international public organizations can be of great help to Governments in conforming their policies with their actions towards this goal.

I wish the Congress great success in its work.

Appendix II

ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

It is a great honour and pleasure for me, both as a Tanzanian and in my official capacity as Chairman of the principal United Nations body concerned with decolonization, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, to be present at this World Congress of non-governmental organizations representing so many millions of people in all parts of the world. When I look around at this impressive assembly, which is undoubtedly the largest meeting of international and national non-governmental organizations devoted to the promotion of peaceful relations among the peoples of the world, I cannot but feel that this is a truly historic occasion and that the assembly has been aptly named the World Congress of Peace Forces. The organizations present, together with their constituencies, represent what could well be one of the most powerful movements in the world today, provided that all can concert their efforts for the common cause. The fact that you have come together here is in itself a good augury and I wish to pay a tribute to those who conceived this World Congress and laboured so hard to bring it to fruition. I should like in particular to congratulate Mr. Romesh Chandra, the Secretary-General of the World Peace Council, on the success of his constant efforts. At the same time, our thanks must also go to the Government and people of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for hosting this World Congress and for according us all the most generous hospitality and a most warm welcome.

As Chairman of the Special Committee, I am deeply conscious of the solidarity of the Soviet Union with the colonial peoples in their just struggle for national liberation; nor, indeed, can I forget the initiative taken by this great country to bring about the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly, at its fifteenth session, of the historic Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Before I turn to the subject-matter with which you will be dealing, I wish to take this opportunity to express to the World Congress greetings from my friend and colleague, Mr. Paul Lusaka of Zambia, the President of the United Nations Council for Namibia. At this time, when the United Nations General Assembly is about to begin its discussions of the Namibian question, it is not possible for him to leave New York. He asked me to represent him, however, and to express to you his deep interest in the successful outcome of your deliberations.

Since the objective of this World Congress is to discuss the maintenance of world peace in its broadest aspects, it is no accident that one of the four main topics which figure on your agenda concerns questions relating to decolonization, racial discrimination, apartheid and neo-colonialism, for it is the violation of basic rights, the repression and exploitation of men by men, which is the essential ingredient of colonialism in all its manifestations, that is today the greatest barrier to world peace. We in Africa, who live close to the scene of the worst examples of colonialist and racist oppression in Mozambique, Angola, Zimbabwe,

Namibia and South Africa, know only too well the ruthless and inhuman character of colonialism and the sufferings of our African brothers. We know only too well the pitiless warfare being waged by the colonialist and racist oppressors against the African peoples who are struggling for national liberation, particularly in the Territories under Portuguese domination, and the serious threat which it poses not only for the peace and security of Africa, but ultimately for the peace of the whole world. In 1960, when the United Nations adopted the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, it was hoped that colonialism would rapidly disappear and soon become only an evil memory. Yet, today, 13 years later, no less than 28 million people still live under foreign enslavement and, as the recent reports of massacres in Mozambique have reminded us, are in many cases the victims of unequalled barbarism. It is not surprising, therefore, that the General Assembly at its last session reaffirmed that the continuation of colonialism in all its forms, including racism, apartheid and economic exploitation by foreign economic and other interests, as well as the waging of colonial wars to suppress the national liberation movements of the colonial Territories in Africa, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and poses a threat to international peace and security. The removal of this threat requires not only that the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council should be respected and implemented by all Governments, but also that there should be action on the part of all peace-loving forces to bring about rapid and complete decolonization. That is precisely the task of the Special Committee of which I have the honour to be Chairman - to seek to mobilize all available forces in support of the cause of decolonization and, in particular, in support of the peoples of the colonial Territories in their legitimate struggle for freedom and independence. That is also why I am speaking to you today, because we in the Special Committee know that, in order to combat colonialism and racism in the world, we must have the support of public opinion. We look to your organizations for active co-operation and assistance in mobilizing public opinion against the evils of colonialism in all its manifestations and in bringing about the effective and complete isolation of those régimes which continue to pursue colonialist and racist policies, in violation of United Nations resolutions.

Just before I left New York, the permanent representatives of some 56 States Members of the United Nations made a formal request for the inclusion of an additional item on the agenda of the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly entitled "Illegal occupation by Portuguese military forces of certain sectors of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and acts of aggression committed by them against the people of the Republic". This request is the logical consequence of the proclamation by the first Popular National Assembly of Guinea-Bissau on 24 September 1973 of the independence of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, which has now been recognized by 60 States. It represents the culmination of 12 years of bitter struggle by the people of Guinea-Bissau in a bloody war of liberation against one of the most oppressive colonial régimes in history; a war which is still continuing and taking its toll in human suffering. Last year, a mission of the Special Committee visited the liberated areas of Guinea-Bissau a/ and attested to

a/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/8723/Rev.1), chap. X, annex I.

the existence of a functioning state structure in the liberated areas and also to the tremendous efforts being made by the Partido Africano da Independência da Guiné e Cabo Verde (PAIGC) to build a new economic and social order in their devastated country. Last year our fallen brother, Amílcar Cabral, the late Secretary-General of PAIGC, announced at United Nations Headquarters that the elections for a People's National Assembly had started and that, once constituted, the Assembly would proclaim the independence of the country. We salute here the memory of Amílcar Cabral and his unswerving fight for freedom and universal peace. We congratulate our brothers of PAIGC, in particular Secretary-General Aristides Pereira, the Government, the People's National Assembly and all the people in Guinea-Bissau, for their courage and determination and for the independence of their nation. Today, the presence of Portuguese military forces in Guinea-Bissau is being treated in the United Nations as an act of aggression which constitutes not only a gross violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the independent State of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, but also a serious threat to the peace and security of the region.

As much as we rejoice at the success achieved by PAIGC in Guinea-Bissau, we remain preoccupied by the grave situation obtaining in the remaining colonial Territories in southern Africa, where increasing aggression by the colonialist and racist régimes poses a most serious threat to international peace and security. For too long the peoples of southern Africa have been left to struggle alone against the barbarism of their colonialist and racist oppressors; for too long the industrialized nations of the Western world, spurred by self-interest and the hunger for profits, have turned a deaf ear to the pleas for help of the African people. Such a situation cannot continue, for in it lie the seeds of a much greater racial conflagration.

In Zimbabwe, the illegal racist minority régime of Ian Smith is trying to consolidate itself by the creation of so-called tribal-trust homelands, which would create yet another apartheid state in the Territory, and by intensifying repressive measures against the people of Zimbabwe. In Namibia, South Africa continues to defy the United Nations and is seeking to consolidate and perpetuate its illegal presence by the "bantustanization" of the international Territory of Namibia against the will of its people. In Mozambique and Angola, Portugal is waging a total war and using chemical weapons.

