

2. *Deplores* the fact reported by petitioners that the Mandatory Power has employed such means as deportations, dismissals from employment, threats of such action and other methods of intimidation to secure the removal of residents of the Windhoek Location to Katutura despite the continued opposition of the residents to their removal;

3. *Notes with deep concern* that the situation remains critical;

4. *Urges* the Mandatory Power to refrain from the use of direct or indirect force to secure the removal of Location residents;

5. *Requests* the Mandatory Power to take steps to prosecute and punish the civilian and military officers responsible for the death of eleven Africans and many other casualties in the Windhoek Native Location on the night of 10 to 11 December 1959, and to provide adequate compensation to the families of the victims;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Mandatory Power to the recommendations of the Committee on South West Africa concerning the measures which should be taken to alleviate the tension and unrest in the Windhoek area, and in particular to the recommendation that housing developments in urban areas of the Territory should be carried out in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned.

*954th plenary meeting,
18 December 1960.*

1568 (XV). Question of South West Africa

The General Assembly,

Having recommended, in previous resolutions, that the Territory of South West Africa should be placed under the International Trusteeship System, and having repeatedly invited the Government of the Union of South Africa to propose, for the consideration of the General Assembly, a trusteeship agreement for South West Africa,

Having accepted, in resolution 449 A (V) of 13 December 1950, the advisory opinion of 11 July 1950 of the International Court of Justice on the question of South West Africa,¹³

Taking note with deep regret of the refusal of the Government of the Union of South Africa to modify its administration of the Territory in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to enter into negotiations with the United Nations, through the Committee on South West Africa, with a view to placing the Mandated Territory under the International Trusteeship System,

Noting with grave concern that the administration of the Territory, particularly in recent years, has been conducted in a manner increasingly contrary to the Mandate, the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the advisory opinions of the International Court of Justice and the resolutions of the General Assembly,

Considering that all the efforts of the United Nations to induce the Government of the Union of South Africa to modify the present principles and practices of that administration and to ensure the well-being and security of the indigenous inhabitants of the Territory have been of no avail,

Considering with concern that the present situation in South West Africa constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security,

Considering that most of the Mandated Territories which were placed under the International Trusteeship System have acceded or will soon accede to national independence,

Recognizing that the Territory of South West Africa has an inalienable right to independence and to the exercise of its full national sovereignty,

1. *Regrets* that the Government of the Union of South Africa has so far failed to respond to the repeated appeals of the General Assembly asking it to revise a policy which infringes the fundamental rights and freedoms of the indigenous inhabitants of South West Africa and imposes upon them disabilities of various kinds, hindering their political, economic and social advancement;

2. *Deplores and disapproves* the policy practised by the Government of the Union of South Africa contrary to its obligations under the international Mandate of 17 December 1920 for South West Africa;

3. *Deprecates* the application, in the Territory of South West Africa, of the policy of *apartheid*, and calls upon the Government of the Union of South Africa to revoke or rescind immediately all laws and regulations based on that policy;

4. *Invites* the Committee on South West Africa, in addition to its normal tasks, to go to South West Africa immediately to investigate the situation prevailing in the Territory and to ascertain and make proposals to the General Assembly on:

(a) The conditions for restoring a climate of peace and security;

(b) The steps which would enable the indigenous inhabitants of South West Africa to achieve a wide measure of internal self-government designed to lead them to complete independence as soon as possible;

5. *Urges* the Government of the Union of South Africa to facilitate the mission of the Committee on South West Africa;

6. *Requests* the Committee on South West Africa to make a preliminary report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its resumed fifteenth session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide facilities for the execution of the present resolution.

*954th plenary meeting,
18 December 1960.*

1569 (XV). Question of the future of Western Samoa

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Trusteeship Council on the Trust Territory of Western Samoa under New Zealand administration,²⁵ as well as the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territory of Western Samoa, 1959,²⁶

Having taken note of the Constitution adopted by the Constitutional Convention of Western Samoa on 28 October 1960 and the resolutions adopted by that Convention,²⁷

²⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/4404)*, part II, chapter V.

²⁶ *Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 2 (T/1483)*, document T/1449.

²⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 44, documents A/C.4/454 and Add.1.

