

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

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2382 (XXIII). Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, which established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions reaffirming the desirability of the Committee continuing its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which man is exposed,

Conscious of the continued need for compiling information about atomic radiation and for analysing its effects on man and his environment,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the report adopted by the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation at its eighteenth session;¹

2. *Commends* the Scientific Committee for the valuable contributions it has made since its inception to wider knowledge and understanding of the effects and levels of atomic radiation;

3. *Draws the attention* of Member States to the review of information required to continue the Scientific Committee's assessment of world-wide levels of radiation from nuclear tests, as contained in the letter annexed to the report of the Committee;

4. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to complete its current programme of work and to review and formulate plans for its future activities;

5. *Notes* the intention of the Scientific Committee to hold its nineteenth session in May 1969 and to report further to the General Assembly.

*1709th plenary meeting,
1 November 1968.*

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 30, document A/7126.

2396 (XXIII). The policies of *apartheid* of the Government of South Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions on this question and Security Council resolutions 181 (1963) of 7 August 1963, 182 (1963) of 4 December 1963, 190 (1964) of 9 June 1964 and 191 (1964) of 18 June 1964,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the Policies of *Apartheid* of the Government of the Republic of South Africa² and the report of the Sub-Committee on Information on *Apartheid* annexed thereto,³

Taking into account the decisions and recommendations contained in the Proclamation of Teheran⁴ adopted by the International Conference on Human Rights, held at Teheran from 22 April to 13 May 1968,

Noting with concern that the Government of South Africa continues to intensify and extend beyond the borders of South Africa its inhuman and aggressive policies of *apartheid* and that these policies have led to a violent conflict, creating a situation in the whole of southern Africa which constitutes a grave threat to international peace and security,

Recognizing that the policies and actions of the Government of South Africa constitute a serious obstacle to the exercise of the right of self-determination by the oppressed people of southern Africa,

Convinced that the international campaign against *apartheid* must be intensified urgently in order to assist in securing the elimination of these inhuman policies,

² *Ibid.*, Twenty-third Session, agenda item 31, document A/7254.

³ *Ibid.*, annex I.

⁴ See *Final Act of the International Conference on Human Rights* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.XIV.2), p. 3.

Considering that effective action for a solution of the situation in South Africa is imperative in order to eliminate the grave threat to the peace in southern Africa as a whole,

Noting that the Security Council has not considered the problem of *apartheid* since 1964,

1. *Reiterates* its condemnation of the policies of *apartheid* practised by the Government of South Africa as a crime against humanity;

2. *Condemns* the Government of South Africa for its illegal occupation of Namibia and its military intervention and for its assistance to the racist minority régime in Southern Rhodesia in violation of United Nations resolutions;

3. *Reaffirms* the urgent necessity of eliminating the policies of *apartheid* so that the people of South Africa as a whole can exercise their right to self-determination and attain majority rule based on universal suffrage;

4. *Draws the attention* of the Security Council to the grave situation in South Africa and in southern Africa as a whole and requests the Council to resume urgently the consideration of the question of *apartheid* with a view to adopting, under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, effective measures to ensure the full implementation of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa;

5. *Condemns* the actions of those States, particularly the main trading partners of South Africa, and the activities of those foreign financial and other interests, all of which, through their political, economic and military collaboration with the Government of South Africa and contrary to the relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, are encouraging that Government to persist in its racial policies;

6. *Reaffirms* its recognition of the legitimacy of the struggle of the people of South Africa for all human rights, and in particular political rights and fundamental freedoms for all the people of South Africa irrespective of race, colour or creed;

7. *Calls upon* all States and organizations to provide greater moral, political and material assistance to the South African liberation movement in its legitimate struggle;

8. *Expresses its grave concern* over the ruthless persecution of opponents of *apartheid* under arbitrary laws and the treatment of freedom fighters who were taken prisoner during the legitimate struggle for liberation, and:

(a) *Condemns* the Government of South Africa for its cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment of political prisoners;

(b) *Calls* once again for the release of all persons imprisoned or restricted for their opposition to *apartheid* and appeals to all Governments, organizations and individuals to intensify their efforts in order to induce the Government of South Africa to release all such persons and to stop the persecution and ill-treatment of opponents of *apartheid*;

(c) *Declares* that such freedom fighters should be treated as prisoners of war under international law, particularly the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War of 12 August 1949;⁵

(d) *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish and publicize as widely as possible:

(i) A register of persons who have been executed, imprisoned, placed under house arrest or banning orders or deported for their opposition to *apartheid*;

(ii) A register of all available information on acts of brutality committed by the Government of South Africa and its officials against opponents of *apartheid* in prisons;

9. *Commends* the activities of anti-*apartheid* movements and other organizations engaged in providing assistance to the victims of *apartheid* and in promoting their cause, and invites all States, organizations and individuals to make generous contributions in support of their endeavours;

10. *Urges* the Governments of all States to discourage in their territories, by legislative or other acts, all activities and organizations which support the policies of *apartheid* as well as any propaganda in favour of the policies of *apartheid* and racial discrimination;

