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RECENT ACTIVITIES 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

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I. INTRODUCTION

At its sixteenth session, in 1961, the General Assembly established the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, consisting of 17 members, and requested the Committee to examine the application of the Declaration, contained in Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration (resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961).

In 1963, the General Assembly approved a preliminary list of Territories to which the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applied, as included in the report of the Special Committee to the Assembly that year.^{1/} The list contained 64 Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories with a total population of some 87 million.

Since then, the Special Committee has actively promoted and facilitated the process of decolonization with respect to these Territories and in so doing it has helped fulfil one of the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, by which Member States pledged to respect the principle of self-determination and equal rights for all peoples and to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In 1985, 25 years after the adoption of the Declaration, there remain 18 Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories on the above-mentioned list, with a population of some 2.5 million.

At present, the membership of the Special Committee, increased in 1962 to 24, consists of: Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Mali, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

Section II below describes the manner in which the Special Committee organizes its work. Contained in section III is a summary of the Committee's activities during 1984 and its recommendations to the General Assembly at the latter's thirty-ninth session.^{2/}

II. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

As a rule, the Special Committee holds two sessions a year and submits its annual report to the General Assembly in September. In 1984, the first session took place from 13 February to 9 May and the second from 7 to 24 August. An extra-sessional meeting was held in October when the Committee considered the report of the visiting mission sent to Anguilla in early September 1984 (A/AC.109/799).

At its 1984 and 1985 sessions, the Special Committee re-established its three subsidiary bodies: Working Group, Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance and Sub-Committee on Small Territories. The membership of the subsidiary bodies in 1985 is as follows:

- Working Group: Congo and Iran (Islamic Republic of), together with the five officers of the Special Committee, as well as the Chairman and the Rapporteur of the Sub-Committee on Small Territories;

- Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance: Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Mali, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and United Republic of Tanzania;

- Sub-Committee on Small Territories: Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Chile, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Mali, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

In 1985, the following members were elected to serve as Committee officers: Mr. Abdul G. Koroma (Sierra Leone), Chairman; Mr. Oscar Oramas-Oliva (Cuba), Mr. Jan Lundvik (Sweden) and Mr. Jiri Pulz (Czechoslovakia), Vice-Chairmen; and Mr. Ahmad Farouk Arnouss (Syrian Arab Republic), Rapporteur. Mr. Pulz also serves as Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance. Mr. Ammar Amari (Tunisia) serves as Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Small Territories and Mr. Anders Bjurner (Sweden) as Rapporteur.

At the beginning of each year, the Special Committee decides how best it should consider the various matters referred to it by the General Assembly at the latter's preceding session. The decisions taken by the Special Committee in February 1985 in this connection are contained in the annex to the present paper. In relation to the timing for consideration of these matters, the Chairman consults all the parties concerned and interested and makes appropriate recommendations to the Committee.

The two Sub-Committees meet two to three times each week during the first half of the year and submit reports on the items referred to them for consideration, containing appropriate recommendations, to the Special Committee. These reports are considered by the Committee as they become available. The Committee also holds plenary meetings during the first session as required and, in August, on a regular basis.

In considering items on its agenda, the Special Committee takes into account information contained in working papers prepared by the Secretariat. Such information is drawn from the annual reports transmitted by administering Powers under the terms of Article 73 e of the Charter, as well as published sources and material.

III. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S WORK IN 1984

A. General

During its 1984 session, the Special Committee considered all the questions referred to in the annex to the present paper and submitted, to the General Assembly, for consideration at its thirty-ninth session, 15 draft resolutions and 5 draft decisions. The Assembly adopted the Committee's recommendations at that session with very few changes. A brief account of those recommendations is given below.^{3/}

B. Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Aware that the year 1985 would mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration, the Chairman of the Committee held a series of extended consultations during 1984 with a number of high-ranking Government officials, presiding officers of the United Nations bodies concerned, senior officials of the United Nations Secretariat and specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as with leaders of the national liberation movements concerned and the relevant non-governmental organizations. On the basis of these consultations, the Committee submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration a programme of activities to be undertaken in observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary.^{4/} The Programme was subsequently approved by the Assembly at its thirty-ninth session.^{5/} As envisaged under the Programme, the Committee held two regional seminars, one at Port Moresby in early March 1985 and the other at Havana in early April 1985. An extraordinary session of the Committee, also called for under the Programme, was held at Tunis in mid-May.

