



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/35/146 + add. 1, 2

5 September 1980

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: ARABIC/ENGLISH/
FRENCH/SPANISH

Thirty-fifth session
Item 75 of the provisional agenda*

IMPORTANCE OF THE UNIVERSAL REALIZATION OF THE RIGHT
OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND OF THE SPEEDY
GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE OF COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND
PEOPLES FOR THE EFFECTIVE GUARANTEE AND OBSERVANCE
OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION	3
II. SUMMARIES OF REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS	
Algeria	4
Australia	5
Chile	5
Cuba	7
Cyprus	8
El Salvador	8
German Democratic Republic	8
Guinea	12
Haiti	13
Mali	13
Mexico	14

* A/35/150.

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Page</u>
Norway	14
Qatar	15
Syrian Arab Republic	15
United States of America	16
III. SUMMARIES OF REPLIES RECEIVED FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	
Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization	16
International League for Human Rights	17
Inter-Parliamentary Union	18
Muslim World League	18

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In resolution 34/44 of 23 November 1979, the General Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples for independence, territorial integrity, national unity and liberation from colonial and foreign domination and foreign occupation by all available means, including armed struggle; reaffirmed that the practice of using mercenaries against national liberation movements and sovereign States constituted a criminal act and that the mercenaries themselves were criminals, and called upon the Governments of all countries to enact legislation declaring the recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries in their territory and the transit of mercenaries through their territory to be punishable offences and prohibiting their nationals from serving as mercenaries, and to report on such legislation to the Secretary-General; reiterated its appreciation for the material and other forms of assistance that peoples under colonial and foreign rule continue to receive from Governments, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations, and called for a maximization of this assistance; further called for a maximization of all forms of assistance by all States, appropriate United Nations organs, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to the victims of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid through their national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity; and decided to consider this item again at its thirty-fifth session on the basis of the reports that Governments, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations have been requested to submit concerning the strengthening of assistance to colonial territories and peoples under foreign domination and control.

2. The present report contains summaries of replies received as at 15 August 1980 from Governments (sect. II) and summaries of replies from non-governmental organizations (sect. III) on action taken pursuant to the above-mentioned resolution. Any additional replies will be reproduced in an addendum to the present document.

3. Information on action taken by the specialized agencies and the intergovernmental organizations will be found in the report of the Secretary-General prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 34/42 of 21 November 1979 (A/35/178 and Add.1-3).

II. SUMMARIES OF REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

ALGERIA

/Original: French/

/27 June 1980/

1. The use of mercenaries is unquestionably one of the principal means employed by the imperialists to destabilize the States of the Third World and subordinate them to their interests and even to their strategic plans.
2. As a Third World country, Algeria, which has adhered to the OAU Convention on the Elimination of the Use of Mercenaries in Africa,
 - (a) Supports all the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America in their struggle for political liberation, the consolidation of their independence and their economic and social development;
 - (b) Condemns in all its forms the use of mercenaries against national liberation movements and sovereign States;
 - (c) Spares no effort in lending concrete assistance to those struggling for their freedom;
 - (d) Denounces any practice designed to use mercenaries against national liberation movements and sovereign States;
 - (e) Considers that all individuals and legal entities using mercenaries commit a crime against world peace and security and are punishable for such a crime.
3. Article 76 of the Algerian Penal Code stipulates:

"Anyone who in time of peace recruits soldiers for a foreign power in Algerian territory shall be punished by imprisonment for one to five years and a fine of 3,000 to 30,000 Algerian dinars."

The National Commission entrusted with rewriting the Code, considers that the recruitment, financing, training and transit of mercenaries are punishable crimes, and has proposed to the higher authorities of the nation that article 76 should be amended in such way as to double the penalties provided for and to incorporate the concept of mercenaries.

/...

AUSTRALIA

/Original: English/
/4 July 1980/

The Government of Australia referred to its reply of 15 May 1979 containing information submitted under General Assembly resolution 33/24 (A/34/367, p. 3).

