

to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>47</sup> including in particular the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission dispatched to the Territory in May 1976 at the invitation of the administering Power, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,<sup>48</sup>

*Having heard* the statement of the administering Power,<sup>49</sup>

1. *Approves* the chapter of 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 relating to the British Virgin Islands;<sup>50</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the British Virgin Islands to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the conclusions and recommendations of the United Nations Visiting Mission dispatched to the Territory in May 1976<sup>51</sup> and expresses its appreciation to the members of the Visiting Mission for the constructive work accomplished and to the administering Power and the Government of the British Virgin Islands for the close co-operation and assistance extended to the Mission;

4. *Requests* the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, to continue to take all necessary measures, in consultation with the Government of the British Virgin Islands, to expedite the process of decolonization in the Territory in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration;

5. *Endorses* the view of the Visiting Mission that measures to promote the economic development of the British Virgin Islands are an important element in the process of self-determination and expresses the hope that the administering Power will continue to intensify and expand its programme of budgetary and development aid;

6. *Requests* the administering Power, in the light of the conclusions and recommendations of the Visiting Mission, to continue to enlist the assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system in the development and strengthening of the economy of the Territory, and requests those agencies and organizations to respond appropriately to the development needs of the British Virgin Islands;

7. *Further requests* the administering Power, in consultation with the Government of the British Virgin Islands, to pay particular attention to the training of qualified local personnel;

8. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the full examination of this question at its next session in the light of the findings of the Visiting Mission, including the possible dispatch of a further mission to the

British Virgin Islands at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session.

*85th plenary meeting  
1 December 1976*

### 31/55. Question of American Samoa

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of American Samoa,

*Having examined* the relevant chapters of 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,<sup>52</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to American Samoa,

*Conscious* of the need to promote progress towards the full implementation of the Declaration with respect to American Samoa,

*Bearing in mind* the constructive results achieved as a consequence of previous visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories and reiterating its conviction that the dispatch of such missions is essential for securing adequate and first-hand information in regard to the conditions prevailing in those Territories and to the views, wishes and aspirations of the peoples therein with respect to their future status,

*Mindful* that American Samoa requires the continued attention and assistance of the United Nations in the achievement by its people of the objectives embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration,

*Aware* of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of American Samoa, and stressing the necessity of diversifying its economy as a matter of priority in order to reduce its dependence on fluctuating economic activities,

1. *Approves* the chapter of 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 relating to American Samoa;<sup>53</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of American Samoa to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration;

3. *Reaffirms its conviction* that questions of territorial size, geographical location and limited resources should in no way delay the implementation of the Declaration with respect to American Samoa;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the United States of America, as the administering Power, in consultation with the freely elected representatives of the people, to continue to take all the necessary steps to ensure the full and speedy attainment of the goals set forth in the Declaration with respect to the Territory;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take all possible steps to diversify the economy of American

<sup>47</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/31/23/Rev.1), chaps. III and XXVIII.

<sup>48</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. XXVIII, annex.

<sup>49</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Fourth Committee, 11th meeting, paras. 1-11; and *ibid.*, Fourth Committee, Sessional Fascicle, corrigendum.

<sup>50</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/31/23/Rev.1), chap. XXVIII.

<sup>51</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. XXVIII, annex, paras. 154-170.

<sup>52</sup> *Ibid.*, chaps. III and XXII.

<sup>53</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. XXII.

Samoa and to work out concrete programmes of assistance and economic development for the Territory;

6. *Requests* the administering Power to consider favourably inviting a United Nations mission to visit American Samoa for the purpose of observing conditions in the Territory and learning first-hand of the aspirations of the people concerning their political status;

7. *Urges* the administering Power, with the co-operation of the Government of American Samoa, to safeguard the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to the enjoyment of their natural resources by taking effective measures which guarantee the rights of the people to own and dispose of those natural resources and to establish and maintain control of their future development;

8. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to enlist the assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system in accelerating progress in all sectors of the national life of American Samoa;

9. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek the best ways and means for the implementation of the Declaration with respect to American Samoa, including the possible dispatch of a visiting mission in consultation with the administering Power, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*85th plenary meeting  
1 December 1976*

### 31/56. Question of Brunei

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of Brunei,

*Having examined* the relevant chapter of 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,<sup>54</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to the Territory, including in particular the consensus on the question adopted by the General Assembly on 13 December 1974,<sup>55</sup>

*Recalling also* its resolution 3424 (XXX) of 8 December 1975,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Brunei to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Approves* the chapter of 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 relating to Brunei;

3. *Notes* that no progress has been achieved so far in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3424 (XXX);

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. XVIII.

<sup>55</sup> *Ibid.*, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 31 (A/9631), p. 117, item 23.

4. *Calls upon* all parties concerned to work towards the early implementation of resolution 3424 (XXX);

5. *Calls again upon* the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, consistent with its responsibility as the administering Power, to take all steps within its competence to facilitate expeditiously the holding of free and democratic elections by the appropriate government authorities in Brunei, in consultation with and under the supervision of the United Nations, in accordance with the inalienable right of the people of Brunei to self-determination and independence, and further calls, prior to the elections, for the lifting of the ban on all political parties and the return of all political exiles to Brunei so that they can participate freely and fully in the elections;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Power, in conformity with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, to extend full co-operation to the Special Committee;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to keep the situation in the Territory under review and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session.

*85th plenary meeting  
1 December 1976*

### 31/57. Question of the United States Virgin Islands

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of the United States Virgin Islands,

*Having examined* the relevant chapters of 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,<sup>56</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to the United States Virgin Islands,

*Conscious* of the need to promote progress towards the full implementation of the Declaration with respect to the United States Virgin Islands,

*Bearing in mind* the constructive results achieved as a consequence of previous visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories and reiterating its conviction that the dispatch of such missions is essential for securing adequate and first-hand information in regard to the conditions prevailing in those Territories and to the views, wishes and aspirations of the peoples therein with respect to their future status,

*Mindful* that the United States Virgin Islands requires the continued attention and assistance of the United Nations in the achievement by its people of the objectives embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration,

*Aware* of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of the Territory, and stressing the necessity of diversifying its

<sup>56</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/31/23/Rev.1), chaps. III and XXXI.