11. *Requests* all States to discourage the flow of immigrants, particularly skilled and technical personnel, to South Africa;

12. *Requests* all States and organizations to suspend cultural, educational, sporting and other exchanges with the racist régime and with organizations or institutions in South Africa which practise *apartheid*;

13. *Invites* all States and organizations to commemorate as widely as possible the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in 1969 in order to express their solidarity with the oppressed people of South Africa;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Policies of *Apartheid* of the Government of the Republic of South Africa, as a matter of priority, to study and report on the implementation of the United Nations resolutions on the question of *apartheid*, the effects of the measures taken and the means of securing more effective international action;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to intensify its efforts to promote the international campaign against *apartheid* and, to this end, authorizes it:

(a) To hold sessions away from Headquarters or to send a sub-committee on a mission to consult specialized agencies, regional organizations, States and non-governmental organizations;

(b) To hold consultations with experts and to arrange for special studies on various aspects of *apartheid*, in consultation with the Secretary-General and within the budgetary provision to be made for this purpose;

16. *Requests* all States, specialized agencies and other organizations to intensify the dissemination of information on the evils of *apartheid* in the light of the report of the Special Committee and, in this respect, reiterates its request to those States which have not yet done so to encourage urgently the establishment of national committees as provided in paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 2307 (XXII) of 13 December 1967;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the proposals of the Special Committee for the widest dissemination of information on *apartheid*:

(a) To ensure that the Unit on *Apartheid*, established in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 2144 A (XXI) of 26 October 1966, discharges its increased functions in the light of the proposals out-

⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75 (1950), No. 972.

lined in paragraph 146 of the report of the Special Committee;

(b) To take other appropriate steps to assist all States, specialized agencies and other organizations to intensify the dissemination of information;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Special Committee with all the necessary means, including appropriate financial means, for the effective accomplishment of its task;

19. *Invites* States, specialized agencies, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations to co-operate with the Secretary-General and the Special Committee in the accomplishment of their tasks under the present resolution.

1731st plenary meeting,
2 December 1968.

2397 (XXIII). United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2054 B (XX) of 15 December 1965 and 2202 B (XXI) of 16 December 1966 concerning the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General⁶ to which is annexed the report of the Committee of Trustees of the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa,

Considering it appropriate and essential to continue and increase humanitarian assistance to the victims of the policies of *apartheid* of the Government of South Africa,

Noting that the Committee of Trustees has drawn attention to the need for greater contributions to the Fund and for a revision of its terms of reference,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments, organizations and individuals which have contributed to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General and the Committee of Trustees of the Fund for their efforts to promote the purposes of the Fund;

3. *Decides* to revise the purposes of the Fund to provide:

(a) Legal assistance to persons persecuted under the repressive and discriminatory legislation of South Africa;

(b) Relief to such persons and their dependants;

(c) Education of such persons and their dependants;

(d) Relief for refugees from South Africa;

4. *Again appeals* to all States, organizations and individuals for generous contributions to the Fund.

1731st plenary meeting,
2 December 1968.

2451 (XXIII). Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965, 2053 A (XX) of 15 December 1965, 2249 (S-V) of 23 May 1967 and 2308 (XXII) of 13 December 1967,

⁶ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 31, document A/7270.

Having received and examined the reports of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations of 2 July 1968⁷ and 12 December 1968,⁸

Mindful of the importance which Member States attach to the comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects,

Noting that the Special Committee has appointed a working group for the preparation of working papers for the study that the Special Committee was requested to submit to the General Assembly in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 2308 (XXII),

Noting that the Special Committee has approved, as a first model in the programme of its working group, a study of the United Nations military observers established or authorized by the Security Council for observation purposes pursuant to Council resolutions,

Noting further from the report of the Special Committee of 12 December 1968 that preliminary work has been undertaken in the preparation of the above-mentioned study,

1. *Requests* the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations to continue its work under General Assembly resolution 2308 (XXII), including the provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4 of that resolution;

2. *Reiterates* its request to the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations to keep the General Assembly regularly informed about its progress in the comprehensive review of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects;

3. *Further requests* the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations to submit to the General Assembly as soon as possible, and not later than at its twenty-fourth session, a comprehensive report on the United Nations military observers established or authorized by the Security Council for observation purposes pursuant to Council resolutions, as well as a progress report on such work as the Special Committee may be able to undertake on any other models of peace-keeping operations;

4. *Transmits* to the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations the records of the debates at the present session on the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects", with the request that the suggestions and proposals contained therein be taken into account.

1749th plenary meeting,
19 December 1968.

2452 (XXIII). Report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

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The General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Reaffirming its resolution 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967,

Taking note of the appeal made by the Secretary-General in the Special Political Committee on 11 November 1968,⁹

⁷ *Ibid.*, agenda item 32, document A/7131.

⁸ *Ibid.*, document A/7396.

⁹ *Ibid.*, Twenty-third Session, Special Political Committee, 612th meeting, paras. 2-14.