CHILE

/Original: Spanish/
/27 June 1980/

1. The designation of the use of mercenaries against national liberation movements and sovereign States as a criminal act

1. In signing the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and subsequently depositing the instruments of ratification in Bern in 1950, Chile decided to join the international community in updating old laws pertaining to war.
2. To this end on 12 December 1977 it endorsed the two Additional Protocols of the Geneva Conventions of 1949. The competent bodies are studying these two Additional Protocols in order to submit them at a later date to the Government for ratification.
3. Article 47 of Protocol I is designed to limit the international operations of mercenaries.
4. Chile has demonstrated its determination to condemn the operations of mercenaries by refusing to grant them the status of legitimate combatants in hostilities. The legal position held by Chile, therefore, coincides with the position adopted by the General Assembly and for that reason Chile voted in favour of it.
5. Nevertheless, the control of the operations of mercenaries at the national and international level is extremely complex. Chile has stated that the use of mercenaries against any force - and not only against national liberation movements or sovereign States - is a legally and morally reprehensible act.
6. Furthermore, the international treatment of "volunteer" groups which participate in armed conflicts and which are often considered mercenaries should be carefully studied.
7. Chilean legislation in this respect is somewhat limited. Only certain isolated provisions would pertain to punishable acts by foreign persons who commit crimes against a State or its security. Article 306 of the Code of International Private Law, promulgated and enacted in 1934, and known as the Code of Bustamante, provides that:

/...

"Every national of a contracting State or every foreigner domiciled therein who commits in a foreign country an offence against the independence of that State remains subject to its penal laws."

8. Furthermore, article 8 of Law No. 17,798 of 1972 on arms control provides that:

"Persons who organize, are members of, finance, supply, assist, instruct, incite or induce others to establish and operate private militias, combat units or groups organized along military lines, armed with any of the items mentioned in article 3, shall be liable to medium-term imprisonment with compulsory labour in the intermediate or maximum degree."

9. Article 106 of the Penal Code contains the following broad provision:

"Any person who within the territory of the Republic conspires against its external security by inducing a foreign Power to declare war against Chile shall be liable to life imprisonment with compulsory labour in the maximum degree. If hostilities have ensued, he shall be subject to the death penalty."

10. Lastly, it should be pointed out that article 1 of Law No. 5, 478 of 1934, although not directly related to the matter under consideration, provides that:

"Any Chilean who, in the country or abroad, provides military service to a foreign State, which is engaged in a war in which Chile has declared itself neutral, shall be liable to medium-term forced residence in the intermediate degree and shall be considered permanently unfit to hold public office."

2. The strengthening of assistance to colonial territories and peoples under foreign domination and control

11. The Government of Chile has maintained its position of active support for the decision of the General Assembly to continue at its thirty-fifth session consideration of the question of strengthening assistance to colonial territories and peoples under foreign domination and control, especially since, after the adoption of resolution 1514 (XV), of 14 December 1960, on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, Chile was elected a member of the Special Committee for investigating and proposing the most appropriate measures for the over-all implementation of this resolution. Furthermore, Chile did not oppose the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and the principle of self-determination of peoples.

12. Soon after the adoption of resolution 1514 (XV), the delegation of Chile stated its views clearly in that regard. At the eighteenth session of the General Assembly, it pointed out the following:

"Our objective should always be, and I emphasize the importance of this, independence for peoples and the end of all colonies and their attendant abuses of poverty and shameless economic exploitation. Independence must be granted to peoples who have not yet experienced the benefits of freedom, progress and civilization. However, independence must mark the starting point for improving the living conditions of dependent peoples. This we must not forget."

13. The Chilean delegation also stated:

"For these reasons, my delegation considers that, although our objective must be the broadest possible implementation of resolution 1514 (XV), we must understand that this goal will not always be achieved by granting absolute autonomy. For certain small territories circumstances may show that a more favourable solution to their problems might be the establishment of their own Governments through free association with an independent State or integration with an independent State, according to principle 6 of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV). Nevertheless, it should be perfectly clear that any decision in this regard should be taken in accordance with the express will of the people of those territories."

14. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Chile, addressing a plenary meeting of the last session of the General Assembly, stated with regard to the countries of Africa:

"We, therefore, repudiate any armed intervention in this continent and proclaim the inalienable right of its peoples to be the architects of their own destiny. We cannot, therefore, remain silent when faced with the conflict in southern Africa. We are following with interest certain initiatives which are under way, principally with regard to Rhodesia and Namibia and we reiterate our support for decolonization and the self-determination of peoples and our rejection of all forms of discrimination."

CUBA

/Original: Spanish/

/13 August 1980/

1. In accordance with the position held internationally by the Government of the Republic of Cuba, its Penal Code states in Article 127 of Law No. 21 of 1979, Volume II, Special Part, Title I, Chapter III "Crimes against Peace and International Law", Section 10 with respect to mercenaries that:

"Any person who, for the purpose of obtaining payment or any other type of material compensation, joins military units composed entirely or partially of individuals who are not citizens of the State in whose territory they intend to operate, shall be liable to imprisonment for 10 to 20 years or the death penalty."

/...

"Any person who collaborates in or carries out any other act designed directly or indirectly to achieve the objective described in the preceding paragraph shall be liable to the same penalties."

2. Cuba considers that the legal prohibition of the use of mercenaries must, furthermore, be essentially universal in character since by its very nature it constitutes an international crime.

CYPRUS

/Original: English/
/12 March 1980/

The Government of Cyprus informed the Secretary-General that the recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries were punishable offences under article 55 of the Cyprus Criminal Code.

EL SALVADOR

/Original: Spanish/
/10 June 1980/

El Salvador has not yet adopted any specific legislation with regard to mercenaries; nevertheless, the legal provisions which could be applied to the activities of mercenaries are still in force and this Ministry informed you of these provisions in Note No. 9149 of 19 June 1979.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

/Original: English/
/1 July 1980/

1. The right of peoples to decide on their political status freely and without interference from outside and to shape their economic, social and cultural development in accordance with their own interests is a cogent basic principle of democratic international law. The world-wide struggle for preserving and strengthening peace, for disarmament and détente, and the oppressed peoples' struggle for self-determination, for national and social liberation are closely interrelated. A future in peace and the progress of mankind can lastingly be ensured only if the peoples which are still colonially and racially oppressed can also exercise their right to self-determination and independence.

2. The adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples at the fifteenth session of the General Assembly on 14 December 1960 was a climax in the struggle for the recognition and implementation of the right to self-determination. The Declaration, which goes back to an

initiative of the Soviet Union, has since provided the basis of many United Nations decisions and international instruments. It has been and continues to be an important boost to the national liberation struggle. The twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration should serve as an occasion for resolute action to eliminate the last remaining bastions of colonialism, racism and apartheid.

3. To support the struggle for the elimination of the last remaining strongholds of colonial and racist oppression and to safeguard the liberated States' national independence are the key tasks in the effort to universally implement the peoples' right to self-determination. This is closely related to the peoples' striving to overcome the aftermath of centuries of colonial rule, dependence and economic backwardness. Imperialist forces and transnational corporations are seeking to keep former colonial countries dependent and subservient by way of a great variety of methods of economic infiltration and aggression, and by having recourse to modified forms of exploitation. These neo-colonialist practices are aimed at protecting the political, economic and strategic interests of international monopoly capital in these countries.

4. The German Democratic Republic extends assistance and solidarity to the peoples in their efforts to lay the economic groundwork for the right to self-determination and achieve social progress. It supports the just demands of the developing countries for making good the damages inflicted upon them by colonialism and neo-colonialism, for restructuring international economic relations on a democratic basis and for their inalienable right to dispose of their natural resources.

