



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 24th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. ROA-KOURI (Cuba)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.45 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 100: UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued)

Draft resolution A/C.4/37/L.7

1. The CHAIRMAN, after announcing that Austria, Guinea, Haiti, the Syrian Arab Republic and Zimbabwe had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/37/L.7, read out, at the request of the representative of Indonesia, the complete list of sponsors of the draft resolution, which comprised the following countries: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Senegal, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

2. Draft resolution A/C.4/37/L.7 was adopted without a vote.

3. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had completed its consideration of item 100.

AGENDA ITEM 101: OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued)

Draft resolution A/C.4/37/L.10

4. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Congo, Greece, Guinea and Zimbabwe had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/37/L.10.

5. Draft resolution A/C.4/37/L.10 was adopted without a vote.

6. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had completed its consideration of item 101.

AGENDA ITEM 99: 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 (continued)

The draft resolution contained in document A/37/23 (Part III)/Add.2

7. The CHAIRMAN said that a recorded vote had been requested on the draft resolution in document A/37/23 (Part III)/Add.2.

8. Mr. VANREUSEL (Belgium), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that his country, which appreciated the important work done by the specialized

(Mr. Vanreusel, Belgium)

agencies in providing assistance to colonial countries and peoples, regretted that the draft resolution contained elements which were unacceptable because they were contrary to the principle of universality and respect for the independence of the specialized agencies and other international organizations associated with the United Nations. His country would like, in particular, to express its profound concern at the paragraphs which questioned South Africa's membership in the World Bank and IMF could not, moreover, accept the criticisms made of the activities of those organizations. Any solution of conflicts between nations must be based on respect for the rules of international law. His delegation rejected the arbitrary and unjustified attacks made on certain Member States. For all of those reasons, his country would vote against the draft resolution in document A/37/23 (Part III)/Add.2.

9. Mr. KURPERSHOEK (Netherlands) said that his Government had no doubt that the specialized agencies had contributed greatly to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. His delegation therefore greatly regretted that the draft resolution contained elements which it could not support. In particular, it could not agree with the criticism of South Africa's membership of IMF and the World Bank or the terms in which the activities of those institutions were referred to in the seventeenth preambular paragraph and in paragraphs 6 and 7.

10. The Netherlands was firmly attached to the principle of universality and the independence of the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. Attempts by the General Assembly to politicize the institutions created in implementation of the Bretton Woods Agreement were unacceptable to his Government. Furthermore, it rejected the unjustified attacks on certain Member States and wished to point out, in that connection, that the Namibian people should be in a position to choose their own representatives without further delay in free and fair elections under the supervision and control of the United Nations in accordance with Security Council resolution 435 (1978).

11. Mr. HUTCHINSON (Ireland) said that his delegation, recognizing that the specialized agencies made a positive contribution to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, supported the general thrust of the draft resolution before the Committee but would, however, be obliged to abstain in the vote because of the criticism that it contained of IMF and the World Bank. Moreover, paragraphs 6 and 7 of that draft resolution did not take full account of the status of those institutions.

12. Mr. SCHAEFER (Federal Republic of Germany) said that his delegation would abstain in the vote on the draft resolution because, while recognizing the importance of the assistance provided by the specialized agencies to colonial countries and peoples, it felt that the draft contained elements which it could not support. It was regrettable that certain paragraphs had brought into question the fact that South Africa was a member of IMF and the World Bank, and that the draft resolution did not take full account of the status of those institutions. He recalled, in that connection, that his country firmly supported the principle of

(Mr. Schaefer, Federal Republic
of Germany)

universality and respect for the independence of the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

13. His delegation felt, moreover, that the criticisms of the activities of IMF and the World Bank were unacceptable and it rejected the unjustifiable attacks against certain Member States accused of being responsible for the policy followed by South Africa.

14. A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution contained in document A/37/23 (Part III)/Add.2.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Belgium, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Togo.

15. The draft resolution contained in document A/37/23 (Part III)/Add.2 was adopted by 110 votes to 4, with 21 abstentions.

16. Mr. KIVIMÄKI (Finland), speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, said that those countries provided considerable assistance to the peoples struggling for

(Mr. Kivimäki, Finland)

their independence. They recognized, moreover, the important role that the specialized agencies had to play in that domain. He therefore regretted that the draft resolution contained elements which had obliged the Nordic countries to abstain in the vote.

