

Portugal as it exists within its frontiers in Europe and that they do not represent the Portuguese-dominated Territories of Angola and Mozambique nor could they represent Guinea-Bissau, which is an independent State;

II

Approves the second report of the Credentials Committee.²¹

*2204th plenary meeting
17 December 1973*

3186 (XXVIII). Report of the Security Council

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the Security Council covering the period from 16 June 1972 to 15 June 1973,²² submitted in accordance with Article 24, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 2991 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

Having received the report of the Secretary-General²³ submitted in accordance with resolution 2991 (XXVII),

Noting the views and suggestions submitted by Member States as contained in annex II to the Secretary-General's report,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Security Council covering the period from 16 June 1972 to 15 June 1973;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2991 (XXVII);

3. *Draws the attention* of the Security Council, when considering steps to enhance its effectiveness in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, to the views and suggestions submitted by Member States in response to General Assembly resolutions 2864 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 and 2991 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, as contained in the annexes to the Secretary-General's reports submitted in accordance with these resolutions;²⁴

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Security Council any further views and suggestions which might be submitted by Member States in response to resolutions 2864 (XXVI) and 2991 (XXVII).

*2205th plenary meeting
18 December 1973*

²¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Annexes, agenda item 3, document A/9179/Add.1.

²² *Ibid.*, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 2 (A/9002).

²³ A/9143.

²⁴ A/8847, annex, A/8847/Add.1 and A/9143, annex II.

3187 (XXVIII). Restitution of works of art to countries victims of expropriation

The General Assembly,

Aware of the paramount aims of the United Nations and particularly of its faith in fundamental human rights and in the dignity and worth of the human person,

Recalling the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,²⁵

Considering the conclusions of the Fourth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Algiers from 5 to 9 September 1973, particularly paragraph 18 of the Political Declaration,²⁶

Noting with interest the work of the third Congress of the International Association of Art Critics held at Kinshasa-N'Sélé, Zaire, from 14 to 17 September 1973,

Recalling the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its sixteenth session, on 14 November 1970,

Stressing that the cultural heritage of a people conditions the present and future flowering of its artistic values and its over-all development,

Convinced that the promotion of national culture can enhance a people's ability to understand the culture and civilization of other peoples and thus can have a favourable impact on international co-operation,

Deploping the wholesale removal, virtually without payment, of *objets d'art* from one country to another, frequently as a result of colonial or foreign occupation,

Convinced that the restitution of such works would make good the serious damage suffered by countries as a result of such removal,

1. *Affirms* that the prompt restitution to a country of its *objets d'art*, monuments, museum pieces, manuscripts and documents by another country, without charge, is calculated to strengthen international co-operation inasmuch as it constitutes just reparation for damage done;

2. *Recognizes* the special obligations in this connexion of those countries which had access to such valuable objects only as a result of colonial or foreign occupation;

3. *Calls upon* all the States concerned to prohibit the expropriation of works of art from Territories still under colonial or alien domination;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and Member States, to submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session on the progress achieved.

*2206th plenary meeting
18 December 1973*

²⁵ Resolution 1514 (XV).

²⁶ A/9330 and Corr.1, p. 9.