



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 6th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. SINCLAIR (Guyana)
later: Mr. PENAZKA (Czechoslovakia)

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 86: 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: 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 (continued)

ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN

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The meeting was called to order at 10.45 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 86: 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: 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 (continued) (A/35/23 (Part III); A/AC.109/599-601 and 611)

1. Mrs. NEWSOM (United States of America) associated her delegation with the call of the representatives of Sierra Leone, the Ivory Coast, Australia, and New Zealand to consider concrete and realistic proposals and to formulate a resolution which would command the broadest possible support.
2. At the preceding session the United States delegation had regretfully voted against the draft resolution on the item in question because, first of all, the Committee had not sufficiently distinguished between the situation in southern Africa and the situations which existed in other Non-Self-Governing Territories. Second, and more importantly, the United States Government continued to reject the proposition that foreign economic activities in Non-Self-Governing Territories were by definition detrimental to the interests of the people of those Territories. It was illogical to hold the position that the same foreign investments which benefited independent countries - including many represented in the Committee - and which some countries were actively seeking, suddenly became destructive when allowed to operate in Territories whose independence was still to come. Her delegation agreed that the current pattern of foreign economic investment in Non-Self-Governing Territories left much to be desired. However, the Committee should concentrate on ameliorating the situation, encouraging activities that were favourable to the Territories concerned and putting an end to harmful ones, rather than flatly condemning all foreign economic interests in those Territories. Her delegation hoped to be able to work actively with other members of the Committee to achieve a resolution containing an objective appraisal of the role of foreign economic investment in Non-Self-Governing Territories.
3. The American people believed strongly in participation by all peoples in all aspects of their national life and the elimination of injustice, racism, apartheid and violations of human rights. Americans also had a deep-seated faith in the effectiveness of free enterprise and would choose paths that accorded with their traditions to achieve those goals.
4. In recent years, the United States Government had taken a number of actions. The United States had supported a mandatory arms embargo in the Security Council and had unilaterally imposed a ban on all exports to the South African military and police. The United States Government supported the Security Council resolutions and the decisions of the International Court of Justice concerning Namibia. In

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(Mrs. Newson, United States)

addition, there was a growing realization on the part of transnational corporations that their participation in activities in South Africa entailed responsibilities stemming from the common obligation to contribute to the end of the apartheid system and that it was not in their interest to invest in a climate of racial violence. The United States Government had issued guidelines for firms operating in South Africa. At the present time, 135 American companies, employing over 55,000 persons, had adopted a code of operation, pledging non-segregation, equal and fair employment practices, including the right of non-whites to belong to existing unions or to form their own union, equal pay for equal or comparable work, development of training programmes for non-whites, increase in the number of non-whites in supervisory positions and improvement in the quality of employees' lives.

5. The United States delegation did not wish to exaggerate the impact of business codes of conduct on the general evolution of political conditions in South Africa. That evolution would come from forces at work within South African society. However, such codes seemed to have a cumulative effect and could serve as a catalyst for change. The Committee must support the efforts being made to encourage business leaders to contribute to the necessary changes, so that a peaceful transition in southern Africa could take place.

6. Mr. CHAO (China) expressed satisfaction at the independence of Zimbabwe and of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, which marked a turning point in the process of decolonization. Since the upsurge of national liberation movements, many third world countries had gained their independence. However, many of those countries must struggle for the defence of their national independence against all forms of foreign domination and exploitation and attempt to develop their economies and work toward the establishment of a new international economic order. Imperialism, colonialism, racism and powerful economic interests continued to prevent certain peoples from exercising their right to self-determination and disposing of their natural resources, in defiance of the Charter of the United Nations and resolutions of the General Assembly and other bodies.

7. In southern Africa and particularly in Namibia, the racist régime and foreign economic interests were reaping exorbitant profits through the systematic plunder of the immense natural resources of the Territory - despite Decree No. 1 for the Protection of the Natural Resources of Namibia - and through the cruel exploitation of a cheap labour force. Namibia's mining industry, uranium, diamonds and precious metals were in the hands of powerful foreign interests, particularly in South Africa. Foreign interests were able to operate in southern Africa only through the collusion of the South African authorities. Racist domination must first of all be eliminated. To that end, the peoples of southern Africa had waged a heroic struggle which had achieved encouraging results, such as the glorious victory of Zimbabwe. It was precisely to safeguard its economic interests and to attempt in vain to escape its doom that South Africa, in collusion with foreign economic interests, had always procrastinated in the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) on the settlement of the Namibian situation, and had continued to expand its military installations and troops in Namibia and to brutally suppress the forces of nationalism.