In addition to the regional seminars and the extraordinary session referred to above, the General Assembly, on the basis of the Special Committee's recommendation, invited Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned, as well as the Secretary-General, to undertake appropriate activities in support of the peoples of colonial Territories. In particular, they were requested to give widespread and intensified publicity to the situation in those Territories and to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization. At the regional level, inter-governmental regional organizations were requested to hold commemorative meetings and seminars, prepare special studies on colonial questions and adopt measures to increase moral and material assistance to those peoples.

Governments were requested to establish national committees for the commemoration of the anniversary and to co-ordinate various commemorative activities in 1985. The General Assembly decided to hold a commemorative meeting during its fortieth session, at which statements might be made by the Chairman of the Special Committee, the President of the Assembly, the Secretary-General and the presiding officers of the Special Committee against Apartheid and the United Nations Council for Namibia.

The Chairman of the Special Committee was requested to prepare the draft text of a special declaration/final document for consideration by Committee members in the first instance and subsequently by the General Assembly at its fortieth session. At that session, the Assembly also envisages holding a special commemorative plenary meeting in observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary.

C. Question of Namibia

In 1984, the Special Committee considered the question of Namibia, as at its previous sessions, with the participation of the presiding officer of the United Nations Council for Namibia and representatives of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO).

On 20 August, the Special Committee adopted a decision on the question without a negative vote.^{6/} In that decision, the Committee expressed its grave concern at the critical situation in and around Namibia resulting from the continuing illegal occupation of the Territory by the racist minority régime of South Africa, its persistent defiance of the relevant United Nations decisions and its attempts to impose neo-colonial institutions on the people of Namibia, through bogus and puppet political groupings, in order to legitimize an internal settlement.

In reiterating that the United Nations plan for Namibia contained in Security Council resolution 435 (1978) of 29 September 1978 remained the only acceptable basis for a peaceful settlement of the Namibian question, the Committee called for its immediate implementation without modification, qualification or pre-condition. In that regard, the Committee rejected the persistent attempts by the United States of America and South Africa to establish any linkage or parallelism between the independence of Namibia and the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola.

The Special Committee rejected the attempts by South Africa and its allies to impart to the question of Namibia a dimension different from what it was, namely, an act of colonial domination in violation of the principles and objectives of the Charter. The question remained a decolonization issue and should be addressed and resolved in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

The Special Committee also rejected the policy of so-called "constructive engagement" pursued by the United States Government, which had further emboldened the apartheid régime to intensify its repression of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia and to escalate aggression against front-line States.

It condemned South Africa's large-scale military build-up in Namibia as well as the continued military, economic and other collaboration between South Africa and certain Western and other States. The Special Committee also expressed its grave concern at the continued collaboration of those States in the nuclear field, in violation of Security Council resolution 418 (1977) of 4 November 1977 imposing a military embargo against South Africa.

In reaffirming that all the natural resources of Namibia were the inviolable and uncontestable heritage of the Namibian people, the Special Committee strongly condemned South Africa and other foreign economic interests which illegally exploited such resources, in disregard of Decree No. 1 for the Protection of the Natural Resources of Namibia.^{1/}

The Special Committee strongly recommended that the Security Council, in the light of the serious threat to international peace and security posed by South Africa's actions, respond positively to the overwhelming demand of the international community by imposing comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa under the terms of Chapter VII of the Charter.

The Special Committee affirmed its full support for the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) and viewed with indignation and grave concern South Africa's attempts to thwart the work of the Conference. The Committee called upon all States to render every possible assistance to the Conference in its efforts to promote regional economic co-operation and development and to reduce the economic dependence of countries of the area on racist South Africa.

The Special Committee noted with profound concern the continued assistance provided to the South African régime by certain international organizations and institutions, as exemplified by the granting of a loan of \$US 1.1 billion in November 1982 by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Such assistance only served to augment the military capability of the Pretoria régime, thus enabling it to continue the brutal suppression of the oppressed majority in South Africa itself, while subsidizing its illegal occupation of Namibia and, at the same time, encouraging the apartheid régime to commit blatant aggression against independent neighbouring States. The Committee called once again upon the Fund to terminate all co-operation with and assistance to the apartheid régime and urged all States members of the Fund to take appropriate action towards that end.