How could the régimes in Salisbury, Pretoria and Lisbon continue to repress the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia, Angola, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau, defy the United Nations and continue to threaten Africa's, and, indeed, international peace and security, if not because of the complicity of certain Western Powers, the military allies and trading partners of those régimes.

Despite these abhorrent forces of repression, it is most gratifying to note that the heroic struggle for liberation continues to be intensified on all fronts. In Angola and Mozambique, consolidation and reconstruction programmes for the liberated areas are being extensively and progressively implemented and further new fronts for the forces of liberation are being opened up. In Zimbabwe, the courageous and unwavering stand taken by the African peoples against the racist minority régime has brought about an entirely new phase in the struggle for majority rule. In Namibia, the patriotic Namibians have clearly demonstrated their determination to resist any manoeuvre aimed at annexing their country to South Africa and any further imposition of measures aimed at the destruction of the national unity and territorial integrity of their Territory.

As a result of the activities of the Special Committee, the General Assembly, as I have already pointed out, has affirmed that the continuation of colonial rule, as well as apartheid and all forms of racial discrimination, constitutes a serious impediment to the maintenance of international peace and security and a crime against humanity. The Assembly has further affirmed the legitimacy of the struggle of colonial peoples to exercise their right to freedom and independence. These principles have been the basis of appeals for action to the Security Council and of requests addressed to all States and specialized agencies to provide support for the colonial peoples in the struggle for restoration of their inalienable rights.

On the recommendation of the Special Committee, the General Assembly has recognized the legitimacy of the liberation struggle of the colonial peoples in Africa and the authenticity of their national liberation movements which have been granted the status of observers by the Special Committee, the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly and by several specialized agencies of the United Nations. They are no longer considered at the United Nations as mere petitioners, a condition which applied to the liberation movements for over 26 years, but as the true and authentic representatives of their people with the right to participate at the United Nations in discussions of the problems relating to their Territories.

I would like now to refer briefly to the role of non-governmental organizations in the process of decolonization and in supporting and assisting the liberation movements.

Many of the non-governmental organizations represented here have played a significant role in mobilizing support for the liberation of Africa. They have organized conferences, observed the Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa and Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Equal Rights, publicized the struggle of the liberation movements and carried on public campaigns to obtain contributions for the liberation movements. In some countries, they have constituted pressure groups on Governments and helped to correct errors and reorient policies. Their contribution to the liberation struggle and their assistance to the liberation movements have been invaluable. Yet, the non-governmental organizations could accomplish a great deal more if they would concert their actions in support of the efforts of the United Nations bodies such as the Special Committee on Decolonization and the United Nations Council for Namibia. We in the Special Committee believe most profoundly in the power of public opinion and in the strength of the forces which you represent. We look to you for collaboration and support in our endeavours, above all in pressing for action in the four areas which the General Assembly specifically pinpointed in the programme of action for the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

These are:

- (1) Recognition of the liberation movements of Angola, Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde and Mozambique as the authentic representatives of the true aspirations of the peoples of those Territories;
- (2) Increased assistance to refugees from colonial Territories;
- (3) Moral and material assistance to the peoples in Africa struggling for their liberation from colonial rule, to their liberation movements and

particularly to the populations in the liberated areas of the Territories concerned;

(4) Discontinuance of all collaboration with the Government of Portugal and South Africa as well as with the illegal régime of Ian Smith.

The perpetuation of colonialism in the world today is a major cause of international tensions and a barrier to the establishment of peaceful and harmonious relations among nations. For, so long as millions of our fellow men are being subjugated and are being denied their fundamental right to self-determination and independence, there can be no real peace. For that reason, we must unite our efforts so that a peace based on freedom, equality and justice for all nations may prevail.

Appendix III

EXCERPTS FROM THE DRAFT PROGRAMME OF ACTION PREPARED BY COMMISSION VII

A. Africa

The International Conference of Experts for the Support of Victims of Colonialism and Apartheid in Southern Africa, held at Oslo in April 1973, under the auspices of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and with the full participation of the African liberation movements recognized by OAU, formulated a "programme of action for concerted international efforts to hasten the eradication of the scourge of colonialism and apartheid, thereby promoting international peace and security". a/

The Congress should commend this programme for study and action by all organizations and individuals.

The Congress should commend the plans to organize an international conference of non-governmental organizations in 1974 to consider the problems of colonialism, racism and apartheid in southern Africa, and formulate a programme for public action to help eradicate these vicious forms of oppression and exploitation. It is hoped that this conference will secure the widest participation of non-governmental organizations and of all liberation movements recognized by OAU, and that the United Nations bodies concerned and OAU will lend their full co-operation.

The trade union movement can play a crucial role in the struggle against colonialism, racism and apartheid.

The Congress should welcome the resolutions adopted recently by the International Trade Union Conference against Apartheid, held at Geneva in June 1973, as well as the actions by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) against Portuguese colonialism.

B. Countries under Portuguese colonial domination

The Congress should call on all Governments and organizations to give high priority to a special publicity campaign, through all mass media, to inform world public opinion of:

(a) The progress of the struggle of the peoples of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, Angola and Mozambique and Sao Tomé and Príncipe, under the leadership of

a/ For the report of the Conference, see document A/9061, annex.

the Partido Africano da Independência de Guiné e Cabo Verde (PAIGC), the Movimento Popular de Libertação de Angola (MPLA), the Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (FRELIMO) and the Comité de Libertação de São Tomé e Príncipe (CLSTP);

(b) The progress in reconstruction in liberated areas and the present needs for assistance;

(c) The crimes of Portuguese colonialists;

(d) The support received by Portuguese colonialists from their allies and from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the European Economic Community (EEC).

The Congress should call on the peoples in the NATO countries and the Governments of those NATO member States which have condemned Portuguese colonialism to take effective steps to isolate Portugal and prevent any assistance to it.

C. Republic of Guinea-Bissau

The Congress welcomes the birth of the new State of Guinea-Bissau and pledges its support to its Government in its urgent tasks of ending the Portuguese occupation of parts of its national territory and the reconstruction of the country.

It appeals to all Governments to recognize the State of Guinea-Bissau and extend it diplomatic, economic and other assistance as may be requested by its Government.

The Congress calls on peoples everywhere to set up solidarity committees to work for the recognition of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau.

D. Namibia

The Congress notes with satisfaction the intensification of the armed struggle being waged by the Namibian people under the banner of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) and also the increased political mobilization of the masses which resulted in the overwhelming rejections by the Africans of the illegal elections held in northern Namibia (Ovamboland) and the north-eastern area of Kavangoland by the Vorster régime during August and September 1973.

The Congress is urged to call on all organizations to give high priority to the campaigns against any collaboration, direct or indirect, with the illegal South African administration in Namibia, in violation of the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 21 June 1971. b/

They should take action to prevent the importation and sale of Namibian products so long as the illegal occupation of the country by South Africa continues.

b/ Legal Consequences for States of the Continued Presence of South Africa in Namibia (South West Africa) notwithstanding Security Council Resolution 276 (1970), Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1971, p. 16.