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(Mr. Chao, China)

8. Using Namibia as a staging ground, the racist régime had launched military operations against neighbouring States, in a vain attempt to prevent them from giving support to the just struggle of the Namibian people. At the same time it had intensified its efforts to carry out the fraud of "internal settlement" and had tried in vain to put a legal cloak over its occupation of Namibia. The Chinese delegation was convinced that through their protracted struggle the Namibian people and other peoples of southern Africa would win their national independence and liberation and would become masters of their own resources and destiny.

9. The Government and people of China would continue to lend their resolute support to the struggle against colonialism, racism and hegemonism. They strongly condemned South Africa and urged all countries concerned to end their political, diplomatic, economic and military contacts with the South African racist régime.

10. Mr. SEIFU (Ethiopia) emphasized the importance his delegation attached to the item under discussion. In the Committee's deliberations over the years, two opposite points of view had emerged. The overwhelming majority of the members of the Committee subscribed to the justifiable assertion that the activities of foreign economic interests in colonial Territories had proved to be an impediment to the process of decolonization and the elimination of apartheid, while a minority, composed mostly of those that had such interests, argued to the contrary. His delegation welcomed the dialogue between the proponents of the two points of view, but regretted that those who advocated the continuation of such activities refused to acknowledge the facts and figures which clearly showed the detrimental effects of such activities on the process of decolonization.

11. In the case of southern Africa, it was clear that the activities of Western transnational corporations had enabled the racist régime to establish a strong colonial economy which mercilessly exploited the human and natural resources of the African masses. In addition, Western involvement had enabled the Pretoria régime to acquire a powerful military apparatus equipped with the latest conventional weapons and perhaps also with nuclear devices.

12. His delegation wished to point out that there was a vicious circle operating: suppression and subjugation of the African masses made it possible for the transnational corporations to earn enormous profits, which in turn facilitated further exploitation. The vicious circle must be broken, which would require that the Western transnational corporations must leave South Africa and Namibia. The recent attempts to mitigate the most glaring effects of those activities by means of marginal reforms and palliative measures clearly had not satisfied the aspirations of the African masses; nor had they been able to improve the hideous face of apartheid.

13. His delegation insisted therefore on the imposition of economic sanctions against Pretoria. The international community had made its views known in numerous resolutions. However, certain quarters continued to resist its appeal. The resolutions of the United Nations had often been labelled condemnatory. As

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(Mr. Seifu, Ethiopia)

a member of the African group, which had been responsible for drafting resolutions on the item during the past years, his delegation believed that the condemnation of activities which continued to subjugate the peoples of southern Africa was the least that could be done. The Organization should express its disapproval of and indignation at such activities. If, on the other hand, it could be proven that the process of disinvestment and disengagement had a better chance to commence in the absence of condemnatory resolutions, the African group would be willing to reconsider its position. So far, however, the transnational corporations and the South African Government had shown themselves to be more concerned with self-interest than with reason and justice. In the long run, such activities could redound upon those who undertook them, since the people, once free, would demand restitution and compensation for the continued plunder of their natural resources. Today's injustices would not be forgotten or forgiven tomorrow.

14. His delegation again called on the Western Powers to respect the precepts of justice and demanded the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the apartheid régime.

15. Mr. PENAŽKA (Czechoslovakia) pointed out, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, that the Declaration had played a vital role in the elimination of the colonial system and imperialism.

16. The past 20 years had seen impressive progress in the field of decolonization. More than 70 million people had been freed from the colonial yoke. At the same time, membership in the United Nations had gone from 100 in 1960 to 154 in 1980.

17. Despite those successes colonialism continued to exist in various regions of the world. The main barriers to its elimination included the activities of foreign economic and other interests in colonial Territories. The General Assembly had declared unambiguously that those rapacious activities violated the political, economic and social rights and interests of the peoples of the colonial Territories and were therefore incompatible with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and constituted a threat to peace.