D. Specific Territories

In addition to the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on specific Territories, the Special Committee receives supplementary information concerning these Territories in the form of statements by the representatives of the administering Powers concerned, both at meetings of the Sub-Committee on Small Territories and at plenary meetings. The Special Committee's capacity to assist in expediting the decolonization process of these Territories has been enhanced as a result of the continued co-operation extended to it by those administering Powers.

The Special Committee attaches great importance to securing adequate and first-hand information on the constitutional, political, economic and social conditions prevailing in colonial Territories, as well as on the views and aspirations of their inhabitants concerning their future status. Accordingly, as called for by the General Assembly in a number of related resolutions, the Committee has invited the administering Powers to continue to co-operate with the Committee by permitting the access of United Nations visiting missions to the Territories under their respective administration. As a result of the positive responses received from the administering Powers concerned to this invitation, it has been possible for the United Nations to dispatch no fewer than 20 visiting missions to colonial Territories over the past two decades. Two United Nations Visiting Missions took place in 1984, one to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands and the other to Anguilla.

In April 1984, the Secretary-General dispatched, at the invitation of the Australian Government, the administering Power concerned, and under the terms of General Assembly decision 38/420 of 7 December 1983, a United Nations Visiting Mission to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, in order to observe an act of self-determination by the people of the Territory. The Mission, consisting of four members of the Special Committee, namely, Fiji (H.E. Mr. Ratu Jone Filipe Radrodro), Sierra Leone (H.E. Mr. Abdul G. Koroma, Chairman), Venezuela (Miss María Eugenia Trujillo) and Yugoslavia (Mr. Nebojsa Dimitrijević), submitted its report to the Assembly at its thirty-ninth session (A/39/494, annex). The Assembly, in noting that the people of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands had voted by a substantial majority for integration with Australia, endorsed the view of the Mission that they had duly exercised their right to self-determination in accordance with the Charter and the Declaration.^{8/}

In September 1984, the Special Committee dispatched, at the invitation of the United Kingdom Government, the administering Power concerned, a United Nations Visiting Mission to Anguilla. The Mission, composed of India (Mr. Kunwar Bahadur Srivastava), Trinidad and Tobago (Mr. Deryck Murray) and Tunisia (Mr. Ammar Amari, Chairman), submitted its report to the Committee in October (A/AC.109/799). On the basis of the Mission's findings, the Committee submitted its recommendations to the General Assembly on the Territory. The Assembly, by adopting those recommendations, among other things, urged the administering Power, in co-operation with the Government of Anguilla, to expand the programme of political education so as to improve the awareness of the people of the Territory of the options available to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the Charter and the Declaration.

Following its consideration of specific Territories in 1984, the Special Committee reiterated the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the peoples of those Territories of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV).

The Special Committee emphasized the responsibility of the administering Powers to create such conditions in their respective Territories as would enable their people to exercise freely their inalienable right to self-determination and independence. The Committee considered it to be the sovereign right of the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine their future political status, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and the Declaration. The Committee called upon the administering Powers, in co-operation with the respective territorial Governments, to launch intensified programmes of political education in order to facilitate the free and unfettered exercise by those peoples of their right to self-determination and independence.

The Special Committee urged the administering Powers to take the necessary measures, in co-operation with the territorial Governments, to facilitate a sustained and balanced growth of their fragile economies and to intensify their assistance in the development of all sectors of those economies, with particular emphasis on programmes of diversification, in order to promote the economic and financial viability of those Territories.

The Special Committee called upon the administering Powers, in co-operation with the territorial Governments, to safeguard the inalienable rights of the peoples of colonial Territories 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. In that regard, the Committee would continue to monitor closely the situation in those Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories were aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interests of the indigenous peoples and their speedy accession to independence. The Committee requested the administering Powers to ensure that the peoples of the Territories under their administration were not exploited for political, military and other purposes detrimental to their interests.

