

*Taking note* of the letter dated 4 August 1993 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General,<sup>78</sup>

*Considering* that the holding of talks between the two parties at Laayoune from 17 to 19 July 1993 is a positive development,

*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>79</sup>

*Having also examined* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>80</sup>

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Pays tribute* to the Secretary-General and to his Special Representative for their action with a view to settling the question of Western Sahara by the implementation of the settlement plan;

3. *Reiterates its support* for further efforts of the Secretary-General for the organization and supervision by the United Nations, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, in conformity with Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) and 690 (1991) in which the Council adopted the settlement plan for Western Sahara;

4. *Endorses* the contents of the letter dated 4 August 1993 from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General, in which the members of the Council, *inter alia*, fully supported the efforts of the Secretary-General to make swift progress on the preparations for holding a referendum in accordance with Council resolution 809 (1993), noted that the Identification Commission had begun its preparatory work, welcomed the reaffirmation by the two parties of their commitment to the implementation of the peace plan in its entirety, in particular their encouraging responses to the compromise proposal of the Secretary-General concerning the interpretation and application of the criteria, and shared his hope that direct talks between the two parties will soon resume;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara, bearing in mind the ongoing referendum process, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

75th plenary meeting  
10 December 1993

#### 48/50. Question of New Caledonia

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of New Caledonia,

*Having examined* 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 New Caledonia,<sup>81</sup>

*Reaffirming* the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

*Noting* the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

*Noting also*, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

*Welcoming* the positive outcome of the mid-term review of the Matignon Accords in February 1993 and the continuing support for the process by the new French Government,

*Noting* the holding of the Pacific Regional Seminar at Port Moresby from 8 to 10 June 1993 to examine the political, economic and social situation in small island Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Noting with satisfaction* the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

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 New Caledonia;

2. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia and building on the positive outcome of the mid-term review of the Matignon Accords, to maintain their dialogue in a spirit of harmony;

3. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all New Caledonians according to the letter and the spirit of the Matignon Accords, which are based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

4. *Welcomes* recent and impending measures to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields;

5. *Also welcomes* the call by the parties to the Matignon Accords for greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

6. *Commends* the decision to establish a Melanesian cultural centre as a contribution to preserving the indigenous culture of New Caledonia;

7. *Notes* the recent positive initiatives aimed at protecting New Caledonia's natural environment, notably the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

8. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the member countries of the South Pacific Forum;

9. *Welcomes in particular* in this regard, recent high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region;

10. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session.

*75th plenary meeting  
10 December 1993*

**48/51. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands**

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GENERAL

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands,

*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>62</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 resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, those resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

*Recalling also* its resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, containing the principles which should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Conscious* of the need to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of those Territories, in view of the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by the year 2000,

*Aware* of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the necessity of promoting economic stability and

diversifying and strengthening further the economies of the respective Territories as a matter of priority,

*Taking note* of the report of the Pacific Regional Seminar to Review the Political, Economic and Social Conditions in the Small Island Non-Self-Governing Territories,<sup>63</sup> held at Port Moresby from 8 to 10 June 1993, and the information provided at the Seminar by the Lieutenant-Governor of American Samoa and other participants,

*Conscious* of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

*Aware also* of the usefulness both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

*Mindful* that United Nations visiting missions provide a means of ascertaining the situation in the small Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to those Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review,

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank,

*Bearing in mind* the fragile economy of the small Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and recalling General Assembly resolutions and the recommendations of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations, held in New York in June 1990,<sup>64</sup>

*Recalling* the conclusions and recommendations of the Regional Seminar to Review the Special Development Needs of Island Territories, held in connection with the plan of action of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>70</sup> at St. George's from 17 to 19 June 1992, as well as the position taken by the territorial Governments contained in the report of the Seminar,<sup>64</sup>

1. *Takes note* of 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, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands;

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of those Territories to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. *Reaffirms also* that it is ultimately for the people of those Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and in that connection calls upon the