17. It was necessary to take account of the status of the specialized agencies and to respect their universal character. Moreover, some parts of the draft resolution minimized the difficulties encountered by those agencies in implementing the recommendations made to them by the General Assembly. The Nordic countries also deplored the arbitrary references made to certain countries and groups of countries which were held responsible for the policy followed by South Africa.

18. Mr. VADEPIED (France), speaking in explanation of his vote, said that his delegation had serious reservations with regard to paragraphs 6 and 7 of the resolution which contained unjust criticisms of the activities of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. His delegation attached importance to the principles of universality and the independence of the specialized agencies. Because it was convinced of the need to respect those principles, his delegation had abstained in the vote.

19. Mr. PEREZ (Chile) said that while his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution it had reservations with regard to paragraphs 6 and 7. The statute of IMF and the World Bank, which were autonomous institutions, must be respected, and the General Assembly should not interfere in their decisions. That autonomy, moreover, represented the best way of ensuring that their objectives would be fully realized.

20. Mr. LYNE (United Kingdom) said that the Namibian people should be able to choose their own representatives through free elections under the supervision and control of the United Nations. Nevertheless, the draft resolution contained in document A/37/23 (Part III)/Add.2 dealt with another question, the relations between the United Nations and the specialized agencies. His Government felt that the independence of those agencies must be respected, particularly in the case of IMF and the World Bank, whose activities were particularly important in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories. As the United Kingdom had actively encouraged such co-operation in the Territories it administered, his delegation regretted that it had been forced to vote against the draft resolution, which failed to take into account the statute of the specialized agencies and the principle of their universality. Furthermore, the criticisms made regarding the activities of IMF and the World Bank, and the unjustified attacks against certain Member States which were held responsible for the policy of South Africa, were unacceptable.

21. Mr. LASARTE (Uruguay) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution contained in document A/37/23 (Part III)/Add.2 because Uruguay supported the efforts of the specialized agencies to promote the process of decolonization. Nevertheless, he expressed reservations concerning the references made to the World Bank and IMF, which were non-political bodies.

(Mr. Lasarte, Uruguay)

22. With regard, moreover, to the representation of the Namibian people by SWAPO, he felt that it was for the Namibian people themselves, in the exercise of their right to self-determination, to choose their representatives.
23. Mr. TANC (Turkey) said that although his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, it had reservations regarding the seventh preambular paragraph, in which certain countries were mentioned.
24. Mr. RAM (Fiji) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution because it fully supported its general orientation. Nevertheless, he expressed reservations with regard to paragraphs 6 and 7 in view of the nature and scope of the activities of IMF and the World Bank.
25. Mr. JITUBA (Nigeria) noting that his vote had not been recorded, said that his delegation had wanted to vote in favour of the draft resolution contained in document A/37/23(Part III)/Add.2.
26. Mrs. DAES (Greece) said that her delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, but she expressed reservations with regard to the seventh preambular paragraph, which contained attacks against certain Western countries. Since her delegation supported the independence of the specialized agencies, it also rejected the criticisms made in paragraphs 6 and 7 with regard to IMF and the World Bank.
27. Mr. MIKAYA (Malawi) said that although his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, it had reservations regarding paragraphs 6 and 7, which contained criticisms of the specialized agencies, particularly IMF and the World Bank.
28. Mrs. VARAMILLO (Colombia) said that her delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, but she expressed reservations with regard to paragraphs 6 and 7, whose wording and general tone she did not support. Those paragraphs unjustly called into question the activities of IMF and the World Bank, which were fully entitled, in accordance with their statute, to decide in a completely independent manner on their policy of aid to various countries.
29. Mr. PIMENTEL (Dominican Republic) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, but he expressed reservations with regard to certain paragraphs, particularly paragraphs 6 and 7, because his delegation did not support the ideas which they contained.
30. Mr. GUBARTALLA (Sudan) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, but he expressed reservations with regard to the seventh preambular paragraph in which certain countries were accused of supporting the policy of the South African régime.
31. Mr. OBUNYASI (Kenya) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution because his country appreciated the assistance being provided by the specialized agencies to the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Kenya hoped that that assistance would continue.