E. Zimbabwe

The Congress fully supports the armed struggle being waged by the people of Zimbabwe and calls for world-wide public action to support the implementation of sanctions against the Smith régime, to prevent any negotiations by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that régime, and to provide concrete assistance to the liberation movements.

It supports plans for a conference of solidarity with the liberation movement of Zimbabwe.

F. Other movements in Africa

The Commission heard statements concerning the struggles for liberation in the Seychelles, the Comoro Archipelago, French Somaliland, c/ Réunion and São Tomé. It recommends that information on these Territories be publicized so that their struggles could obtain wider recognition.

G. Latin America

The Congress supports the struggle of the people of Puerto Rico against the colonial oppression of the United States of America and for their national independence.

It welcomes the resolution on this matter adopted 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 on 30 August 1973, d/ and by the Fourth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Algiers from 5 to 9 September 1973, e/ and calls for support for these resolutions by all Governments and organizations.

The Congress demands that the United States Government withdraw all its troops and military installations from Puerto Rican territory and immediately release all Puerto Rican political prisoners who are in prison in the United States. It should call for international assistance to the Puerto Rican people and their liberation movement in their legitimate struggle for freedom and independence.

The Congress also calls for the speedy granting of independence to all other colonial countries in Latin America and the Caribbean area - and for appropriate assistance to the peoples of those Territories.

The Congress proclaims support for the right of the Latin American peoples to struggle, by all appropriate means of their choice, against United States efforts at imposing and perpetrating neo-colonialist domination. These efforts constitute a serious threat to international peace and security, and the Latin American peoples deserve the solidarity of the entire international community.

c/ See chap. I, para. 9, foot-note 9, of the present report (A/9623 (Parts I-III)) for the new designation of the Territory.

d/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1), chap. I, para. 84.

e/ A/9330 and Corr.1, p. 50.

The Congress appeals to all organizations to give the widest publicity to the just struggles of the Latin American peoples against colonialism and neo-colonialism.

H. Liberation movements

The Congress calls on all States and organizations that have not as yet done so to recognize the liberation movements as the authentic representatives of the countries under colonial and racist rule, and to grant them political and material assistance to attain their inalienable rights.

The United Nations, specialized agencies and other organizations should invite the liberation movements to participate as full or associate members and grant them assistance.

Governments and organizations should set up solidarity funds for peoples struggling against colonialism and racism and provide assistance by direct contact with recognized liberation movements.

Appendix IV

EXCERPTS FROM THE DECLARATION OF THE WORLD CONGRESS OF PEACE FORCES FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND DISARMAMENT, FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE, CO-OPERATION AND PEACE

A. National liberation movement, struggle against colonialism and racism

The existence today of colonial and racist régimes built on terror and truly barbarian exploitation of millions of people doomed to hunger and slave labour and denied the most elementary rights and freedoms, is a monstrous anachronism. These régimes have the support of international imperialism, which resorts to the most disgraceful manoeuvres and undisguised aggression in attempting to preserve them. Colonialism and racism intensify international tension in various parts of the world. All the peace forces must work for the complete and unconditional implementation of many United Nations resolutions on elimination of colonialism, apartheid and other forms of racism. These forces are also taking an active part in the Decade of Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

It is natural and morally justifiable that the crimes of the colonialists and racists led to the rise of a powerful wave of national liberation movements, which are the sole lawful representatives of their peoples and countries. Every possible support and aid should be rendered to the liberation struggle of the peoples of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Angola, and to all other fighters against the colonial system and for self-determination and national statehood. Special efforts should be made to ensure the unswerving enforcement of the various international sanctions against Southern Rhodesia and the imposition of similar sanctions against South Africa and Portugal.

B. Co-operation between intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

It is especially important that the efforts now being taken on the government level to establish the principles of peaceful coexistence between States with different social systems in international affairs and on the non-governmental level to consolidate the détente and give greater depth to co-operation between various peace forces should also be continued in more vigorous co-operation between intergovernmental regional organizations, such as the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States, on the one hand, and international non-governmental organizations, on the other.

Co-operation between the two groups of international organizations is one of the concrete ways in which public opinion can participate in world affairs, and it is of particular importance in the light of the objectively increasing role of social forces, which are united into different movements and organizations concerned with the fate of the world.

Non-governmental organizations can contribute to the efforts of intergovernmental organizations to solve the most important international political problems, such as settlement of international conflicts (among others, the Middle East), setting up a security system, promotion of disarmament, the struggle against colonialism and racism, the problems of economic and social development and the conservation of the natural environment, and to implement the decisions of intergovernmental organizations with the support of broad mass movements. Expansion of international relations in conditions of normalization of the world situation adds to the significance of this form of multilateral co-operation.

Annex II*

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN, MR. SALIM AHMED SALIM (UNITED
REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA), ON HIS CONSULTATIONS WITH
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. In its report to the General Assembly at the latter's twenty-eighth session, the Special Committee stated as follows:

"201. The Special Committee, conscious of the importance which the General Assembly has attached to the mounting of a world-wide campaign of publicity in the field of decolonization and bearing in mind the provisions of resolution 2909 (XXVII) and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, intends to give this question continuous attention during the coming year ...

"202. The Special Committee also attaches great importance to the contribution of non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field in support of the colonial peoples struggling for liberation. During the coming year, the Special Committee will continue to seek the close collaboration of such non-governmental organizations with a view, inter alia, to enlisting their support in the dissemination of the relevant information and in the mobilization of world public opinion in the cause of decolonization. To that end, the Committee will dispatch during 1974, ... groups of its members to hold consultations with the organizations concerned at their respective headquarters and to participate in conferences, seminars and special meetings dealing with decolonization, arranged by these organizations ...". a/

2. At its twenty-eighth session, the General Assembly, in resolution 3163 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, approved the programme of work envisaged by the Special Committee for 1974, including the decisions quoted above. In addition, in a number of other related resolutions adopted at the same session, including resolutions 3111 (XXVIII), 3113 (XXVIII) and 3115 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973, and resolutions 3164 (XXVIII) and 3165 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, the General Assembly stressed once again the important role to be played by the non-governmental organizations concerned in support of the efforts of the United Nations in the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

3. In the light of the foregoing and on the basis of the consultations undertaken regarding an invitation from the World Peace Council to attend its Twenty-fifth Anniversary Presidential Committee Session, held at Paris between

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.950.

a/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1), vol. I, chap. I, paras. 201 and 202.

26 and 30 May 1974, the Special Committee, at its 974th meeting, on 17 May, decided that it should be represented on that occasion by its Chairman and Rapporteur. In accordance with that decision, the Chairman and the Rapporteur participated in the anniversary session, an account of the relevant proceedings of which is the subject of a subsequent report by the Rapporteur, who attended the remainder of the session on behalf of the Committee (see annex III to the present chap.).

