



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.108/SR.32
21 August 1962

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON TERRITORIES UNDER PORTUGUESE ADMINISTRATION
ESTABLISHED UNDER GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 1699 (XVI)

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRTY-SECOND MEETING

Held at the Théâtre du Zoo, Leopoldville,
on Thursday, 24 May 1962

CONTENTS

Hearing of a petitioner from the Movimento Popular para a
Libertação de Angola (MPLA)

Note: In accordance with the decision taken at the 67th meeting, this summary
record is based on notes prepared by the Committee secretariat.

PRESENT:

Chairman:

Mr. ACHKAR

(Guinea)

Members:

Mr. GRINBERG

Bulgaria

Mr. WIJEGONAWARDENA

Ceylon

Mr. VENEGAS

Colombia

Mr. MOUSHOUTAS

Cyprus

Mr. GONZALEZ-CALVO

Guatemala

Mr. OLISEMEKA

Nigeria

Secretariat:

Mr. KUNST

Secretary of the Committee

HEARING OF A PETITIONER FROM THE MOVIMENTO POPULAR PARA A LIBERTAÇÃO DE ANGOLA
(MPLA)

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Andrade, President of MPLA, took a place at the Committee table.

Mr. ANDRADE read out a statement.^{1/}

In reply to questions from Mr. MOUSHOUTAS (Cyprus), Mr. ANDRADE said that the alleged reforms of the Portuguese Government were only theoretical and did not solve the problem. The Angolan people wanted the abolition of a system not just the adoption of reforms. For example, the new labour laws eliminating forced labour represented a compromise with General Assembly resolutions but did not satisfy the aspirations of the people for independence. He was not aware of any sector of the Angolan population which did not want independence. As Portugal still refused to recognize the people's aspirations, the present situation, which, according to the report of the Sub-Committee on Angola, was already likely to endanger international peace and security, would become even more dangerous as a result of the legitimate intervention of other African countries. The majority of the population was not interested in the reforms and did not participate in the elections. They did not want to be Portuguese; they wanted to be recognized as Angolans.

The colonial settlement boards dealt with European immigration. The policy was to increase the Portuguese population and reduce the fertile land available to Angolans.

Since Portugal did not implement United Nations resolutions, other measures should be taken, for instance, those provided for in Articles 41, 42 and 45 of the Charter. Certain countries of Asia and Africa were already applying sanctions against Portugal. The Security Council should see that such sanctions were applied by all Member States.

In reply to questions from Mr. GONZALEZ-CALVO (Guatemala), Mr. ANDRADE said that some of the white population had been armed because Africans had been the victims of killings organized by certain European elements. The Government

^{1/} A/AC.108/24.

(Mr. Andrade)

had distributed arms to Europeans on 4 and 5 February 1961. States members of NATO had delivered arms, under military agreements, to Portugal, some of which had already been used against the Angolan people. Portugal had not lived up to its assurance that the arms it received from NATO members would not be used to repress nationalist movements. The NATO allies had no power to determine whether arms had been used against the Angolan people. Combatants in Angola had captured Western arms, and Portuguese officials could testify to the fact that Western arms were being used.

In reply to questions from Mr. GRINBERG (Bulgaria), Mr. ANDRADE said that the flow of refugees from Angola to the neighbouring countries continued. The armed struggle, although now in a defensive phase, was still going on. Portugal's claim that the Angolans' desire for independence had been stirred up by foreign Powers was completely false. Portugal itself had dropped that argument. There had been talks and agreements between representatives of Southern Rhodesia and Portugal concerning military assistance, but the MPLA had no precise proof that after 16 March 1962 (the date of the alleged assurance) foreign arms were still being used. In any case, to comply with the assurance, Portugal would have to withdraw all foreign equipment. Some new equipment had been received but he did not know its origin.

In reply to questions from Mr. OLISEMEKA (Nigeria), Mr. ANDRADE said that the transfer of power always involved some risks which the Angolans were ready to take. They had trained people who would take Government affairs in hand. If possible, there should be a meeting between the representatives of the Portuguese Government and representatives of the Angolan liberation movement to discuss the transfer of power. Only the future would show under what circumstances the transfer would be made. His party had always asked for the co-operation of other nationalist parties, but the co-operation had not reached the stage where a programme for the transfer of power could be drawn up. So far the discussions had related to the formation of a common front to unite all the forces of resistance.