18. Because of their political, economic and strategic interests in southern Africa, the Western countries were doing their utmost to maintain the colonial and racist régimes in power as long as possible and thus reap the highest possible profits. The monopolies were the very instruments which secured their interests. His delegation felt that the support of those monopolies formed the foundation of the very existence of the racist régime and its illegal occupation of Namibia. South Africa received credits amounting to \$5.5 billion from banks in more than 20 countries. Investments by Western monopolies in South Africa exceeded \$28 billion. Furthermore, the transnational corporations were the main vehicle in the development of the South African military-industrial complex. Investments in the apartheid economy had contributed to the building up of the racist armed forces and the illegal occupation of Namibia, as well as in the acts of aggression

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(Mr. Peňázka, Czechoslovakia)

by South Africa against the front-line States. The Western countries continued to provide assistance to the apartheid régime to develop its nuclear capability, including the manufacture of nuclear weapons, which posed a threat to peace and security in Africa and the whole world.

19. Even in the Fourth Committee itself, certain delegations continued to maintain that investments by Western corporations were beneficial to the South African population, although the situation of the population continued to deteriorate. Both in Namibia and in South Africa, the activities of Western monopolies were dangerous and prejudicial to the interests of the population, as had recently been shown during the hearings on Namibian uranium. It was clear that the two objectives of the imperialist monopolies in Namibia were the pursuit of maximum profits using a reservoir of cheap labour, and the provision of all-round assistance to South Africa's military occupation of Namibia, in complete disregard of the aspirations of the peoples concerned. That explained the position of the Western countries with regard to the settlement of the Namibian question. Their intentions could not be concealed by propaganda and manoeuvres.

20. His delegation believed it necessary to repeat its unequivocal condemnation of such predatory activities as a gross violation of the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and an obstacle to the full implementation of the Declaration on decolonization. The colonial Powers must be urgently requested to terminate their activities. His delegation insisted that all co-operation with South Africa must be broken off, in order to isolate that country completely, and the Security Council must be requested to take immediate comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa in conformity with Chapter VII of the Charter. Such a decision would afford considerable assistance to the peoples of South Africa and Namibia in their heroic struggle for self-determination, freedom and independence.

21. Mr. HADDAOUI (Morocco) said that the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples served as a reminder that 1960 had been a turning point in the struggle for the liberation of colonial Territories and in the entire decolonization process. His delegation was happy to see that new Members of the Organization in 1980 included Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Zimbabwe; the latter country was an example of the fact that when a people was united to combat colonialism, exploitation and oppression it would inevitably triumph.

22. The item under consideration went to the very heart of colonialism, which had always sought the acquisition and exploitation of the Territories and wealth of others. It was widely known that the investments made in the colonial Territories never served the interests of the indigenous population; rather, their purpose was the maximum exploitation of the wealth of those Territories to the detriment of the inhabitants. It was precisely the economic and other interests of the colonial Powers in the colonial Territories that made them attempt to slow down the decolonization process. Many States Members of the United Nations knew, having suffered under the colonial yoke, that the administering Powers used all the tricks

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(Mr. Haddaoui, Morocco)

possible to maintain their interests in the colonial Territories and did not hesitate to divide up countries with the sole goal of continuing their shameless exploitation. In that connexion he cited the bantustanization policy of South Africa, which was the final bastion of colonialism coupled with the most reactionary form of racism and apartheid.

23. There were still Territories under colonial domination, notably, in Africa, Namibia. To speed Namibia's independence and to force the Pretoria régime to end its racist policy, all States must stop investing in Namibia and denounce any agreements which they might have with that régime. The international community as a whole should condemn those economic and other activities which impeded the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. It was essential for the Fourth Committee to draw up a draft resolution unequivocally condemning any co-operation with the Pretoria régime, that could be adopted by an overwhelming majority. Nevertheless, condemnation was not an end in itself; the aim was not to debate merely for the pleasure of polemizing. The Committee's main task was to put an end to colonialism and the policy of the South African racist minority.