4. In the same context, the Chairman also visited London to address a special meeting organized by the Anti-Apartheid Movement in the United Kingdom, and to hold further consultations with representatives of a number of organizations and individuals having a special interest in the field of decolonization.

5. In addition, during his visit to London, within the context of the mandate of the Special Committee to enlist the full co-operation of the administering Powers, the Chairman held consultations with Mr. David Ennals, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on 29 May, at the latter's office. An account of the Chairman's mission is given below.

6. On 27 May, the Chairman addressed an afternoon session of the Presidential Committee of the World Peace Council, held at the Palais du Luxembourg, Paris, which was attended by representatives of the Council's national committees in over 60 countries, a number of international organizations and several national liberation movements of the colonial Territories in Africa. The Chairman also attended an evening session of the Presidential Committee on the same day..

7. On 30 May, the Chairman addressed a special meeting organized by the Anti-Apartheid Movement in the United Kingdom, held at the Royal Commonwealth Society, London, which was presided over by Mr. Robert Hughes, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Scottish Office, and attended by members of the United Kingdom Parliament, members of the Commonwealth Secretariat, several high commissioners and other representatives of the diplomatic corps and the press, as well as members of national and local committees of the Anti-Apartheid Movement in the United Kingdom and other non-governmental organizations.

8. In the course of these meetings, the Chairman referred to the close working relationship which had been established during the past several years between the Special Committee and many of the non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization, such as the World Peace Council, the Anti-Apartheid Movement in the United Kingdom and the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO), and expressed deep appreciation of their continued support of, and active collaboration with, the various United Nations bodies concerned, including the Special Committee, the Special Committee on Apartheid and the United Nations Council for Namibia, in the discharge of their respective tasks.

9. The Chairman said that the outstanding achievements of the International Conference of Experts for the Support of Victims of Colonialism and Apartheid in Southern Africa, held in April 1973 at Oslo, had amply and clearly demonstrated the urgent necessity for concerted efforts on the part of all concerned in the complete eradication of the remaining vestiges of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations in that part of the world. The successful implementation of

the programme of action recommended by the Oslo conference depended largely on the effective and strengthened co-ordination of these efforts, particularly in the spheres of activity of non-governmental organizations, in the dissemination of information aimed at mobilizing world public opinion to support the struggle of the peoples under colonial domination for liberation and in enhancing public awareness of the critical need for exerting all possible pressure on the authorities concerned in southern Africa to put an end to the denial to those peoples of their inalienable right to freedom and independence.

10. As a result of actions undertaken by non-governmental organizations, such as AAPSO, the Angola Comité in the Netherlands, the Anti-Apartheid Movement, the Committee for Freedom in Angola, Mozambique and Guiné, the World Council of Churches and the World Peace Council, the Chairman said that the barrier of silence imposed by the Western press seemed at last to have been penetrated, as had been the case with the reports on massacres in Mozambique, and the policies of certain Western Governments appeared increasingly to have become firmly opposed to the colonial and racist domination of the peoples in southern Africa.

11. At the international level, the Chairman noted that several specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations had also begun to translate into concrete action, in varying degrees, the pertinent resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies and of the Economic and Social Council, by which they were requested to work out programmes of assistance beneficial to the peoples concerned and their national liberation movements. The United Nations bodies concerned were determined to continue to seek the most effective means of associating and identifying the United Nations family of organizations with the cause of decolonization. During the forthcoming fifty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council, the Chairman of the Special Committee and the President of the Council would once again be holding consultations with a view to ensuring the intensified co-ordination of the efforts of those organizations in that regard. The Chairman was confident that the consultations would give further impetus to extending increased assistance to the peoples affected.

12. With regard to the evolving situation in Portugal, the Chairman reiterated his views, shared by the presiding officers of the Special Committee on Apartheid and the United Nations Council for Namibia, as set out in a joint statement issued on 9 May 1974 (A/9623/Add.1 (Parts I-II), chap. VII, para.20), that the downfall of the previous fascist régime in Lisbon was a clear demonstration of the bankruptcy of Portuguese colonialism; that the changes had only been made possible by the effectiveness, determination, resilience and sacrifice of the peoples in the Portuguese-dominated Territories and their national liberation movements; that the current situation provided the new Government with a an opportunity to abandon wholly and completely the misguided policy of its predecessors; that the new Government should not only recognize the legitimate right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination and independence but should forthwith take decisive and concrete measures towards the realization of that right; and that the time was opportune for the military allies and trading partners of Portugal to demonstrate their goodwill towards Africa and their commitments to the United Nations by taking measures calculated to end Portuguese colonialism in Africa.

13. Referring also to the related communiqués issued by the national liberation movements and the statement on the subject by the Secretary-General of the United

Nations (A/9623/Add.1 (Parts I-III), chap. VII, para. 21), the Chairman emphasized the impending need for the international community, including governmental and non-governmental organizations, to intensify its activities in support of the liberation movements. It was particularly important to put maximum pressure on those with vested interests in the African Territories who were determined to frustrate the forces of decolonization with respect to those Territories.

14. With reference to the current negotiations between Portugal and Guinea-Bissau, the Chairman recalled that, in the Manifesto on Southern Africa, adopted in September 1969, the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) had declared:

"On the objectives of liberation as thus defined, we can neither surrender nor compromise. We have always preferred, and we still prefer, to achieve it without physical violence. We would prefer to negotiate rather than destroy, to talk rather than kill. We do not advocate violence, we advocate an end to the violence against human dignity which is now being perpetrated by the oppressors of Africa. If peaceful progress to emancipation were possible, or if changed circumstances were to make it possible in the future, we would urge our brothers in the resistance movements to use peaceful methods of struggle even at the cost of some compromise on the timing of change. But while peaceful progress is blocked by actions of those at present in power in the States of southern Africa, we have no choice but to give the peoples of those territories all the support of which we are capable in their struggle against their oppressors. This is why the signatory States participate in the movement for the liberation of Africa under the aegis of the Organization of African Unity. However, the obstacle to change is not the same in all the countries of southern Africa, and it follows therefore that the possibility of continuing the struggle through peaceful means varies from one country to another." b/

15. It was also evident that, whatever negotiations might be entered into between the new Government in Lisbon and the national liberation movements, they should be based on the firm premise of the unequivocal acceptance by Portugal of the principle of self-determination and independence for the Territories concerned. The modalities for the implementation of that principle might be the subject of negotiations, but the question of self-determination and independence itself could not be negotiated.

