SUMMARY RECORD OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH MEETING

Held on Tuesday, 2 September 1969, at 11.35 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. SAHOVIC Yugoslavia

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF MR. GILBERTO AMADO, AMBASSADOR OF BRAZIL

On the proposal of the Chairman, the members of the Special Committee observed one minute's silence in tribute to the memory of Mr. Gilberto Amado, Ambassador of Brazil.

COMPLETION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S WORK, IN THE LIGHT OF THE DEBATE WHICH TOOK PLACE IN THE SIXTH COMMITTEE DURING THE TWENTY-THIRD AND PRECEDING SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND IN THE 1964, 1966, 1967 AND 1968 SESSIONS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE, BY ENDEAVOURING TO RESOLVE, IN THE LIGHT OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2327 (XXII), ALL RELEVANT QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE FORMULATION OF THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES (A/7326; A/AC.125/L.69, L.70 and Corr.1 and 2, L.71, L.72 and L.73) (continued)

Mr. KOCMAN (Czechoslovakia) said that his delegation had already had the opportunity of explaining its views on the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and proposed to enumerate the points which it considered should be included in the text of the principle. Firstly, like the other six, the principle contained rights and obligations and should therefore be formulated as a norm of a general character binding on all peoples and States.

The first component of the principle, concerning the equality of rights, should be stated at the outset in some such terms as "All peoples, large and small, have equal rights".

The second component of the principle, concerning the self-determination of peoples in its modern form, should for the sake of completeness set forth clearly the right of every people to independence and sovereignty, the duty of every State to contribute to the fulfilment of that right, and the duty of States to eliminate colonialism in all its forms. Above all, the principle included the inalienable right of every people freely to determine its political, economic, social and cultural system, the right of every people freely to dispose of its natural resources and riches, and the right of peoples to express their will freely.

Peoples subjected to colonial rule were unable to exercise those rights freely and therefore had the inalienable right to throw off the colonial yoke by any means whatsoever, including armed struggle. The General Assembly had recognized the legitimacy of that struggle in a number of resolutions dealing with

(Mr. Kocman, Czechoslovakia)

the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. If account was taken of the fact that the General Assembly had given moral and political support to peoples fighting for their freedom and that it had urged all States to give their moral, political and material support to them, the right of those peoples to request assistance from other States and the right of the latter to provide it should form an integral part of the principle.

His delegation believed that the administering Powers should be prohibited from taking any armed action or applying repressive measures of any kind against peoples still under their colonial rule.

To be complete, the text of the principle should also refer to the duty of all States to co-operate with the United Nations in order to end colonialism and transfer all powers to the peoples of the territories which had not yet achieved independence.

The meeting rose at 12.5 p.m.