fective measures to safeguard and guarantee the right of the people of Guam to own and dispose of their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over their future development, and notes the decision of the administering Power concerning transfer to the Government of Guam of all mineral rights in submerged lands off the territorial coastline;

11. *Requests* the administering Power to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the people of the Territory;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take the necessary action to enable the inhabitants of Guam to regain possession of unutilized land held at present by the federal authorities and by the military;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Power to develop and promote the language and culture of the Chamorro people;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session, including the possible dispatch of a further visiting mission to Guam, at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session.

57th plenary meeting
11 November 1980

35/23. 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,[18]

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,

Taking into account the statement of the administering Power relating to developments in American Samoa,[19]

Conscious of the need to promote progress towards the full implementation of the Declaration in respect of 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 on the conditions prevailing in those Territories and on the views, wishes and aspirations of the peoples therein with regard to their future status,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of American Samoa and stressing the necessity for diversifying the Territory's 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;[20]

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of American Samoa to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. *Reiterates* the view that such factors as size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy implementation of the Declaration, which fully applies to the Territory;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the United States of America, as the administering Power, to take all necessary steps, taking into account the freely expressed wishes of the people of American Samoa, to expedite the process of decolonization of the Territory in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration;

5. *Welcomes* the invitation extended by the Government of the United States to the Special Committee to send a visiting mission to American Samoa in 1981;

6. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power for the economic and social development of the Territory;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take all possible steps to strengthen and diversify the economy of American Samoa and to work out concrete programmes of assistance and economic development for the Territory;

8. *Urges* the administering Power to continue to foster close relations and co-operation between the people of the Territory and the neighbouring island communities;

9. *Urges* the administering Power, in co-operation with the freely elected representatives 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 right of the people to own and dispose of those natural resources and to establish and maintain control of their future development and, in this connexion, notes the decision of the administering Power concerning the transfer to the Government of American Samoa of all mineral rights in submerged lands off the territorial coastline;

10. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session, including the dispatch of a visiting mission to American Samoa, in consultation with the administering Power, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

57th plenary meeting
11 November 1980

35/24. 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

[18] *Ibid.*, chaps. III and XVI.

[19] *Ibid., Thirty-fifth Session, Fourth Committee*, 13th meeting, paras. 57-63.

[20] *Ibid., Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/35/23/Rev.1), chap. XVI.

the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[21]

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,

Noting the active co-operation given by the administering Power, both through its participation in the work of the Special Committee and through its willingness to receive visiting missions to small Territories under its administration,

Having heard the statement of the administering Power,[22]

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 United States Virgin Islands;[23]

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the United States Virgin Islands to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

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

4. *Requests* the Government of the United States of America, as the administering Power, to continue to take all necessary measures, in consultation with the freely elected authorities and representatives of the people of the United States Virgin Islands, to enable the people of the Territory to exercise fully their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration;

5. *Notes* the recent political and constitutional developments in the Territory, in particular the approval on 31 July 1980 by the Fourth Constitutional Convention of the United States Virgin Islands of a draft constitution for the Territory;

6. *Requests* the administering Power to take such measures as would ensure preservation of the identity and cultural heritage of the people of the United States Virgin Islands;

7. *Urges* the administering Power, in consultation with the freely elected authorities and representatives of the people of the United States Virgin Islands, 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 right of the people to own and dispose of those natural resources and to establish and maintain control of their future development and, in this connexion, notes the decision of the administering Power concerning the transfer to the Government of the United States Virgin Islands of all mineral rights in submerged lands off the territorial coastline;

8. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power for the economic and social development of the Territory and, in this respect, calls upon it to work out concrete programmes of assistance and economic development;

9. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to enlist the assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the development and strengthening of the economy of the United States Virgin Islands;

10. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session, including the possible dispatch of a further visiting mission to the United States Virgin Islands at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session.

57th plenary meeting
11 November 1980

35/25. Question of the Turks and Caicos Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the Turks and Caicos 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,[24] as well as the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission dispatched to the Territory by the Special Committee in April 1980[25] at the invitation of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling also its resolution 34/34 of 21 November 1979 on the question of five Territories, including the Turks and Caicos Islands,

Having heard the statements of the representative of the administering Power,[26]

Mindful of the responsibility of the United Nations to help the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to realize their aspirations in accordance with the objectives set forth in the Declaration,

Recalling that the administering Power has the responsibility to ensure that the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands are kept fully informed of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the Declaration,

Aware of the special problems facing the Territory by virtue of its isolation, small size, limited resources and lack of infrastructure,

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 Turks and Caicos Islands[27] and takes note of the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands, 1980;[25]

[21] *Ibid.*, chaps. III, IV and XXIII.
[22] *Ibid., Thirty-fifth Session, Fourth Committee*, 13th meeting, paras. 57-63.
[23] *Ibid., Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/35/23/Rev.1), chap. XXIII.
[24] *Ibid.*, chaps. III-V and XXVIII.
[25] A/AC.109/636 and Add.1, Add.2 and Add.2/Corr.1 and Add.3.
[26] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Fourth Committee*, 11th meeting, paras. 40-44, and 27th meeting, para. 52.
[27] *Ibid., Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/35/23/Rev.1), chap. XXVIII.