16. It was particularly important, within the context of the whole question of decolonization in southern Africa, to keep in mind the obvious ramifications of the outcome of the evolving situation in Portugal and resultant developments in Angola, Mozambique and Cape Verde, in respect of the millions of suffering African peoples in Southern Rhodesia and Namibia, as also in South Africa. It was common knowledge that one of the most serious obstacles to the effective implementation of the sanctions applied by the Security Council against the illegal régime in Southern Rhodesia had been the support and co-operation extended to the Smith régime by the minority régime in Pretoria and the previous fascist régime in Lisbon. The responsibility of the Government of the United Kingdom as the administering Power concerned, was extremely grave in that regard. It was hoped

b/ Ibid., Twenty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 106, document A/7754, para. 12.

that no effort would be spared by the United Kingdom Government to rectify the critical situation prevailing in that Territory by exerting whatever influence and pressure it could on the new Government in Lisbon to discontinue forthwith all collaboration with the illegal régime in Southern Rhodesia and to comply with the relevant decisions of the United Nations, particularly those concerning the question of sanctions.

17. On the basis of his consultations with many representatives of non-governmental organizations and other concerned individuals, both during and outside the meetings outlined above, the Chairman was once again assured of continued and intensified support of the work of the United Nations bodies concerned in the final elimination of all remaining vestiges of colonialism in southern Africa in all its forms and manifestations, including racial discrimination and apartheid. The Chairman is confident that the Special Committee, for its part, will continue to intensify its present close co-operation with those organizations and dedicated personalities, in the discharge of the serious tasks entrusted to it by the General Assembly in this regard.

18. The Chairman wishes to place on record his appreciation of the co-operation, assistance and courtesy extended to him by the officials of the World Peace Council, the Anti-Apartheid Movement in the United Kingdom and members of other organizations for making it possible for him to carry out his mission successfully.

Annex III*

REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR, MR. HORACIO ARTEAGA ACOSTA (VENEZUELA),
ON HIS CONSULTATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. The World Peace Council invited the Chairman and a member of the Special Committee to attend the session of its Presidential Committee to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Council. In that connexion, at its 974th meeting held on 17 May 1974, the Special Committee, with some reservations, authorized its Chairman, accompanied by the Rapporteur, to represent the Committee at that session.
2. The session of the Presidential Committee of the World Peace Council was held at Paris from 26 to 30 May and was attended by delegations from over 80 countries, including well-known personalities, and representatives of many organizations. Representatives of the Partido Africano da Independência da Guiné e Cabo Verde (PAIGC), the Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (FRELIMO), the Movimento Popular de Libertação de Angola (MPLA), the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) and the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) were also present.
3. At a plenary meeting of the Presidential Committee on 27 May, the Chairman of the Special Committee made a statement in which he referred to the efforts of the Special Committee to eradicate colonialism throughout the world, a task in which the collaboration of non-governmental organizations such as the World Peace Council was significant. Speaking specifically of the situation in the Territories under Portuguese domination and the recent events in Portugal, the Chairman underlined the fact that "democratic colonialism" did not exist and that the only solution to the problem of the Portuguese colonies, like all the colonies of the world, was full and unconditional recognition of independence.
4. At a special celebration on 28 May, the Rapporteur congratulated the World Peace Council on the twenty-fifth anniversary of its fruitful existence. He spoke of the interest with which the Special Committee followed the activities of organizations like the Council in their efforts to inform world public opinion, interested Governments and other national and international organizations about the fight for freedom carried on by peoples under the colonial yoke. Such organizations were also attempting to adopt specific initiatives to help the liberation movements in their struggle for freedom and independence.
5. The work of the Presidential Committee was divided among commissions based upon the subjects to be dealt with. The commissions were as follows:
(a) Commission on the utilization of natural resources; (b) Commission to consider the draft Declaration on the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the World Peace Council and other matters; and (c) Commission on European problems.

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.959.

6. The draft resolutions submitted by the commissions to the plenary meetings of the Presidential Committee were adopted unanimously. They included the Declaration as the principal decision and a further 12 resolutions related to various international topics, including one on southern Africa.

7. In the Declaration on the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the World Peace Council, reference was made to a number of serious international problems and to the activities of the Council during the last two and a half decades. The Declaration contained, inter alia, a paragraph affirming that substantial progress had been made in the movement of solidarity with resurgent Africa in its struggle against colonialism and racism and that the World Peace Council was in the vanguard of the fight to achieve the liberation of peoples under colonialist and racist régimes and the full recognition of the liberation movements.

8. In the resolution on southern Africa, the Presidential Committee urged progressive and peace-loving forces to support the next conference on Zimbabwe, sponsored by the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) and the Government of Somalia. The Council also expressed its support for the decisions taken by the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on the struggle of the southern African peoples for their national liberation, and pledged itself to continue its efforts to create strong links of international solidarity with the oppressed people of Zimbabwe, Namibia, Mozambique and Angola.

9. In conclusion, the Special Committee's participation in this interesting commemorative session celebrated by the leaders of the World Peace Council was undoubtedly useful. Once again, in a broadly representative forum, which grouped together important sectors of world public opinion, stress was laid on the subject of colonialism and racial discrimination. Attention was again drawn to the enormous colonial problems and the need for concerted international action in the struggle against colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid, principally through the dissemination of information and the preparation of studies on these problems.

Annex IV*

EXCERPTS FROM THE FOURTH REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS AND INFORMATION ON THE QUESTION OF DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON DECOLONIZATION

Chairman: Mr. Amer Salih ARAIM (Iraq)

...

Panel discussion

On 22 and 23 May 1974, a panel discussion was held to consider ways and means of improving the dissemination of information on decolonization. The panel discussion was opened by the Chairman of the Special Committee and was thereafter presided over by the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information. The participants covered a broad spectrum and included representatives of the United Nations Council for Namibia, the Special Committee on Apartheid, the Commission on Human Rights, specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, the Organization of African Unity, national liberation movements of the Territories concerned, as well as a large number of representatives of the mass information media and non-governmental organizations interested in the field of decolonization. The panel had before it a working paper prepared by the Office of Public Information of the Secretariat.

The panel discussion, which took place within the context of the 205th, 206th and 207th meetings of the Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information, a/ provided a forum for an exchange of views regarding the difficulties encountered in disseminating information on decolonization and the methods by which the United Nations could contribute towards overcoming these difficulties. Among the various suggestions put forward by participants were the following:

(a) There is a need to expand the material supplied to the information media so as to give a comprehensive view of the situation prevailing in the colonial Territories and not merely specific aspects thereof;

(b) Although press releases describing activities of the various United Nations bodies are comprehensive and pertinent, they could be made more readily utilizable by the news media if new elements in resolutions and debates were clearly indicated;

(c) It would be helpful if the Special Committee and other political bodies concerned with decolonization, after adopting a resolution or completing the discussion of an agenda item, issued a communiqué explaining clearly and concisely the principal features of the resolution and the major points made during the debate and giving the necessary background for a full appreciation of their significance;

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.975.

a/ For a summary of the discussion, see A/AC.109/SC.1/SR.205-207.