32. Mr. YAHAYA (Niger) said that, because of a failure in the electronic voting mechanism, his vote had not been recorded; he had wanted to vote in favour of the draft resolution contained in document A/37/23 (Part III)/Add.2.
33. Mr. GOONETILLEKE (Sri Lanka) said that although he had voted in favour of the draft resolution, his delegation had reservations with regard to certain paragraphs.
34. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had completed consideration of agenda item 99.

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

Draft resolution on the Question of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
(A/37/23 (Part V)/Add.2, chap. 19)

35. The CHAIRMAN suggested on the basis of consultations which he had held on various occasions with the Chairman of the Special Committee of 24 and with a number of the delegations concerned, that the Committee should postpone to a later date any decision on the draft resolution contained in document A/37/23 (Part V)/Add.2.
36. It was so decided.

CONCLUSION OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK

37. The CHAIRMAN summed up the Committee's work. He said that the Committee had heard 127 delegations in the general debate (50 of which had spoken on agenda item 98) and 13 petitioners; it had adopted 25 draft texts. The general debate had for the most part been marked by serious and well-documented analyses. Furthermore, the Special Committee of 24, in submitting for the consideration of the Committee all the draft texts to be adopted, had facilitated the Committee's work to a considerable degree; it was hoped that that procedure would be continued.
38. It had been pointed out once again that the colonial Territories, particularly Namibia, derived only negative results from the exploitation of their natural resources by foreign interests. The international assistance which they needed in order to ensure their economic development should serve their interests and promote decolonization; it should not be to the exclusive advantage of the monopolies. In that regard, the presence of foreign military bases was an obstacle to the process of achieving independence.
39. The usefulness of the visiting missions and the assistance which the administering Powers should provide them had been reaffirmed. The specialized agencies and the international bodies associated with the United Nations, as well as the United Nations Programme of Education and Training for Southern Africa, were contributing much to the Territories that had not yet achieved sovereignty. The Member States providing study and training facilities for the inhabitants of those Territories were also to be commended.

(The Chairman)

40. The Committee, at its current session, had taken a further step along the way which had been mapped out for it and had, by the resolutions it had adopted, reaffirmed its fidelity to the principles of the Charter and of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. It might well be asked, however, whether, in order to gain the support of certain Powers, it had been necessary to make so many concessions by removing important elements from texts which were being considered, since such concessions had often proved of no avail. The question of Namibia, and the establishment of majority rule in South Africa following the elimination of the inhuman system of apartheid, remained among the Committee's greatest concerns, but there was no doubt that in the years to come the world would witness the inexorable triumph of the peoples under colonial rule and the disappearance of the last vestiges of colonialism and racism. Delegations and petitioners alike had often thrown light on the problems which faced the peoples in colonial Territories and had thus made clearer what road should be followed to remedy the situation.

41. In conclusion, he thanked delegations, the representatives of the Secretariat and the officers of the Committee for their co-operation. Special thanks must go to Mr. Abdulah, Chairman of the Special Committee of 24 and to Mr. Djermakoye, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Trusteeship and Decolonization, who were about to leave the Organization.

42. Mr. DJERMAKOYE (Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Trusteeship and Decolonization) said he was pleased to note that the Committee had completed the difficult task which had been assigned to it at the current session and had made recommendations on a number of very complex and delicate matters; it had thus taken one more step towards the full implementation of resolution 1514 (XV). He wished in that connection to pay a tribute to Mr. Abdulah, whose contribution as Chairman of the Special Committee of 24, even in the most difficult circumstances, had been invaluable.

43. On the eve of his departure from the Organization, he would like to make some general comments on what it was doing. He referred, first of all, to the concepts motivating its action: faith in fundamental human rights and the dignity of the human person, defence of the equality of rights of peoples, of the principles of self-determination and of the sovereignty of all States, and the peaceful settlement of international disputes.