Noting the statements made in the Fourth Committee by the representative of the Administering Authority and by the Prime Minister of Western Samoa,²⁸

1. *Recommends* that the Administering Authority, in pursuance of Article 76 b of the Charter of the United Nations, take steps, in consultation with a United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner, to organize, under the supervision of the United Nations, a plebiscite in Western Samoa under New Zealand administration, in order to ascertain the wishes of the inhabitants of the Territory concerning their future;

2. *Recommends further* that the plebiscite should take place in the month of May 1961 and that the questions to be asked should be:

"1. Do you agree with the Constitution adopted by the Constitutional Convention on 28 October 1960?"

"2. Do you agree that on 1 January 1962 Western Samoa should become an independent State on the basis of that Constitution?"

3. *Recommends further* that the plebiscite should be conducted on the basis of universal suffrage with all adult citizens of Western Samoa being entitled to vote;

4. *Decides* to appoint a United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner for Western Samoa who shall exercise, on behalf of the General Assembly, all the necessary powers and functions of supervision, and who shall be assisted by observers and staff to be appointed by the Secretary-General in consultation with him;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner to submit to the Trusteeship Council a report on the organization, conduct and result of the plebiscite;

6. *Requests* the Trusteeship Council to transmit to the General Assembly, for consideration at its sixteenth session, the report of the United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner, together with any recommendations and observations it considers necessary.

954th plenary meeting,
18 December 1960.

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At its 954th plenary meeting, on 18 December 1960, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee,²⁹ appointed Mr. Najmuddine Rifai (United Arab Republic) United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner for Western Samoa.

1579 (XV). Question of the future of Ruanda-Urundi

The General Assembly,

Having received the reports of the Trusteeship Council³⁰ and of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1960,³¹ on the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi called for under General Assembly resolution 1419 (XIV) of 5 December 1959,

Noting from the report of the Trusteeship Council that it is the Administering Authority's intention to hold early in 1961 elections on the basis of universal

adult suffrage, and under the supervision of the United Nations, for the purpose of constituting national assemblies for Ruanda and Urundi,

Noting further the statement of the Administering Authority that the elections are scheduled to begin on 15 January 1961, and its invitation to the United Nations to send a mission to Ruanda-Urundi about 15 December 1960 to see the actual implementation of the arrangements for the elections, such as the composition of the electoral rolls, the course of the election campaign and the organization of the poll,³²

Being conscious of its responsibility to ensure that the supervision of the elections by the United Nations is effective, and that the elections, which will furnish the basis for the Territory's independence, are held in proper conditions so that their results are completely free of doubt or dispute,

Having heard the views of the petitioners belonging to various political parties and groups of Ruanda-Urundi,

1. *Considers* that the necessary conditions and atmosphere must be brought about expeditiously to ensure that the legislative elections, which will lead to the establishment of national democratic institutions and furnish the basis for the national independence of Ruanda-Urundi in accordance with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, take place in an atmosphere of peace and harmony;

2. *Urges* the Administering Authority to implement immediately measures of full and unconditional amnesty and to abolish the emergency régime so as to enable political workers and leaders who are in exile or imprisoned in the Territory to resume normal, democratic political activity before the elections;

3. *Considers* that the expeditious return and rehabilitation of thousands of victims of recent disturbances in Ruanda who were compelled to take refuge away from their homes in Ruanda or abroad will assist the process of reconciliation, and urges the Administering Authority and the local authorities concerned to adopt all possible means to that end;

4. *Recommends* that a conference fully representative of political parties, attended by United Nations observers, should be held early in 1961, before the elections, in order to compose the differences between the parties and to bring about national harmony;

5. *Appeals* to all parties and political leaders of Ruanda-Urundi to exert their efforts to achieve an atmosphere of understanding, peace and harmony for the good of their Territory and people as a whole on the eve of independence;

6. *Calls upon* the Administering Authority to refrain from using the Territory as a base, whether for internal or external purposes, for the accumulation of arms or armed forces not strictly required for the purpose of maintaining public order in the Territory;

7. *Recommends* that the elections scheduled to be held in January 1961 should be postponed to a date to be decided on at the resumed fifteenth session of the General Assembly in the light of the recommendations of the Commission referred to in paragraph 8 below, so that, in addition to the fulfilment of the purpose of the preceding paragraphs of the present resolution,

²⁸ *Ibid.*, Fifteenth Session, Fourth Committee, 1081st meeting.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, Fifteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 44, document A/4663, para. 10.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/4404), part II, chapter II.

³¹ *Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3 (T/1551).*

³² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 45, document A/C.4/455.*