(d) The national liberation movements in colonial Territories should be encouraged to supply more information material and this should, in turn, be made readily available to the news media and the non-governmental organizations interested in the field of decolonization;

(e) It would be helpful if there were more frequent briefings of the press and representatives of non-governmental organizations by officers of the Special Committee and, in particular, by representatives of the national liberation movements concerned for the purpose of describing the situation in their respective Territories and the progress of their struggle for liberation;

(f) There should be more frequent contacts and exchange of information between the Office of Public Information of the Secretariat, the liberation movements and concerned non-governmental organizations;

(g) Greater use should be made of United Nations information centres for the widespread and continuous dissemination of material on decolonization;

(h) Efforts should be made to produce more feature articles, as distinct from press releases, describing conditions in the colonial Territories and the activities of the national liberation movements; relevant information could also be supplied by the liberation movements to the United Nations specialized agencies concerned.

These are only a few of the suggestions and comments made during the discussion, which took place during two days and produced a very free exchange of views. Most of the speakers commended the work being undertaken at present by the Office of Public Information of the Secretariat and by specialized agencies within their respective spheres of competence, but felt that more could be accomplished through greater co-ordination of the efforts of not only the United Nations and the organizations affiliated with it, but also of the national liberation movements concerned, OAU and non-governmental organizations specially interested in decolonization. The Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information intends to continue to be seized of these matters with a view to submitting recommendations thereon, as appropriate and necessary.

...

Co-operation by non-governmental organizations

At its 209th meeting, on 5 June 1974, the Sub-Committee continued its discussion on ways and means of improving co-operation with interested non-governmental organizations with a view to promoting a more widespread and effective dissemination of information on decolonization. Bearing in mind the important contribution which non-governmental organizations can make in this respect, the Sub-Committee was of the view that careful consideration should be given both to supplying them with readily utilizable material and to studying their suggestions and proposals in this respect. It should be noted, however, that the Sub-Committee does not as yet have at its disposal sufficient information on which to base precise recommendations. In order to elicit such information, the Sub-Committee had earlier authorized its Chairman to send a circular letter to interested non-governmental organizations, and had decided to undertake an in-depth study of the question in the light of suggestions which might be received.

In the meantime, with the aim of increasing contact with non-governmental organizations, the Chairman of the Sub-Committee took advantage of an official mission to Canada from 11 to 13 June to consult with several non-governmental organizations, in particular the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief (OXFAM), the Programme d'animateurs pour l'éducation au développement (DEAP) and the United Nations Association in Canada.

As a result of the meeting with those organizations, it was possible to establish (a) the continued willingness of the organizations to help disseminate among the Canadian people information on the work being carried out by the United Nations concerning decolonization, and (b) their need to receive relevant information material and documentation from the United Nations in order to assist them in their campaign to mobilize Canadian opinion against colonialism.

With the objective of promoting a boycott of Angolan coffee, OXFAM had, for example, undertaken in the past two years an extensive campaign of mass information aimed at arousing the conscience of the Canadian public. The campaign had been developed as a four-part programme, the early stages of which had been devoted to disseminating information concerning the situation in Angola, the liberation struggle, the assistance which Portuguese colonialism derived from certain multinational corporations and other foreign interests and explaining how the revenue derived from exports of Angolan coffee helped Portugal to perpetuate its colonial domination over Angola. In the final stage of the campaign, Mr. Agostinho Neto, the leader of the Movimento Popular de Libertação de Angola (MPLA), had visited Canada at the invitation of OXFAM, DEAP and the Canadian University Students Overseas and had given a series of press conferences, and radio and television interviews. During his visit, Mr. Neto had also met informally with members of the Canadian Government, parliamentarians and members of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The publicity surrounding the visit by Mr. Neto had provoked a favourable public reaction in Canada which had manifested itself in the form of petitions, letters and telegrams requesting government officials and members of Parliament to support the liberation struggle being waged by MPLA in Angola, and by the other liberation movements in southern Africa. A total of 2,000 letters and over 10,000 petitions and telegrams were received by Canadian authorities.

The Canadian Government, through its Secretary of State for External Affairs, undertook to grant humanitarian aid to the liberation movements in southern Africa. OXFAM for its part, set up a \$US 400,000 programme of assistance for the liberation movements of southern Africa.

Many non-governmental organizations in Quebec and Ontario have also taken the initiative in mobilizing public opinion in Canada against colonialism and to help the liberation movements. It is clear that the groundwork has thus been laid for a more intensive action if so desired. Representatives of the organizations concerned have stated that United Nations documentation would facilitate their campaign of education and information on decolonization issues. In the course of their campaign, these organizations showed several films of the atrocities committed by the colonial and racist régimes in southern Africa and of the struggle being waged by the peoples in colonial Territories under the leadership of the liberation movements. These showings lasted for an entire week, which the organizers entitled the "Week of Solidarity with the Peoples in the Colonial Territories in Southern Africa in their Struggle to Achieve their Right to Self-determination and Independence".

Having regard to the important role which these organizations are playing in the campaign of mobilizing international public opinion against colonialism, the Sub-Committee considers it imperative that contacts with them should be increased through exchanges of information on issues relating to colonialism and on the struggle for liberation being waged by the liberation movements in colonial Territories. Similar efforts should continue to enlist the co-operation of non-governmental organizations in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe, as well as in the United States, for the effective dissemination of information on colonialism. Direct contact should be established between these organizations and the Special Committee and its Sub-Committee on Petitions and Information.

With that objective in mind, the Sub-Committee looks forward to further consultations with representatives of these organizations, within the framework of its medium-term programme approved by the Special Committee.

CHAPTER III

QUESTION OF SENDING VISITING MISSIONS TO TERRITORIES

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 952nd meeting, on 26 February 1974, the Special Committee, by approving the seventy-first report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.920 and Corr.1) decided, inter alia, to take up the question of sending visiting missions to Territories as a separate item. The Special Committee further decided that the item should be considered at its plenary meetings and, as appropriate, by its sub-committees in connexion with their examination of specific Territories.
2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 974th to 977th meetings, between 17 May and 22 August.
3. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including in particular resolution 3163 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. By paragraph 15 of this resolution, the Assembly called upon the administering Powers concerned "to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, in particular, ... to permit the access of visiting missions to the Territories under their administration in order to secure first-hand information and ascertain the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants". The Special Committee also took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 3156 (XXVIII) and 3157 (XXVIII) of the same date relating to specific Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned, by which the Assembly called upon the administering Powers concerned "to reconsider their attitude towards the receiving of United Nations visiting missions to the ... Territories and to permit access by such missions to Territories under their administration". In addition, the Special Committee paid due regard to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 3109 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973, 3155 (XXVIII), 3158 (XXVIII), 3159 (XXVIII), 3161 (XXVIII) and 3162 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, relating, respectively, to the questions of Papua New Guinea, Niue, the Seychelles, Brunei, the Comoro Archipelago and Spanish Sahara.
4. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it the report of the Chairman (see annex I to the present chap.), expressing the consultations which he had undertaken with representatives of the administering Powers concerned, in accordance with paragraph 5 of the resolution adopted by the Committee at its 933rd meeting, on 8 August 1973. ^{1/} In addition, the Special Committee had before it a letter dated 13 June 1974 addressed to the Chairman by the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations (see annex II to the present chap.), expressing the readiness of his Government to receive visiting missions, as appropriate, in the colonial Territories under its administration.