24. The text of the resolution adopted by the Special Committee of 24, contained in document A/35/23 (Part III) was acceptable to his delegation. In paragraph 16, the Secretary-General was requested to undertake, through the Department of Public Information, 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. His delegation had suggested, the year before, that the Governments of the States referred to in various Secretariat documents should organize their own campaigns to increase awareness of the issue.

25. It was inadmissible that there should still be people who lived under the yoke of colonialism or suffered from racism and the policy of apartheid. It was essential that all countries should unite to eradicate those scourges.

26. Mr. DENICHIN (Bulgaria) said that 1980 marked the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, a landmark in the struggle against colonialism.

27. The colonial system had come into being as the result of the insatiable greed for profit which constituted the fundamental economic law of capitalism. That law manifested itself most directly in the activities of the transnational corporations, which derived enormous profits from the greedy exploitation of the natural resources and labour force of the colonial Territories. That explained the lack of desire on the part of the Western countries to take effective measures to implement the Declaration and the numerous United Nations resolutions calling for the termination of that illegal exploitation. The approaching end of the colonial system compelled those countries to step up their support for the racist régime in Pretoria. Thus, between 1970 and 1978, South Africa's foreign trade (excluding petroleum and arms) had risen from 3,274 million to 13,544 million rand. In 1979, South Africa's trade with the West had continued to expand rapidly and amounted to almost 60 per cent of its entire foreign trade. A study conducted by the International Confederation of free Trade Unions had revealed that the number of Western companies operating in South Africa had increased from 1,623 in 1974 to 1,883 in 1978.

(Mr. Denichin, Bulgaria)

28. Without the massive aid of the West, the anachronistic apartheid régime in Pretoria would no longer be in existence. The imposition of an effective embargo on oil supplies to South Africa would have paralysed the country's economic and military apparatus. However, the flow of oil to the racist régime had continued uninterrupted for many years. Five large companies - Shell, British Petroleum, Mobil, Caltex and Total - controlled 85 per cent of the South African oil industry. The activities of the oil companies in South Africa had not only allowed that country to obtain crude oil products but also to acquire technical expertise in such sectors as oil exploration and refining and the petrochemical and mining industries, as well as the capital necessary to develop those sectors. Furthermore, those same companies were expanding their investments in southern Africa in the strategic sectors of chemicals, nuclear energy, mineral exploration, and the mining and export of uranium and coal. It was therefore an indisputable fact that the Western monopolies and their subsidiaries continued to meet the oil needs of the racists even though the Western countries maintained the contrary. Furthermore, South Africa was the West's major supplier of strategic raw materials, such as chrome, manganese, vanadium and platinum.

29. The continued illegal exploitation of the vast uranium deposits in Namibia was another constant source of concern and had been denounced in several international forums. Foreign investment in the mining and enrichment of uranium was expected to reach a record £750 million in 1980. The increase in capital investment in the processing of uranium reflected its significance not only as an energy source alternative to oil but also from the military and strategic viewpoint. Uranium and the assistance provided by the developed capitalist countries in the form of nuclear technology were the basis of the nuclear potential acquired by the illegal régime in Pretoria, which was thus acquiring the capability to manufacture its own nuclear weapons.

30. The economic, military and political aid which South Africa received came essentially from the United States. Aside from the enormous profits which United States monopolies drew from the exploitation of the natural and human resources of the countries in southern Africa, the United States Government attached great strategic significance to that region, situated as it was at the crossroads of the sea lanes between the Atlantic and Indian Oceans through which a large portion of the petroleum from the Middle East was transported. The sum total of the direct capital investment by United States monopolies in the South African economy was \$1.8 billion. United States investment as a proportion of total foreign investment had increased from 11 per cent in 1960 to 20 per cent in 1979, and was concentrated in the fields of computers, transport, energy and steel. In September 1980, the South African Minister of Finance had visited the United States to request United States banks to increase their aid to the illegal régime. He had not left empty-handed: Citicorp had agreed to lend South Africa \$250 million. That new instance indicated that United States imperialism did not intend to halt the assistance it provided to South Africa. Thousands of companies from the United States, the United Kingdom and other NATO member countries operated in South Africa and in Namibia. They participated with the racists in the exploitation of the local population, readily using the advantages provided by the established colonial order.

