

dence and to promote public debate on Bermuda's future status;

8. *Reaffirms* the importance of the need to foster national unity and a national identity and takes note of the steps taken by the local authorities in that regard, such as the establishment of an institution with a view to preventing discrimination among the people of the Territory on racial, religious, social or political grounds;

9. *Reaffirms its strong conviction* that the administering Power must ensure that military bases and installations do not hinder the people of the Territory from exercising their right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and urges the administering Power to take all necessary measures to comply fully with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations relating to military bases and installations in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories;

10. *Urges once again* the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to continue to take all effective measures to guarantee the right of the people of Bermuda to own and dispose of their natural resources and to establish and maintain control of their future development;

11. *Strongly urges* the administering Power, in consultation with the Government of Bermuda, to make every effort to diversify the economy of Bermuda, including increased efforts to promote agriculture and fisheries and the manufacturing sector for the benefit of the people of the Territory;

12. *Welcomes* the role being played in the Territory by the United Nations Development Programme in providing assistance in the fields of agriculture, forestry and fisheries and urges the specialized agencies and all other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to pay special attention to the development needs of Bermuda;

13. *Reiterates its call* upon the administering Power, in co-operation with the local authorities, to continue to expedite the process of "bermudianization" in the Territory and, in that connection, urges that particular attention be paid to greater localization of the public service;

14. *Calls upon* the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to receive a visiting mission in the Territory at an appropriate time;

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

*86th plenary meeting
7 December 1983*

38/44. Question of the British Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the British 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,¹²

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Inde-

pendence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to the British Virgin Islands,

Taking into account the statement of the representative of the administering Power relating to the Territory,¹³ in which he said that his Government would fully respect the wishes of the people of the British Virgin Islands in determining the future political status of the Territory,

Conscious of the need to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of the Territory,

Noting with appreciation the continued active participation of the administering Power in the work of the Special Committee in regard to the British Virgin Islands, thereby enabling it to conduct a more informed and meaningful examination of the situation in the Territory, with a view to accelerating the process of decolonization for the purpose of the full implementation of the Declaration,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the administering Power for the economic and social development of the Territory,

Taking note of the fact that the economy of the Territory has continued to grow during the period under review, particularly in the fields of real estate and construction industries, tourism and banking,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of the Territory and bearing in mind the necessity of diversifying and strengthening further its economy as a matter of priority in order to promote economic stability,

Recalling the recommendation of the United Nations visiting mission dispatched to the British Virgin Islands in 1976¹⁴ that the administering Power should facilitate the participation of the Territory as an associate member in various organizations within the United Nations system as part of the overall strategy of accelerating the decolonization process, and the continuing assistance provided by the United Nations Development Programme in the development of the Territory,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the small Territories and expressing its satisfaction at the willingness of the administering Power to receive visiting missions in the Territories under its administration,

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;¹⁴

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the British Virgin Islands to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

3. *Reiterates* the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy implementation of the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), which fully applies to the British Virgin Islands;

4. *Reiterates* that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of the British Virgin Islands to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance

¹² *Ibid.*, chaps. III and XX.

¹³ *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/31/23 Rev.1), vol. IV, chap. XXVIII, annex, para. 16.2.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/38/23), chap. XX.

with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly;

5. *Reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the British Virgin Islands themselves to determine their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration and reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Power, in consultation with the freely elected authorities of the territorial Government, to take all necessary steps to ensure the full and speedy attainment of the objectives of decolonization set out in the Charter and the Declaration and all other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

7. *Notes* the continuing commitment of the territorial Government to the goal of economic diversification, particularly in the areas of agriculture, fisheries and small industries and reiterates its call upon the administering Power, in consultation with the local authorities, to intensify its efforts in this regard;

8. *Urges* the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to safeguard the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to the enjoyment of their natural resources by taking effective measures to ensure their right to own and dispose of those resources and to establish and maintain control of their future development;

9. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, to take measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the British Virgin Islands;

10. *Notes with satisfaction* the request of the British Virgin Islands, through the administering Power, for associate membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America and, in that connection, requests the administering Power to facilitate the participation of the Territory in various organizations within the United Nations system in an appropriate capacity;

11. *Considers* that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to the British Virgin Islands at an appropriate time should be kept under review;

12. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session, including the possible dispatch of a visiting 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-ninth session.

*86th plenary meeting
7 December 1983*

38/45. Question of the Cayman Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the Cayman 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,¹⁵

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 Cayman Islands,

Taking into account the statement of the representative of the administering Power relating to the Territory,¹⁶ in which he said that his Government would fully respect the wishes of the people of the Cayman Islands in determining the future constitutional status of the Territory.

Conscious of the need to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of the Territory,

Noting that, in the period under review, the economy of the Territory has continued to sustain sound rates of growth, especially in the tourist, international finance and real estate industries,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the small Territories and expressing its satisfaction at the willingness of the administering Power to receive visiting missions in the Territories under its administration,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of the Territory and bearing in mind the necessity of diversifying and strengthening further the economy as a matter of priority in order to promote economic stability,

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 Cayman Islands;¹⁶

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Cayman Islands to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

3. *Reiterates* the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy implementation of the process of self-determination in accordance with the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), which fully applies to the Cayman Islands;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the participation of the administering Power in the work of the Special Committee in regard to the Cayman Islands, thereby enabling it to conduct a more informed and meaningful examination of the situation in the Territory, with a view to accelerating the process of decolonization for the purpose of the full implementation of the Declaration;

5. *Reiterates* that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Cayman Islands as will enable the people of the Territory to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly;

6. *Reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the Cayman Islands themselves to determine their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration and reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power for the economic and social development of the Territory and urges it, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to render continuing support, to the fullest extent possible, to the development of programmes of economic diversification which will benefit the people of the Territory;

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, chaps. III, V and XXI

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, chap. XXI