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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

Letter dated 26 October 1971 from the Permanent Representative
of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the President
of the General Assembly

I have the honour to forward to you a letter addressed to Your Excellency by H.E. Mr. Otto Winzer, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, and a statement of the Government of the German Democratic Republic to the twenty-sixth session of the General Assembly on the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples".

I request you, Sir, to have the above-mentioned letter and the statement of the Government of the German Democratic Republic circulated as an official document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) M. DUGERSUREN
Permanent Representative

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H.E. Mr. Adam Malik
President of the Twenty-sixth
Session of the United Nations
General Assembly
United Nations Headquarters
New York

Berlin, "24" September 1971

Excellency,

I have the honour to send you a Statement of the Government of the German Democratic Republic on questions of the struggle against colonialism and racism asking you to circulate it as an official document of the General Assembly on the agenda item "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples".

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

(Signed) Otto WINZER
Minister of Foreign Affairs

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Statement

of the Government of the German Democratic Republic
to the Twenty-sixth Session of the General Assembly
of the United Nations on the Agenda Item "Implemen-
tation of the Declaration on the Granting of Indepen-
dence to Colonial Countries and Peoples"

The Government of the German Democratic Republic takes occasion of the consideration of agenda item "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples" at the Twenty-sixth Session of the United Nations to reiterate that the German Democratic Republic resolutely stands for the complete liquidation of colonialism and the overcoming of all forms of colonial suppression and neo-colonialist exploitation. It agrees with the statement made in Resolution 2621 (XXV) and approved by the majority of the Member States of the United Nations that the further continuation of colonialism constitutes a grave crime against international law.

The German Democratic Republic sides consistently with all peoples fighting for national and social liberation, against colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism and therefore reaffirms its unreserved support for the Programme of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples adopted by the previous Session of the General Assembly on 21 October 1970.

Both colonialism and neo-colonialist manifestations constitute -- as it is expressed in Resolution 2621 (XXV) -- "a serious impediment to the maintenance of international peace and security and the development of peaceful relations among nations".

Such a statement is confirmed by the experience that the imperialist states go to any length to keep other peoples dependent, to rob them and hinder them in their free development. Striking evidence of this is the US aggression in the countries of Indo-China and the continued illegal occupation of Arab territory by Israel. This is also proven by the fact that Portugal, in defiance of repeated and express demands of the United Nations, maintains its colonial domination over Angola, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissao and brutally suppresses the national liberation movement in these countries. The attack of imperialist mercenaries on behalf of Portugal and with the support of other NATO powers against the Republic of Guinea as well as the constant preparation of new plots against that state's independence show the dangers conjured up to independent states by the maintenance of the remnants of colonialism. Only recently it has become known that the NATO state of Portugal is committing aggressive acts against another African country by laying mines in areas of the Republic of Senegal. The Government of the German Democratic Republic is strongly opposed to such steps of Portugal which defy world public opinion and international law.

A danger just as great for the peaceful living-together of the peoples emanates from the racist and colonialist minority régimes in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia which, despite clear decisions of the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council, refuse to stop their policy of suppression against the indigenous population.

The USA, the FRG and other NATO powers, instead of breaking off all relations with the régimes of the "white bloc" in southern Africa, are extending their relations with them. They are stepping up their economic and military assistance to South Africa, Southern Rhodesia and that fascist colonial power, Portugal.

In the interests of peace and international security the Government of the German Democratic Republic deems it necessary that all states without exception participate in the speedy and final liquidation of colonialism in any form. It considers the Programme of Action adopted by the Twenty-fifth Session of the United Nations General Assembly to be a valuable instrument to reach this goal.

The German Democratic Republic does everything in its power to contribute to the speedy implementation of the Programme of Action for decolonization. It holds the view that the unrestricted implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and of relevant UN decisions admits of no delay.

In accordance with its foreign policy based on the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the German Democratic Republic has at any time supported the decisions of the United Nations aiming at the elimination of colonialism, racism and apartheid and has strictly observed them in its foreign relations. The German Democratic Republic demands the immediate withdrawal of the US troops from Indo-China. It supports the Security Council Resolution of 22 November 1967 for a political settlement in the Middle East in all its parts. It maintains no relations whatsoever with the racist régimes in southern Africa and most strongly condemns the disregard of the UN decisions on Namibia by the apartheid régime. As early as in 1969 the Government of the German Democratic Republic instructed its competent authorities to accept the travel and personal documents issued to Namibians by the United Nations Council for Namibia.

The International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination proclaimed by the United Nations for 1971 is an occasion for the German Democratic Republic to lend increased

support to the just struggle of national liberation movements. At the same time, as it is demanded in the Programme of Action for decolonization, the contrivances of international monopoly and finance capital are being unmasked.

The German Democratic Republic assists in all possible ways, particularly in the field of culture and education, the forces fighting for their national liberation, especially in territories where foreign domination has already been liquidated.

Taking such and other steps, the German Democratic Republic responds to the appeal contained in the Programme of Action of Resolution 2621 (XXV) to draw the attention of world public opinion to the need for consistent anti-colonial and anti-racist measures.

In view of the dangers emanating from colonialism and neo-colonialism for the peaceful living-together and freedom of the peoples, the German Democratic Republic expects that the Twenty-sixth Session of the United Nations General Assembly will decide upon further effective measures for the implementation of a speedy and complete decolonization. It is prepared to cooperate also in future with the United Nations towards the realization of its lofty aims and to do everything for the fulfilment of the decisions aimed at the final liquidation of the colonial system and of all forms of colonial exploitation and suppression.

Berlin, 7 September 1971.