5. The proclamation of Zimbabwe's independence climaxed many years of heroic struggle waged by the people of that country. It is striking proof that the peoples in southern Africa resolutely rebuff the neo-colonialist attempts at a "solution" pursued by imperialism. The victory of the patriotic forces in Zimbabwe is lending fresh momentum to the liberation struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia under the leadership of the ANC and SWAPO, of their legitimate national liberation organizations. With their policy of apartheid, their illegal occupation of Namibia, their aggression against independent neighbouring States and their striving for nuclear weapons the South African racists are increasingly jeopardizing international peace and security. Nor do the so-called reforms initiated by the racist régime in Pretoria change anything about the nature of South African policy. They are merely aimed at deceiving the international public about the true character of the policy pursued by the apartheid régime. Drastic economic sanctions, a comprehensive arms embargo, an oil embargo and the cessation of all economic, financial and military support are called for to banish the danger to peace in southern Africa and achieve the international isolation of the racist minority régime.

6. The peoples' successes in their liberation struggle increasingly restrict the range of activity of the forces of colonialism and racism. International monopoly capital refuses to reconcile itself to this course of development. A clear manifestation of this policy is the close collaboration of certain States with the South African apartheid régime. The United Nations have condemned that practice which is the main obstacle to the elimination of the apartheid régime and to the implementation of the South African people's rights. States which for years have refused to impose economic sanctions on the racist régime of injustice are most willing to take boycott action against other States which do not submit to their dictate.

7. (Grossly violating international law and in disregard of relevant United Nations resolutions those in power in Israel, acting closely together with the United States, deny the Arab people of Palestine the right to self-determination. The German Democratic Republic stands up for the right of the Arab people of Palestine to self-determination, including to the establishment of an independent sovereign Palestinian State, while recognizing the right to exist of all States in that region, and is active along these lines on the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

8. In their Declaration of 15 May 1980 the Warsaw Treaty States stressed the need for settling the Middle East conflict with the direct participation of all interested parties, including the Arab people of Palestine through its representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization. The most essential prerequisites for a solution are the withdrawal of the Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, the restoration of the right of the Arab people of Palestine to self-determination, including the creation of an independent State of its own. Arrangements which in regard to the number of participants and substantive provisions do not take account of the complexity of the conflict cannot lead to a settlement. On the contrary, they aggravate the situation, causing more suffering to the peoples of the Middle East.

9. The peoples of the so-called small colonially dependent territories in the Pacific, the Atlantic and in the Indian Ocean must no longer be denied their right to self-determination and independence. The Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples fully applies to all peoples still under colonial oppression. Their size, location and historic development are no reasons to deny them these rights. The German Democratic Republic resolutely turns against endeavours to impose upon the peoples a development which is designed to preserve the privileges of the colonialists. In crass contradiction to the repeated demands of the United Nations, colonial powers maintain military bases and other military facilities in these territories. The German Democratic Republic shares the concern of the peoples of these territories and their neighbours who feel threatened by these bases, not wishing to be drawn into military adventures. This applies in particular to the Indian Ocean and its littoral States. The German Democratic Republic emphatically supports the proposal to transform the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and will act along these lines on the United Nations Committee on the Indian Ocean.

10. To prevent the universal implementation of the right of all peoples to self-determination, mercenaries are used both against national liberation movements and in aggression against sovereign States. The German Democratic Republic most resolutely condemns such practices. It supports the Nigerian proposal to create a binding international convention that prohibits the use, recruitment, training and financing of mercenaries. This would be a significant international instrument for the protection of the sovereignty of young national States and in support of the legitimate struggle of national liberation movements.

11. Unqualified support for the peoples fighting for their national liberation and the implementation of their right to self-determination, and for the liberated countries defending their independence and freedom is a basic principle of socialist foreign policy. This has been reaffirmed by the Warsaw Treaty States in the above-mentioned Declaration.

12. The German Democratic Republic stands firmly at the side of the Namibian people and SWAPO in the struggle against South African occupiers, and of the people of South Africa fighting under the leadership of the ANC for the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination. The German Democratic Republic extends assistance and solidarity to the Arab people of Palestine in its just struggle under the leadership of the PLO for the implementation of the right to self-determination and the establishment of a State of its own.

13. The journey to Ethiopia of a party and State delegation led by Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, and the meeting there with OAU Secretary-General Edem Kodjo were impressive manifestations of the German Democratic Republic's deep association with the struggle of the African nations. The Treaty on Friendship and Co-operation between the German Democratic Republic and Socialist Ethiopia underlines that the Contracting Parties shall continue to extend assistance and solidarity to the peoples still under oppression in their struggle for self-determination, independence, sovereignty and social progress.