The Special Committee urged the administering Powers, in co-operation with the territorial Governments, to continue to provide all necessary assistance in the field of education and to accelerate the process of localization of the civil service at all levels so as to enable the peoples of the Territories to conduct their own affairs and to accede rapidly to the status of self-government. It also urged the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to preserve and promote the cultures, language and heritage of the indigenous populations of the Territories.

Having heard statements of the representatives of the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in respect of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), the Special Committee, aware of the interest of the international community in the resumption of negotiations by the two Governments in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful, just and lasting solution to the dispute, reaffirmed the need for the two Governments to take due account of the interests of the population of the islands in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 2065 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 3160 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 37/9 of 4 November 1982 and 38/12 of 16 November 1983. The Committee reiterated that the way to put an end to the special and particular colonial situation was the peaceful settlement of the continuing dispute between the two Governments and urged them to resume negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful solution to the dispute. The Committee reiterated its firm support for the renewed mission of good offices by the Secretary-General in that connection.

As regards the questions of Western Sahara and East Timor, after hearing the related statements of petitioners, the Special Committee agreed that, subject to any directives which the General Assembly might give in that connection at its thirty-ninth session, it should continue consideration of those questions at its 1985 session. On the question of Gibraltar, the Committee likewise decided to continue consideration of the question at its 1985 session.

E. Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Namibia and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa

During 1984, the Special Committee continued its study of the activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration in Namibia and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa.

In noting with profound concern that the colonial Powers and certain States, through their activities in the colonial Territories, had continued to disregard the relevant United Nations decisions, and in condemning the intensified activities of those foreign economic, financial and other interests which continued to exploit the natural and human resources of the colonial Territories, particularly of Namibia, the Special Committee reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of dependent Territories to the enjoyment of their natural resources, as well as their right to dispose of those resources in their best interests. The Committee also reaffirmed that, by their depletive exploitation of natural resources, particularly in southern Africa, the activities of foreign economic, financial and other interests constituted a major obstacle to political independence and racial equality, as well as to the enjoyment of the natural resources of those Territories by their indigenous inhabitants.

Accordingly, the Special Committee condemned the policies of Governments that continued to support or collaborate with those foreign economic and other interests engaged in exploiting the natural and human resources of the Territories. The Committee strongly condemned the collusion by the Governments of certain Western and other countries with the racist régime of South Africa in the nuclear field and called upon those and all other Governments to refrain from supplying that régime, directly or indirectly, with installations that might enable it to produce uranium, plutonium and other nuclear materials, reactors or military equipment.

The Special Committee called upon all States, in particular certain Western States, to take urgent, effective measures to terminate all collaboration with South Africa in the political, diplomatic, economic, trade, military and nuclear fields and to refrain from entering into other relations with the racist régime of South Africa in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU). The Committee also called upon all Governments which had not yet done so to take legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that owned and operated enterprises in colonial Territories, particularly in Africa, which were detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises and to prevent new investments which ran counter to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories.

The Special Committee called upon all States to terminate any investments in Namibia or loans to South Africa and to refrain from any agreements to promote trade with the régime. It requested all States which had not yet done so to take effective measures to end the supply of funds and other forms of assistance, including military supplies and equipment, to the racist minority régime of South Africa, which used such assistance to repress the people of Namibia and their national liberation movement. The Committee declared that all activities of foreign economic interests in Namibia were illegal under international law and that consequently South Africa and all foreign economic interests operating in Namibia were liable to pay damages to the future lawful Government of an independent Namibia.

The Special Committee requested all States to take legislative, administrative and other measures in order effectively to isolate South Africa politically, economically, militarily and culturally, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, and to discontinue all relations with the Government of South Africa concerning Namibia and to refrain from entering into any relations with that Government, purporting to act on behalf of or concerning Namibia, which might lend support to its illegal occupation of the Territory.

The Special Committee requested the Secretary-General to undertake, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, a sustained and broad campaign with a view to informing world public opinion of the facts concerning the pillaging of natural resources in colonial Territories and the exploitation of their indigenous populations by foreign monopolies and, in respect of Namibia, the support they render to the racist minority régime of South Africa.

The Special Committee appealed to all non-governmental organizations to continue their campaign to mobilize international public opinion for the enforcement of economic and other sanctions against the Pretoria régime.

F. Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Having continued its study of the military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration, the Special Committee again deplored the fact that the colonial Powers had not taken steps to implement the relevant United Nations resolutions. In recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and all other relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions relating to military bases and installations in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Committee reaffirmed its strong conviction that the presence of military bases and installations in the Territories concerned could constitute a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration and that it was the responsibility of the administering Powers concerned in that regard to ensure that the existence of such bases and installations did not hinder the populations of the Territories from exercising their right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter.

Aware of the presence of military bases and installations of the administering Powers concerned and other countries in those Territories, the Special Committee urged those administering Powers to continue to take all necessary measures not to involve such Territories in any offensive acts of interference against others and to comply fully with the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Declaration and the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly relating to military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration. The Committee deplored the fact that South Africa and the colonial Powers continued to engage in activities and dispositions of a military character and to establish and maintain bases and other military installations in Namibia and other colonial Territories in violation of the purposes and principles of the Charter and of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV).

The Special Committee noted that in its escalating war against the people of Namibia and their sole and authentic national liberation movement, SWAPO, the South African régime had repeatedly committed acts of armed aggression against the neighbouring independent African countries, particularly Angola, which had caused extensive loss of human life and destruction of the economic infrastructure. Noting that the South African Government had continued to expand its network of military bases and had carried out a massive build-up of its military forces in Namibia, the Committee condemned the continuing co-operation of certain

Western and other countries with South Africa in supplying it with arms and military equipment, including technology, supplies and equipment in the nuclear field capable of being utilized for military purposes. The Committee demanded the immediate cessation of the war of oppression waged by the racist minority régime against the people of Namibia and their national liberation movement.

The Special Committee condemned any continued military collaboration and support which certain Western countries and other States rendered to the Government of South Africa and called upon all States to cease such collaboration and support which increased its capacity to wage wars against neighbouring African States. The Committee condemned the continued nuclear co-operation by certain Western countries and other States with South Africa and called upon the States concerned to halt the supply to South Africa of equipment, technology, nuclear materials and related training.

In reiterating its condemnation of all military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which were detrimental to the interests and rights of the colonial peoples concerned, the Special Committee again requested the colonial Powers concerned to terminate such activities and eliminate such military bases in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly. In that connection, the Committee deprecated the continued alienation of land in colonial Territories for military installations and considered that the large-scale utilization of local economic and manpower resources to service such installations diverted resources which could be more beneficially utilized in promoting the economic development of the Territories concerned.

G. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

In reviewing the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, the Special Committee took into account information received from those organizations on their related activities, the consultations held between the Chairman and the President of the Economic and Social Council on the question and the recommendations of its Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance and the Economic and Social Council on the related items, as well as the views expressed by SWAPO, whose representatives participated in an observer capacity in its work relating to their country. The Committee also received the continued co-operation and benefited from the active participation of the representatives of OAU in the related work. Further, it took into

account the views expressed by the representatives of a number of specialized agencies and other organizations concerned during the related consultations.

The Special Committee expressed concern that, although there had been progress in giving assistance to refugees from Namibia, the assistance extended so far to the colonial peoples, particularly the people of Namibia and their national liberation movement, SWAPO, by the organizations of the United Nations system remained far from adequate in relation to actual needs. The Committee reaffirmed that the recognition by the United Nations of the legitimacy of the liberation struggle of colonial peoples entailed, as a corollary, the extension by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of all the necessary moral and material assistance to those peoples and their national liberation movements. In that regard, while expressing its appreciation to those agencies and organizations which had continued to co-operate with the United Nations and OAU in the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant General Assembly resolutions, the Committee requested the agencies and other organizations concerned to render or continue to render, as a matter of urgency, all possible assistance to colonial peoples struggling for their liberation from colonial rule.

The Special Committee reiterated its recommendation that the organizations concerned should initiate or broaden contacts with the peoples and their national liberation movements and that they should review and introduce greater flexibility in their procedures with respect to the preparation of assistance programmes and projects. In addition, the Committee requested all agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with the relevant United Nations decisions, to withhold all assistance from the Government of South Africa until the people of Namibia had exercised fully their inalienable right to self-determination and independence and to refrain from taking any action which might imply recognition of, or support for, the legitimacy of the domination of the Territory by that régime.