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(Mr. Denichin, Bulgaria)

31. The de facto collusion between the West and the illegal régime had encouraged the latter to commit acts of aggression against neighbouring African States, and thus posed a threat to peace and security in the region and throughout the world. With the complicity and support of the Western countries, South Africa was trying to influence the political future of the Namibian people by excluding its sole legitimate representative, SWAPO, from any political settlement and by annexing Walvis Bay in spite of the numerous United Nations resolutions denouncing the occupation and dismemberment of Namibia.

32. All that emphasized the urgency of imposing sanctions on the illegal South African régime under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter with the aim of compelling it to comply with the decisions of the Organization. The presence of foreign economic and other interests had contributed to the creation of unbalanced economies in all colonial Territories. Those interests made such Territories entirely dependent on Western countries, thus creating favourable conditions for the prolongation of their colonial exploitation. Any distinction between the various foreign economic and other interests was designed to splinter the united front of the anti-colonial forces. The Fourth Committee should adopt a strongly worded resolution setting forth its position on the issue.

33. Mr. MANGAL (Afghanistan) said that the activities of foreign economic and other interests which were impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples had always received close attention from the Fourth Committee and the United Nations. The item was directly related to a shared objective of the international community, namely, to emancipate all the oppressed and colonized peoples from the evil of colonial and alien domination and from the abhorrent system of apartheid and racial discrimination. The Organization had clearly stated that the involvement of foreign economic and other interests in the exploitation and depletion of the natural resources of Territories whose peoples had not yet exercised their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with resolution 1514 (XV), was illegal; that such activities were impeding not only the implementation of the Declaration but also the ongoing efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in South Africa; and that the human and natural resources of such Territories must be protected by the administering Powers against exploitation and abuse.

34. More effective measures must be taken in order to put an end to the illegal involvement of foreign economic and other interests and to the exploitation and plundering of the natural resources of the Territories under colonial and foreign domination. The argument by the administering Powers that the activities of foreign interests contributed to the economic and social development of such Territories could hardly be accepted when account was taken of the huge benefits derived from the exploitation of the cheap labour provided by the local inhabitants who were paid unjust wages to work in conditions that fell far short of the relevant general standards set by the International Labour Organisation.

35. Although the United Nations had time and again reiterated its deep concern that the colonial Powers and certain Western countries continued to disregard

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(Mr. Mangal, Afghanistan)

resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and had called upon them to take legislative, administrative or other measures to put an end to the activities of their nationals or of companies under their jurisdiction in colonial Territories, in particular in Namibia, certain countries had continued to collaborate with the racist minority régime of South Africa by increasing their investments in the nuclear field and thus enabling the régime to develop a nuclear weapons capability. The attitude of those countries was a matter of serious concern since it helped to perpetuate the illegal occupation of Namibia and to strengthen the inhuman system of apartheid; moreover, the acquisition of a nuclear-weapon capability by the South African régime would have serious implications for peace and security in southern Africa and in the world. The Government of South Africa had already posed a threat to the independence and territorial integrity of neighbouring African countries, in particular, Angola and other front-line States.

36. Certain western countries seemed reluctant to see a peaceful settlement of the question of Namibia, apparently because they feared that, given the deteriorating international situation, Namibia's accession to independence might weaken the Government of South Africa militarily and strategically, thus upsetting the existing balance of power in southern Africa to the disadvantage of the western countries; moreover, accession to independence by Namibia might impede access by foreign interests to the Territory's uranium resources. Furthermore, the achievement of power by a national Government under the leadership of SWAPO, which might nationalize Namibia's mineral resources, including uranium, might be detrimental to Western economic interests. The United Nations should therefore remain vigilant during the negotiations for a peaceful political settlement of the question of Namibia in order to prevent any attempt to undermine the sovereignty of the people of Namibia over their natural resources and to perpetuate the status quo.

37. His delegation expressed the firm solidarity of the people and Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan with the fraternal peoples of South Africa, Namibia and the front-line States in their heroic struggle against the continued aggressions of the racist South African régime. To mark the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the historic Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the United Nations should consider adopting the most effective possible measures with a view to accelerating the process of decolonization and enabling the colonial peoples to attain national independence, and to exploit their natural resources for the social and economic development of their own countries in freedom and dignity.