44. The world of yesterday in which more than one billion human beings had been under the colonial yoke had been swept away by the inexorable forces of freedom and quality. In that connection, 1960 had marked a historic turning-point both in the United Nations and in the world: the United Nations had adopted the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which had represented a concrete formulation of the ideals of the Charter, and Africa had made its entry on the international scene, with 14 nations of that continent becoming Members of the Organization in that year. The irrepressible wave of freedom which had swept the world had left very few human beings under the yoke of bondage. A total of 157 independent and sovereign nations were currently

(Mr. Djermaakoye)

represented in the United Nations, and the last vestiges of the colonial era would shortly disappear with the help of the United Nations, which had ceaselessly worked to ensure the free exercise by all colonial peoples of their right to self-determination and independence. The Organization could take legitimate pride in the essential role it had played in that historic movement, thus proclaiming the dignity of the human person and the equality of men and nations.

45. The Organization had, however, succeeded less well in its work for peace, which must bring the way to social progress accessible to all. Although there had been no general conflagration, the threat of war was always present: force, conflicts and crises and vast stocks of super-powerful nuclear and conventional weapons were the hallmarks of international relations. At a time of unprecedented technological progress, almost two thirds of mankind was living in frightening poverty, coupled with disease and illiteracy, which nullified the development potential of hundreds of millions of human beings. If scientific and technical progress was not accompanied by a sense of morality and a sense of reality, the human race would be threatened with extinction on a planet reduced to desert. To avoid such a fate, Member States must adhere to the concept of collective security with conviction and be fully prepared to use the machinery devised by the United Nations to prevent the use of force in international relations and abolish war as an instrument of policy. In that connection, a resumption of the arms race would be a serious threat to the delicate balance of world peace. Arms control and disarmament were therefore absolutely essential.

46. The dignity of formerly colonized peoples would be enhanced by the economic and social development of their human capital, which was a prerequisite to their economic independence. In that connection, the United Nations had made an immense contribution to the development of the third world and to the promotion of multilateral co-operation for that purpose; such co-operation moreover, notwithstanding slow progress and difficulties, represented the only way to survive in a world in which interdependence was increasingly asserting itself.

47. There must be faith in the Organization. It was capable, despite the criticism leveled at it, of playing its role as a conciliator in conflicts of interest, a melting pot of cultures without distinction as to race, belief or ideology and, above all, a vector of noble ideals. If men were sometimes tempted to experiment in destruction and domination, they must learn from experience the lessons of pragmatism and idealism, for their survival depended on it.

48. Mr. ABDULAH (Chairman of the Special Committee of 24) said that the positive results of the work of the Special Committee had been due to the commitment of its members, who had been firm in their resolve to eradicate every vestige of colonialism. He then, on behalf of the Fourth Committee, read out the text of a statement in which that Committee paid a tribute to Mr. Djermaakoye, who was about to leave the United Nations, in recognition of the distinguished contribution he had made to the attainment of peace, justice and freedom.

49. He then paid a tribute to the Chairman of the Fourth Committee for the exemplary manner in which he had conducted the Committee's proceedings.

50. Mr. GURIRAB (Permanent Observer of the South West Africa People's Organization) said that his organization and the people of Namibia who were engaged in the struggle for liberation had been greatly encouraged by the statements of solidarity and support which had been made in the Committee. Thanks were due in particular to the Chairman, the representative of Cuba, which was an exemplary revolutionary country that exhibited strong solidarity with those who were struggling for the liberation of southern Africa. Cuba's sons were shedding their blood on the African continent to help the people defend their honour and their rights of nationhood against the forces of colonialism, imperialism and apartheid. That solidarity was especially manifested in the form of co-operation and material assistance to the front-line States and national liberation movements. He then paid a tribute to Mr. Abdulah who, as Chairman of the Special Committee of 24, had worked to accelerate the process of decolonization, particularly in Africa. He also expressed his gratitude to Mr. Djermaakoye, an African brother, who was personally dedicated to the total liberation of Africa and who would certainly continue to work for the freedom and economic development of the continent.

51. The CHAIRMAN reminded members of the Committee that the General Assembly would consider all the reports of the Fourth Committee and would start its debate on decolonization on Monday, 22 November.

52. Following the customary exchange of courtesies and tributes, addressed in particular to Mr. Abdulah and Mr. Djermaakoye, he announced that the Committee had completed its work for the thirty-seventh session, and he closed the meeting by quoting the motto "African brothers fighting for liberty": "The struggle continues. Victory is certain."

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.