The Special Committee expressed its regret that the World Bank and IMF continued to maintain links with the racist régime of Pretoria, as exemplified by the continued membership of South Africa in both agencies, and expressed the view that the two agencies should put an end to all links with that régime. It strongly condemned the persistent collaboration between IMF and South Africa in disregard of repeated General Assembly resolutions to the contrary, particularly the granting of a loan of \$US 1.1 billion to South Africa in November 1982.

The Special Committee requested the agencies, organizations and institutions concerned to extend substantial assistance to the Governments of the front-line States in support of the liberation struggle of the people of Namibia and their national liberation movement. In noting with satisfaction the inclusion of Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia, in the membership of various specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, the Committee urged those agencies and organizations which had not so far granted full membership to the United Nations Council for Namibia to do so without delay. The Committee requested the General Assembly to recommend that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and organizations of which they were members, to ensure the effective implementation of all the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

The Special Committee also urged the executive heads of the agencies and organizations concerned to formulate, with the active participation of OAU, and to submit, as a matter of priority, to their governing bodies and legislative organs, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant United Nations decisions, in particular specific programmes of assistance to the peoples in the colonial Territories and their national liberation movements.

H. Dissemination of information on decolonization

In the light of the request addressed to the Secretary-General by the General Assembly to continue to take concrete measures through all the media at his disposal to implement its previous decisions on the matter,^{2/} the Special Committee continued its review of the question of publicity to be given to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization. In so doing, the Committee took into account the related recommendations of its Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance. The Committee again stressed the need to mobilize world public opinion in order to assist effectively the peoples of colonial Territories, and, in particular, to intensify the widespread and continuous dissemination of information on the struggle being waged by those peoples and their national liberation movements to achieve freedom and independence.

Bearing in mind the important role played during the past several years by a number of non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization, the Special Committee held at Vienna in February 1984 a Seminar with non-governmental organizations based in Europe on dissemination of information on decolonization (A/AC.109/L.1499 and Add.1). The Committee decided to maintain an up-to-date list of non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization in

order to enable the Committee to increase its contacts with them in 1985. The Committee remained of the view that because such organizations were in a position to reach broad sectors of public opinion, especially in those countries where the need for information on decolonization was greatest, they should be urged to intensify their work in that field.

In the same context, the Special Committee considered it essential that concrete measures be taken to intensify the dissemination of information on decolonization issues, particularly by placing special emphasis on the liberation struggle in Namibia and the activities of SWAPO; publicizing the activities of the United Nations organs in the field of decolonization; providing wider dissemination of information on all colonial Territories, especially those where there were military bases and installations; intensifying the relevant activities of all United Nations information centres, particularly those located in Western Europe and the Americas; and strengthening its co-operation with the pool of non-aligned press agencies and providing it with more varied publicity material and information concerning United Nations activities in the field of decolonization.

The Special Committee requested the Department of Public Information to provide it with all necessary information to enable it to evaluate the effectiveness of the activities of the United Nations information centres with regard to the dissemination of information on decolonization and to produce new visual material on the most vital problems of decolonization, particularly a new film in connection with the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration. The Committee considered that the Department of Public Information should intensify its efforts to obtain wider coverage by the mass media in Western Europe and the Americas and to provide the Committee at its 1985 session with information on the results achieved.

I. Other matters

In respect of information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter, the Special Committee requested the administering Powers to continue to ensure timely submission of adequate information called for, so as to facilitate the review by the Committee of the situation in those Territories. The Committee reaffirmed that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory had attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter with respect to that Territory.

Aware that the direct association of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the United Nations is an effective means of promoting the progress of the peoples of colonial Territories towards a position of equality with Member States of the United Nations, the Special Committee requested the administering Powers to associate closely representatives of the peoples of those Territories in the related work of the Special Committee.