14. In the German Democratic Republic solidarity with the peoples struggling for the implementation of their right to self-determination and for independence has grown into a true mass movement encompassing all sections of the population. For the co-ordination of the wide-ranging activities involved 20 years ago a Solidarity Committee was founded in the German Democratic Republic. Special annual highlights within the solidarity movement are the "Week of solidarity with the peoples of Africa fighting for their national and social liberation", the "Week of solidarity with the anti-imperialist struggle of the Arab peoples" and the "Month of anti-imperialist solidarity". The close association of all strata of the German Democratic Republic population with the liberation struggle of the Arab peoples of Palestine and the peoples in southern Africa is reflected in innumerable meetings, scientific colloquies and other solidarity events. Donations to the tune of over 40 million marks by the German Democratic Republic populations were used in 1979 to finance essential goods like foodstuffs and restoratives, vitamin preparations and medicaments, infant food, blankets, clothing and tents which were sent to Africa. Wounded and sick fighters of SWAPO, the ANC and the PLO undergo medical treatment in hospitals of the German Democratic Republic.

15. Donations by the population of the German Democratic Republic are also used to assist in the development or reorganization of the transport, health and education systems and of the mining industry in the people's republics of Angola and Mozambique. Special care is devoted to children. The German Democratic Republic has delivered complete sets of school equipment including laboratory classrooms as well as children's clothes and vaccines to these countries. Every year Palestinian and southern African children spend holidays in the German Democratic Republic.

16. With the help of donations from the German Democratic Republic small production and handicraft workshops have been set up in the refugee camps of SWAPO and the ANC. The German Democratic Republic has supplied cement for extension work on the ANC school at Morogoro (United Republic of Tanzania). It has also actively assisted in equipping this school. Training and improving the qualification of skilled workers and managerial personnel is an essential component of the solidarity exercised by the German Democratic Republic. About 750 students and skilled workers from African and Arab States and from liberation organizations, among them many young people from Namibia, South Africa and delegates of the PLO, presently undergo training in the German Democratic Republic.

17. In his talks with leading representatives of the Ethiopian Government and the OAU Secretary-General Edem Kodjo, Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic with the liberation struggle of the African peoples. He emphasized on these occasions that "the peoples of Africa can also in the future always count on the socialist GDR as a true friend and dependable ally in their just struggle for national and social liberation, for the strengthening of national sovereignty and for the attainment of economic independence".

GUINEA

/Original: French/

/12 May 1980/

1. The Government of the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea considers that preventing a people from attaining real independence and the policy of racial discrimination or any other arbitrary practice in a country and between nations are the gravest violations of human rights.
2. The Government of Guinea has always consistently condemned colonialism, from which the people of Guinea suffered for decades and which they continue to combat wherever it exists.
3. The Government of Guinea considers apartheid a form of colonialism and has always urged the international community to fight this evil system.
4. The Government of Guinea condemns mercenaries because the use of mercenaries is an essentially anachronistic practice which by its nature is identical with the colonialist gunboat policy.
5. The Government of Guinea prohibits all its citizens from engaging in actions which violate the sovereignty of a country either through war or subversion.

/...

HAITI

/Original: French/

/8 April 1980/

1. The Government of the Republic of Haiti fully supports the declaration condemning the use of mercenaries against national liberation movements and sovereign States.
2. The Government of Haiti supports the Assembly's proposal that Haiti should enact legislation declaring the recruitment, financing, training and transit of mercenaries on Haitian territory to be punishable offences and prohibiting Haitians from serving as mercenaries. Once these laws have been adopted, a report on such legislation will be submitted to the Secretary-General.