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1), vol. I, chap. III, para. 14.

5. During the year under review, the Special Committee, in the context of resolution 3155 (XXVIII), dispatched a visiting mission to Niue at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand. The Special Committee also dispatched a visiting mission to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in response to the invitation extended to it by the Government of Australia, to which reference is made in paragraph 2 of the Special Committee's resolution of 8 August 1973, 2/ as well as in the consensus adopted by the General Assembly at its 2202nd plenary meeting, on 14 December 1973. 3/ Further, at the invitation of the Government of the United Kingdom, the Special Committee dispatched a visiting mission to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. An account of the Committee's consideration of the reports of these visiting missions is set out in chapters XX-XXII of the present report (A/9623/Add.5 (Parts II-V)).

6. During the Special Committee's consideration of the item, statements were made as follows: at the 974th meeting, on 17 May, by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.974); at the 975th meeting, on 1 July, by the Chairman and the representative of the United Kingdom (A/AC.109/PV.975 and Corr.1); and at the 976th meeting, on 20 August, by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.976 and Corr.1).

7. On 21 August, a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/L.968) was circulated on behalf of the following members: Afghanistan, Australia, Ethiopia, India, Iran, Iraq, Mali, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania and Yugoslavia.

8. At its 977th meeting, on 22 August, following a statement by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.977), the Special Committee adopted the draft resolution (A/AC.109/L.968) without objection (see para. 13 below).

9. On 28 August, the text of the resolution was transmitted to the representatives of the administering Powers for the attention of their Governments. A related communication dated 5 September 1974 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee is set out in annex III to the present chapter.

10. In addition to considering general aspects of the item, the Special Committee, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the General Assembly resolutions mentioned in paragraph 3 above, took a decision concerning the sending of a visiting mission to the Comoro Archipelago (A/9623/Add.4 (Part II), chap. XI).

11. Further, Sub-Committees I and II, in considering the specific Territories referred to them, took into account the provisions of the above-mentioned General Assembly resolutions as well as previous decisions of the Special Committee relating to the item.

12. Subsequently, the Special Committee, by approving the relevant reports of Sub-Committees I and II, as well as the reports of the visiting missions, endorsed a number of conclusions and recommendations concerning the sending of visiting missions to specific Territories, as reflected in the following chapters of the present report:

2/ Ibid.

3/ Ibid., Supplement No. 30 (A/9030), p. 111.

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Territory</u>	<u>Document</u>
X	Seychelles and St. Helena	A/9623/Add.4 (Part I)
XV	New Hebrides)
)
XVI	Tokelau Islands)A/9623/Add.5 (Part I)
)
XVII	American Samoa and Guam)
XX	Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Papua New Guinea	A/9623/Add.5 (Part II)
XXI	Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Pitcairn and the Solomon Islands	A/9623/Add.5 (Parts III-IV)
XXII	Niue	A/9623/Add.5 (Part V)
XXIII	Bermuda)
)
XXIV	United States Virgin Islands)A/9623/Add.6 (Part I)
)
XXV	British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands)
)

B. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

13. The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/457) adopted by the Special Committee at its 977th meeting, on 22 August, to which reference is made in paragraph 8 above, is reproduced below:

The Special Committee,

Having considered the question of sending visiting missions to Territories,

Having examined the report of the Chairman on the question, 4/

Recalling that, in resolutions 3156 (XXVIII), 3157 (XXVIII) and 3163 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, the General Assembly called upon the administering Powers to co-operate fully with the Special Committee by permitting the access of visiting missions to the Territories under their administration,

Bearing in mind the constructive results achieved as a consequence of previous United Nations visiting missions in securing first-hand information regarding the Territories concerned and ascertaining the wishes and

4/ See annex I to the present chap.

aspirations of their peoples concerning their future status, thus enhancing the capacity of the United Nations to assist in the attainment by these peoples of the goals set forth in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Charter of the United Nations.

Having dispatched during 1974 visiting missions to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands under the administration of Australia, Niue under the administration of New Zealand and the Gilbert and Ellice Islands under the administration of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, at the invitation of the respective Governments,

Deploring the negative attitude of those administering Powers which continue to disregard the repeated appeals made in that connexion by the General Assembly and the Special Committee, thereby impeding the full, speedy and effective implementation of the Declaration with respect to the Territories under their administration,

1. Expresses its appreciation of the continued co-operation extended to the United Nations in this regard by the Governments of Australia and New Zealand and of the positive decision of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland regarding the receiving of visiting missions in the Territories under its administration; 5/

2. Calls upon the other administering Powers to reconsider their attitude and to co-operate fully with the United Nations by permitting the access of visiting missions to the Territories under their administration;

3. Requests its Chairman to continue consultations with the administering Powers concerned regarding the implementation of paragraph 2 of the present resolution and to report thereon to the Special Committee as appropriate.

5/ See annex II to the present chap.

Annex I*

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

1. At its 933rd meeting, on 8 August 1973, the Special Committee adopted a resolution concerning the question of sending visiting missions to Territories. a/ The resolution read as follows:

"The Special Committee,

"Having considered the question of sending visiting missions to Territories,

"Having examined the report of the Chairman on the question,

"Recalling that, in resolutions 2908 (XXVII) of 2 November 1972 and 2984 (XXVII) of 14 December 1972, the General Assembly called upon the administering Powers 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 by permitting the access of visiting missions to the colonial Territories,

"Bearing in mind the constructive results achieved as a consequence of previous United Nations visiting missions in securing first-hand information regarding the Territories concerned and ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of their peoples concerning their future status, thus enhancing the capacity of the United Nations to assist in the attainment by these peoples of the goals set forth in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Charter of the United Nations,

"Expressing its appreciation of the continued co-operation extended to the United Nations in this regard by the Governments of Australia and New Zealand,

"1. Takes note of the renewed invitation extended to it by the Government of New Zealand to send a visiting mission to the Tokelau Islands and, with respect to Niue, notes the declared intention of that Government to arrange for a United Nations presence in the Territory in connexion with the act of self-determination, scheduled to take place in 1974, by the people of that Territory;

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.951.

a/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1), vol. I, chap. III, para. 14.