The list of Territories to which the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applies, which was approved by the General Assembly in 1963,^{1/} has been the subject of annual review by the Special Committee, in accordance with the related decisions of the Assembly. Since 1963, the list has been modified mainly by virtue of accession to independence of a number of Territories and also on the basis of the related recommendations of the Committee. In 1984, the Committee once again undertook the review of the list and decided that, subject to any decision that might be taken by the Assembly at its thirty-ninth session, it would continue the review at its 1985 session. Within the context of this mandate, the Committee, in 1984, continued its review of the situation as regards Puerto Rico, under the terms of its own decision adoption at its 1983 session,^{10/} in which it decided, among other things, to keep the situation under review. In this regard, the Committee, as in previous years, heard statements of a number of representatives of organizations concerned and adopted a further resolution on the matter. In that resolution,^{11/} the Committee reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples to self-determination and independence in conformity with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the full applicability of the fundamental principles of that resolution with respect to Puerto Rico.

During the year, the Special Committee maintained a close working relationship with other United Nations bodies concerned, including in particular the Special Committee against Apartheid, the United Nations Council for Namibia, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The Committee followed closely the work of these bodies as they related to colonial issues and took into account the relevant decisions adopted by these bodies, in connection with its consideration of the various items on its agenda.

The Chairman of the Special Committee represented the Committee at a number of important international conferences, seminars and symposia organized by inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Notes

- 1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23, document A/5446/Rev.1, annex I.
- 2/ Ibid., Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23.
- 3/ This section contains a brief review of the principal decisions taken by the Special Committee during its 1984 session. A full account of these and other decisions is given in the relevant chapters of its report. The views and reservations expressed by individual members on matter covered by this section are contained in the records of the meetings at which they were discussed, references to which are also included in the chapters concerned.
- 4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/39/23), chap. II, para. 9.
- 5/ General Assembly resolution 39/93 of 14 December 1984.
- 6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/39/23), chap. IX, para. 15.
- 7/ Ibid., Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 24 (A/35/24), vol. I, annex II.
- 8/ General Assembly resolution 39/30 of 5 December 1984.
- 9/ General Assembly resolution 38/55 of 7 December 1983.
- 10/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/38/23), chap. I, para. 67.
- 11/ Ibid., Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/39/23), chap. I, para. 72.

Annex

MATTERS PENDING FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
DURING 1985

<u>Question</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Procedure for consideration</u>
Namibia	Plenary	As separate item
East Timor	"	"
Western Sahara	"	"
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	"	"
Gibraltar	"	"
Anguilla	"	"
Programme of Activities in Observance of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (General Assembly resolution 39/93)	"	"
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations and related questions (General Assembly resolution 39/41)	"	"
Special Committee decision of 24 August 1984 concerning Puerto Rico (A/39/23 (Part I), chap. I, para. 72)	"	"
Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Namibia and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, <u>apartheid</u> and racial discrimination in southern Africa (General Assembly resolution 39/42)	Plenary/ Sub-Committee on Small Territories	As appropriate

<u>Question</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Procedure for consideration</u>
Military activities and arrangements by colonial powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (General Assembly decision 39/412)	Plenary/ Sub-Committee on Small Territories	As appropriate
Pitcairn	Sub-Committee on Small Territories	To be decided by Sub-Committee
American Samoa	"	"
Guam	"	"
Tokelau	"	"
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands	"	"
United States Virgin Islands	"	"
British Virgin Islands	"	"
Bermuda	"	"
Turks and Caicos Islands	"	"
Cayman Islands	"	"
Montserrat	"	"
St. Helena	"	"
Question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters	Working Group	As appropriate
Question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable	"	"
Pattern of conferences (General Assembly resolution 39/68)	"	"
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 39/43)	Plenary/ Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance	As separate item

<u>Question</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Procedure for consideration</u>
Question of sending visiting missions to Territories (para. 13 of General Assembly resolution 39/91)	Plenary/ Sub-Committee on Small Territories	As appropriate
Dissemination of information on decolonization (General Assembly resolution 39/92)	Plenary sub-committees	As appropriate
Matters relating to the small Territories (para. 12 (d) of General Assembly resolution 39/91)	"	"
Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Namibia and All Other Colonial Territories, as well as those in South Africa, Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights	"	"
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (art. 15 of the Convention)	"	"
Deadline for the accession of Territories to independence		To be taken into consideration by bodies concerned in their examination of specific Territories
Compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on the question of decolonization (para. 12 (c) of General Assembly resolution 39/91)		"
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (General Assembly resolution 39/45)		"
United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (General Assembly resolution 39/44)		"