MALI

/Original: French/

/8 April 1980/

1. The Government of Mali attaches great importance to all measures designed to put an end to the criminal activities of mercenaries, whose only goal, as is commonly known, is the neo-colonization of Africa.
2. The competent authorities of Mali will be instructed to prepare national legislation declaring the recruitment, financing, training and transit of mercenaries on its territory to be punishable offences and prohibiting its citizens from serving as mercenaries. Mali will do everything it can to co-ordinate the laws of the different States concerned in order to put an end to the iniquitous practice of using mercenaries.
3. In order to be effective the enactment of legislation to suppress the use of mercenaries in each of the countries concerned must be accompanied by increased assistance to colonial territories and peoples subjected to foreign domination and control.
4. The concept of assistance must be redefined in a clearer and broader manner. The objectives of the mercenaries are clearly to destabilize the entire African continent and keep it in a state of perpetual domination. In other words, it is a question of the security of Africa. This question must be considered in its military and economic aspects. Let us not forget that development and security are two closely linked concepts, as article 16 of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States clearly points out: "It is the right and duty of all States, individually and collectively, to eliminate colonialism, apartheid, racial discrimination, neo-colonialism and all forms of foreign aggression, occupation and domination, and the economic and social consequences thereof, as a prerequisite for development". We therefore feel that an increase in material, diplomatic and

/...

political assistance to all sovereign African States and more particularly to colonial territories and peoples, would better enable them to cope with the criminal, neo-colonialist manoeuvres of mercenaries.

5. Among the specific measures adopted by Mali, we would recall that during the International Anti-Apartheid Year celebrations were organized by the National Anti-Apartheid Committee of Mali. These celebrations, which were organized throughout the country, enabled us to achieve two immediate goals:

(a) Direct communication with the masses increased the awareness of the public at large;

(b) the receipts from the various celebrations were contributed to the Organization of African Unity Liberation Committee. In this way the contribution provided by the State was supplemented by the direct participation of the people.

6. In addition to this timely action, Mali provides, according to its means, contributions to the national liberation movements.

7. Lastly, at the international level we have taken every opportunity to firmly condemn the use of mercenaries and all forms of foreign domination.

MEXICO

/Original: Spanish/
/25 June 1980/

1. The competent Mexican authorities are currently undertaking consultations with the various bodies directly concerned with this question and point out that the result will be based on the study of the appropriate laws.

2. They, furthermore, state that if this question is not entirely covered by the laws in force, the necessary steps will be taken to submit a bill on this subject to the President of Mexico.

NORWAY

/Original: English/
/4 June 1980/

1. Act of 19 March 1937, no. 1, empowers the Government to prohibit any person in Norway to be recruited for military service of any foreign country, and to prohibit any person to leave Norway to participate in an armed conflict in a foreign country. Furthermore, paragraph 133 of the Penal Code prohibits the recruitment of personnel for participation in armed conflicts in foreign countries.

2. From the Bill by which the Act of 19 March 1937 was proposed, it is evident that the Act is applicable not only concerning the recruitment of personnel to the military forces of a foreign country, but also prohibits such recruitment to insurrection movements, liberation movements, etc.

3. It is the opinion of the Norwegian Government that the legal provisions presently in force in Norway adequately prohibit the recruitment of mercenaries described in General Assembly resolution 34/44.

QATAR

/Original: Arabic/

/18 July 1980/

1. As stated in article 5 (e) of the Constitution of Qatar, the State has adopted the principles of the Charter of the United Nations aimed at supporting the right of peoples to self-determination. In addition, Qatar is a peace-loving country that believes in the need to implement the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and is eager to fulfil its international commitments; because of this, it is eager to implement the resolutions adopted by international organizations and to respect the general principles of international law. In its foreign policy, the State of Qatar has adopted the principles of non-alignment and supports the right of all peoples to self-determination. This implies that the State of Qatar will not allow mercenaries to pass through its territory and that it supports national liberation movements, as it has done in the case of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

2. Qatar believes in international co-operation aimed at eliminating the causes of war, promotes tolerance and combats all forms of oppression.

3. The State of Qatar wishes to point out that it extends material assistance to international organizations and provides bilateral assistance to colonial peoples and liberation movements.