38. Mr. Penázka^V (Czechoslovakia) took the Chair.

39. Mr. TKACHUK (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) reminded the Committee that 1980 marked the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which had been adopted by the General Assembly on the initiative of the Soviet Union. During the intervening short period, the oppressed peoples had won great victories in their struggle to eliminate colonialism, racism and apartheid and to exercise their right to self-determination, independence and social progress; nevertheless, there were still

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(Mr. Tkachuk, Byelorussian SSR)

regions where national liberation movements and progressive peace-loving peoples were obliged to continue their energetic efforts to eliminate the vestiges of colonialism and racism, in particular, in Africa and in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

40. The plundering of such countries and Territories by the imperialist Powers and their monopolies constituted one of the main obstacles to the realization of the principal objective of the Declaration - the achievement of political and economic independence by countries and peoples - and was contrary to the relevant decisions of the United Nations. In order to protect the interests of their monopolies, the Western countries continued to furnish multinational aid to the apartheid régime, to block the adoption by the United Nations of mandatory sanctions against South Africa - which was the last stronghold of imperialism in southern Africa - and to hinder every effort aimed at settling the problem of Namibia and at accelerating that Territory's accession to independence.

41. In document E/C.10/66, which contained a comprehensive analysis of the role of transnational corporations in the industrial, military and nuclear sectors in South Africa, the United Nations Secretariat had shown that, between 1972 and 1978, foreign banks had issued 158 loans to that country for a total amount of 5.5 billion dollars. Moreover, certain Western transnational banks and, in particular, Barclay's National Bank Limited and the Standard Bank Investment Corporation had established local branches and continued to play a key role in the South African banking system.

42. The transnational corporations of the Western countries also contributed to strengthening the military potential of South Africa and so enabled that country to carry out acts of aggression against the national liberation movements of southern Africa and against neighbouring African States. Virtually the whole of South African industry had been created and developed with the assistance of the great Western NATO Powers and their monopolies. The latter also played an important role in the strategic sectors of South African industry, in particular, in the electronic, oil refining, automobile and nuclear industries. On the oil question, it was well known that South Africa had to import virtually all its oil. Five major oil companies - Shell, British Petroleum, Caltex, Mobil and Total - were responsible for supplying it; moreover, they controlled approximately 85 per cent of the South African oil market. The Western monopolies not only furnished the apartheid régime with its oil requirements but also did everything possible to minimize the impact of any future oil embargo against South Africa by contributing to the implementation of the Sasel II and Sasel III projects for the production of oil from coal.

43. The co-operation of Western countries with South Africa in the political, diplomatic, economic, commercial, nuclear and other fields was very important in so far as it enabled the Pretoria régime to pursue its racist policy of aggression not only in South Africa and Namibia but also against neighbouring sovereign States; however, it was their nuclear co-operation that caused the greatest anxiety, in view of the serious threat which it represented to international peace and security.

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(Mr. Tkachuk, Byelorussian SSR)

Israel also continued to develop its trade with South Africa. According to the journal Southern Africa, such trade had increased by more than 400 per cent between 1973 and 1978.

44. Namibia was coveted by the imperialist monopolies because of its vast mineral reserves and because the local population constituted a source of cheap labour. The South African and Western monopolies controlled the mining industry which was the key sector of the Namibian economy; particular mention should be made of Consolidated Diamond Mines of South West Africa, Tsumeb Corporation and Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation.

45. The activities of foreign economic and other interests which impeded implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples were not confined to Africa. In the small Territories the imperialist monopolies likewise continued to deny the local inhabitants the right to exploit their own natural resources and to prevent them from exercising their right to self-determination and from acceding to independence.

46. It was high time decisive measures were taken both against racist South Africa, which continued to flout the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the appeals of the international community, and against the imperialist monopolies whose activities strengthened the Pretoria régime and impeded implementation of the Declaration. The plundering of the transnational corporations must be brought to an end and the States concerned must be asked to withdraw their capital immediately from South Africa, Namibia and other colonial Territories. Steps must be taken forthwith to impose mandatory global sanctions on the Pretoria régime, under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. All Member States of the Organization must cease all political, economic, military and other co-operation with the South African apartheid régime.