"2. Takes note also of the invitation extended to it by the Government of Australia to send a visiting mission to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands and, as regards Papua New Guinea, notes the continued readiness of that Government to receive a United Nations visiting mission in conformity with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2590 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969;

"3. Deplores the negative attitude of those administering Powers which continue to disregard the repeated appeals made in that connexion by the General Assembly and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, thereby impeding the full, speedy and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples with respect to the Territories under their administration;

"4. Calls upon the administering Powers concerned to reconsider their attitude and to co-operate fully with the United Nations by permitting the access of visiting missions to the Territories under their administration;

"5. Requests its Chairman to continue consultations with the administering Powers concerned regarding the implementation of paragraph 4 of the present resolution and concerning the dispatch of visiting missions, referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 above, and to report thereon to the Special Committee as appropriate."

2. In accordance with paragraph 5 of the resolution, the Chairman, in letters dated 14 August 1973 addressed to the Permanent Representatives of France, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, requested the views of their respective Governments regarding the timing and modalities for the carrying out of the consultations envisaged in the resolution.

3. In June 1974, the Chairman entered into consultations with those representatives of the administering Powers who, in response to his letters, had indicated their preparedness to hold discussions with him on the question, namely the representatives of the United Kingdom and the United States. During these consultations, the Chairman drew attention to the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular resolution 3163 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and resolutions 3156 (XXVIII), 3157 (XXVIII), 3158 (XXVIII) and 3159 (XXVIII) of the same date, relating to certain Territories under United Kingdom administration and other Territories under United States administration with which the Special Committee is concerned. In paragraph 15 of resolution 3163 (XXVIII), the General Assembly called upon the administering Powers concerned "to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, in particular, to participate in the work of the Committee relating to the Territories under their administration and to permit the access of visiting missions to the Territories in order to secure first-hand information and ascertain the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants".

4. The Chairman also recalled that, with regard to the sending of visiting missions to colonial Territories during the current year, the Special Committee

had stated as follows in its report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session: b/

"... As will be noted in the relevant chapters of the present report ..., the Special Committee, having regard to the constructive role played by previous United Nations visiting groups, continues to attach vital importance to the dispatching of such groups as a means of collecting adequate and first-hand information on conditions in the Territories and on the wishes and aspirations of the people concerning their future status. Accordingly, and in the light of its resolution of 8 August 1973 ..., the Committee intends to continue to seek the full co-operation of the administering Powers in order to enable it to obtain such information through the sending, as appropriate, of visiting groups to the Territories in the Caribbean, Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean areas, and to the Territories in Africa. The Committee believes that the General Assembly will wish to address once again an appeal to the administering Powers to extend their co-operation by facilitating visits to Territories in accordance with the decisions previously taken by the Committee and with other decisions which the Committee may adopt in 1974."

5. In response to these representations, the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations stated that his Government had continued to comply faithfully with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations with respect to the Territories under United States administration. It had also continued to co-operate closely with the Special Committee and actively participated in the latter's examination of the conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned. With respect to the question of sending visiting missions to Territories under United States administration, as he had assured the Chairman previously, the question was the subject of continued and active consideration by his Government. The Chairman, for his part, expressed the hope that the United States Government would soon respond positively to the repeated appeals made by the General Assembly and the Special Committee on this question.

6. Following an exchange of views which took place on 29 May at London between the Chairman and the Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom, to which reference is made in the report of the Chairman on this matter (see A/9623 (Part IV), chap. II, annex II), the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations outlined the position of his Government on a wide range of matters within the Committee's field of activities, including the question of sending visiting missions to Territories, a full account of which is set out in his letter dated 13 June 1974 addressed to the Chairman (see annex II to the present chap.).

7. The Chairman welcomed the new positive approach adopted by the United Kingdom Government towards the work of the Special Committee and expressed the conviction that the close co-operation thus established between the Committee and the United Kingdom Government would no doubt prove to be most beneficial to the interests of the inhabitants of the Territories under its administration. The Chairman will be holding further consultations with the representative of the United Kingdom with a view to making the necessary arrangements, as appropriate, concerning the dispatch of visiting missions.

8. The Chairman notes with satisfaction that, in regard to the Territories under the administration of Australia and New Zealand, the two Governments continue to maintain a positive attitude. The Special Committee will be sending visiting

b/ Ibid., chap. I, para. 200.

missions this year to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands under Australian administration and to Niue under New Zealand administration. The Chairman will keep the Committee apprised of any further developments in his consultations with the two administering Powers on the sending of visiting missions to the other Territories concerned.

9. Further reports by the Chairman on this question will, if necessary, be issued as addenda to the present document.

Annex II*

LETTER DATED 13 JUNE 1974 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE

When I last wrote to you on 9 May 1974, I promised to let you have a substantive reply to your invitation to me to consult with you on the implementation of paragraph 4 of the resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 933rd meeting on 8 August 1973. a/ Perhaps you will allow me to take advantage of this occasion to inform you of some other steps that my Government contemplates in respect of the United Kingdom's association with the work of the Special Committee.

My Government believes that visiting missions can in certain circumstances serve a most useful purpose in the process of bringing the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination. It therefore looks forward to closer co-operation with the Special Committee in this regard and I am directed to inform you of our broad agreement in principle to this effect. I look forward to consulting further with you on this matter, and particularly on the possibility of a mission to the Ellice Islands to observe the proposed referendum there later this summer providing that we can agree on such matters as timing and composition. I am bound to reiterate, however, that the United Kingdom Government, as administering Power, retains the duty to decide whether or not a particular mission is appropriate. In arriving at such a decision, the view of the locally elected Governments, where these exist, will be one of our major considerations.

I should also like to inform you that we shall be happy to provide the Special Committee with up-to-date information on recent developments in Non-Self Governing Territories for which we are responsible, and to use our best endeavours to respond to any request for further information that the Special Committee may make. We also stand ready to take part in meetings of the Special Committee and its sub-committees on United Kingdom Non-Self-Governing Territories should we be asked to do so.

My Government now looks forward to a period of far greater mutual co-operation with the Special Committee than has been the case in the recent past. The Special Committee's objectives are shared by the United Kingdom, and my Government's earnest hope is that our work can be carried forward in this way.

(Signed) Ivor RICHARD

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/450.

a/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1), vol. I, chap. III, para. 14.

Annex III

LETTER DATED 5 SEPTEMBER 1974 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF PORTUGAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 28 August 1974 concerning the question of sending visiting missions to the Territories, which refers to a resolution adopted by the Special Committee on 22 August 1974. a/

In connexion with this, I reiterate the willingness of the Government of Portugal to co-operate closely with the Special Committee, and wish to affirm that the Permanent Mission of Portugal is also ready to discuss further this question at a mutually convenient date.

(Signed) António Leal da COSTA LOBO

a/ See para. 13 of the present chap.

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