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

/Original: English/

/6 June 1980/

Under the chapter on "Crimes under International Law" article 280 of the Penal Code of the Syrian Arab Republic provides for the punishment of those who may recruit in Syrian territory soldiers to take part in an armed conflict in the interest of foreign powers.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

/Original: English/

/6 June 1980/

The Government of the United States forwarded the full text of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 956, 958, 959, and 960. 1/ Under these sections, it is a criminal offence for any person, within the United States, to enlist in or recruit another for military service on behalf of any foreign power, entity or people. The acceptance or exercise of any foreign commission and the mounting of any military expedition from within the United States are also prohibited.

III. SUMMARIES OF REPLIES RECEIVED FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

AFRO-ASIAN PEOPLES' SOLIDARITY ORGANIZATION

/Original: English/

/10 June 1980/

1. The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) submitted a brief description of its activities during the year 1979 and the first half of 1980. It was indicated that the general aims of AAPSO were to unite, co-ordinate and accelerate the liberation struggle of the Afro-Asian peoples with a view to ensuring their economic, social and cultural development; to support the independent policy of the Afro-Asian States and organizations which seek socio-economic progress in the interest of wide sections of the people; to assist the peoples' movement for decolonization, and to provide support for all those struggling for self-determination, freedom and national independence; to make available a wide exchange of experience in the sphere of liberation struggle and economic and cultural construction, as well as deepening co-operation and mutual assistance among peoples.
2. The Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO achieve these aims through propaganda activities (press releases, circular letters, book, quarterlies, monthlies, radio and television interviews, and lectures) and through the organization of conferences and seminars, raising support funds, and campaigning for solidarity with the struggle of peoples and on some important issues.
3. Furthermore, in seeking the realization of these objectives, it co-operates with the United Nations and its specialized agencies, particularly the Special Committee against Apartheid and the Centre against Apartheid. A new form of such co-operation is the agreement recently signed by AAPSO and the Centre against Apartheid according to which AAPSO would publish Arabic versions of certain studies of the Centre.

1/ Available in the files of the Secretariat.

4. During 1979 and the first half of 1980, AAPSO held many international conferences, including the following:

International Conference in Support of liberation movements in Southern Africa and in Solidarity with the Front-line States (Lusaka, Zambia, 10-13 April 1979)

International Conference against Pacts and Military Bases (Nicosia, Cyprus, June 1979)

International Conference on Security and Co-operation in the Mediterranean (Malta, 28-31 March 1980)

AAPSO International Conference on Solidarity for Independence, Security and Socio-Economic Progress - In commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Bandung (Colombo, Sri Lanka, 23-25 May 1980).

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

/Original: English/
/29 July 1980/

1. The International League for Human Rights has since 1945 been actively engaged in efforts at the international level to protect the human rights of colonial peoples, including their right to self-determination in accordance with the United Nations Charter and relevant Resolutions of the General Assembly such as resolution 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV). In the course of its efforts, the League has rendered assistance to advocates of independence in over 30 countries that have since become Members of the United Nations.

2. 1980 represents the twentieth anniversary of the watershed resolution on the ending of colonialism, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. This year thus presents an important symbolic opportunity for a re-affirmation of the principles of that Declaration. Most of the work of decolonization envisaged by it has been done. But some remains.

3. We believe that the United Nations should, of course, continue its work with those territories like the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and East Timor which are already on its agenda. (We mention these two in particular as territories in which the League has taken a special interest.) Further, we respectfully suggest that the work of the organization would be strengthened if the Special Committee of 25 were asked by the General Assembly to undertake a careful review of the list of non-self-governing territories to which the Declaration of 1960 applies. The League believes that there are still territories which have escaped inclusion on the list because of the intransigence of the administering powers concerned. The time has come for such territories to be included on the list so that they may share in the spotlight of world opinion.

/...

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

/Original: English/

/6 May 1980/

The Inter-Parliamentary Union sent copies of two resolutions adopted by the Union's Inter-Parliamentary Council, at its session held on 12 April 1980 at Oslo, on the "Independence of Zimbabwe" and the "Question of Namibia". 2/ Also sent was a copy of a resolution adopted on 11 April by the Union's Committee on Non-Self-Governing Territories and Ethnic Questions. 2/ The Inter-Parliamentary Union noted that this draft, entitled "Progress towards the achievement of decolonization, including the full implementation of the people's right to self-determination", would be discussed and amended before its final adoption on 24 September 1980 by the Inter-Parliamentary Conference to be held in Berlin.