47. His delegation reaffirmed its support for the Organization's efforts to eliminate, once and for all, the vestiges of the system of colonial oppression and the centres of colonialism and racism. It also supported any effective measure designed to accelerate the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

48. Mr. KHATTAK (Pakistan) said that it was deplorable that despite the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, foreign interests continued to flout the verdict of the international community and remained engaged in illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Territories under colonial domination thus obstructing the process of decolonization and perpetuating apartheid and racial discrimination. It was also regrettable that the numerous appeals made by the General Assembly to all Member States to terminate any economic, commercial or financial relations they had with the racist régime of South Africa had had no effect.

49. Pakistan had traditionally adopted a position of solidarity with the peoples of Namibia and South Africa and with those of other colonial Territories who were struggling for their inalienable right to self-determination and independence and for their right to control the natural resources of their Territories. Pakistan,

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as an active member of the non-aligned movement and as current chairman of the Islamic Conference, had been striving to promote the cause of the liberation movements in Namibia and in South Africa. In his recent address to the General Assembly, the President of Pakistan had reiterated the solidarity of the entire Moslem world with the freedom fighters of South Africa.

50. The time had come for the United Nations to move beyond the stage of verbal condemnations and pronouncements, and to take effective measures against the forces that were providing economic strength to South Africa and enabling the racist régime to perpetuate its colonial stranglehold. The continuing reluctance of certain world Powers to restrain the companies under their jurisdiction from plundering the resources and from inhumanly exploiting the peoples of the colonial territories belied their protestations about their adherence to the goal of independence and self-determination for those Territories. It was imperative to intensify publicity campaigns in those countries and to establish, for that purpose, a well-planned mechanism within the framework of the United Nations. Pakistan would support any concrete measure that the international community might take for the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and Decree No. 1 for the protection of the natural resources of Namibia.

51. Mr. AFSARUDDIN (Bangladesh) recalled that 20 years had elapsed since the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and that during that time the forces of justice had scored many victories; however, millions of men and women were still deprived of their right to self-determination and were living under colonial domination. The question of foreign economic and other interests in the colonial Territories had been on the agenda of the General Assembly for the past 16 years but very little had been done to translate the numerous resolutions and decisions adopted by the United Nations on the subject into action. In spite of repeated appeals from the General Assembly, the colonial Powers and Governments, together with the multinationals under their jurisdiction, continued with impunity to carry on activities detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories. The results of such activities needed no elaboration. The multinationals were placing their desire for profit above their moral obligations thus contributing to the suffering and humiliation of the people of Namibia, South Africa and other Territories.

52. Seven years had elapsed since the promulgation of Decree No. 1 for the protection of the natural resources of Namibia. Since then the Decree had been violated in all its aspects; foreign investments in Namibia had increased; foreign interests had continued the illegal exploitation and exportation of Namibian uranium, as the hearings conducted by the United Nations Council for Namibia had revealed; the white minorities and their foreign collaborators had continued to exploit the natural and human resources of South Africa and Namibia, as could be seen from the report of the Special Committee of 24; and the multinationals in co-operation with the white minority régime had virtually monopolized all sectors of the economy while the indigenous people merely provided cheap labour.

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(Mr. Afsaruddin, Bangladesh)

53. True to the spirit of its Constitution, Bangladesh reaffirmed its solidarity with the oppressed peoples in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racism, and supported all efforts of the United Nations aimed at decolonization. Aiding and abetting racist occupation régimes was a violation of the principles of human conduct and natural justice; accordingly, he expressed the hope that all countries would break off their economic or political relations with South Africa, instruct the multinationals under their jurisdiction to do likewise and prohibit direct or indirect investment by their nationals in South Africa. The General Assembly should call upon the Security Council to impose measures against South Africa under chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN

54. Mrs. CASTRO de BARISH (Costa Rica) nominated Mr. Lerotholi (Lesotho) for the office of Vice-Chairman.

55. Mr. WAYARABI (Indonesia) seconded the nomination.

56. Mr. Lerotholi (Lesotho was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.