MUSLIM WORLD LEAGUE

/Original: Arabic/French/

/15 June 1980/

1. The Secretary-General of the Muslim World League wishes to bring to the General Assembly's attention the following comments, which concern particularly the constitution of the League and its major preoccupations.

A. The Palestinian problem

2. This question is based on fundamental realities which are undeniably political, historical and religious and which also concern the freedom of religion of Muslim and Christian Arabs. To allow the Palestinian people to recover their rights to national independence is a matter which can in no case be separated from the problem of Jerusalem. Jerusalem is an Arab city and will remain so and the Zionist occupation cannot bring about any change in the status of this Holy City.

3. Defying all the resolutions of the international community, the Israeli occupation authorities are continuing their deliberately planned violations not only of international conventions but of the laws of human and civilized behaviour. They are seeking to usurp Arab land, to liquidate its owners and to seize the holy places.

4. The Secretary-General of the Muslim World League notes with regret that:

(a) All the pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly have remained unimplemented despite 30 years of waiting and suffering by the Palestinian people

2/ Available in the files of the Secretariat.

in the occupied Arab territories. The absence of a legitimate peace-keeping force has encouraged the Zionist authorities to Judaize Jerusalem and the religious and historic sites of the Holy City and to take over the other Arab territories on the West Bank and to establish new Jewish settlements on Arab-owned land.

(b) The Muslim World League confirms that the Muslim world in the east and west of our land considers that the freedom of the Holy City of Jerusalem requires also the freedom of the whole of occupied Palestine. The time has come for the international community to decide on the adoption of the essential measures to deal with the Israeli refusal to conform to the above-mentioned resolutions and in particular resolution 3236 (XXIX) concerning the establishment of a Palestinian State, an essential key to any settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

(c) The Secretary-General of the Muslim World League appeals to all the countries of the world to assist the Arab people of Palestine in their legitimate struggle against the Zionist foreign occupation, a struggle directed by the PLO both inside and outside the occupied territory, in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian fatherland.

(d) The Muslim World League has followed with profound interest the situation in the Middle East after the signature of the Camp David agreements and has noted that hostile forces have succeeded in inducing an Arab country to sign a treaty with the Zionist invaders. In the eyes of the League, these agreements are valueless and null and void. These agreements are considered by the Arab and Islamic world as instruments designed to liquidate the Palestinian people and its right to self-determination.

(e) The Secretary-General of the Muslim World League, aware of the importance of the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly, wishes to take this opportunity to invite this world body to act forcefully in order to uphold the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which has been continually flouted by the Israeli authorities. The League confirms again herewith what it has stated in the past, namely, that Palestine with all its territories and holy places is an Arab land and its occupation can change nothing of this reality.

B. Other questions

5. The Muslim World League has the honour to summarize in this memorandum for the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly other problems which occupy a major place in the preoccupations of the League.

1. Lebanon

6. The Secretary-General of the Muslim World League urges the United Nations to take a more active role to ensure that peace reigns again in this war-torn Arab country and to find a remedy for its sufferings. We also urge that a new form of

/...

coexistence should be worked out between the Muslim and Christian communities in Lebanon and that the rights of the Palestinians residing in Lebanon since 1948, which have been upheld by the Cairo agreements of 1949, should be respected.

2. Racial segregation in South Africa

7. All Islamic meetings have urged that the struggle against the racism practised in South Africa should be supported by all possible means. The Muslim World League appeals in this connexion to all States Members of the international family to take practical and effective measures to put an end to the policy of racism in this region of the world.

3. Muslim rights throughout the world

8. Basing itself on the principle of the indivisibility of questions of justice and peace, the Muslim World League wishes to inform the international community that in different corners of our modern world Muslim peoples are suffering on a large scale because of their religious convictions.
