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

Question of Western Sahara

Report of the Secretary-General

1. At its thirty-fourth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 34/37 of 21 November 1979 concerning the question of Western Sahara. Paragraphs 9 and 10 of the resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

...

"9. Requests the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to keep the Secretary-General of the United Nations informed of the progress achieved with regard to the implementation of the decisions of the Organization of African Unity concerning Western Sahara;

"10. Invites the Secretary-General to follow closely the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session."

2. On 30 September 1980, the Executive Secretary of the Organization of African Unity to the United Nations addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:

"In pursuance of paragraph 9 of United Nations General Assembly resolution 34/37 adopted on 21 November 1979, I have been instructed by the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to transmit to you the text of decision AHG/DEC.118 (XVII) on the question of Western Sahara which was adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU meeting at its seventeenth ordinary session in Freetown from 1 to 4 July 1980 (see annex).

"In accordance with paragraph 4 of the decision, the Ad Hoc Committee of Heads of State on Western Sahara met at Freetown from 9 to 12 September 1980. The Committee's recommendations are being forwarded to the heads of State and Government of OAU.

"I would be grateful if you would include this information in your report to the General Assembly."

3. At its thirty-fifth session, the General Assembly will have before it the working paper on the item prepared by the Secretariat (A/AC.109/621), which the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples decided to transmit to the Assembly in order to facilitate the consideration of the item by the Fourth Committee.

4. During the year, the Secretary-General has continued to follow closely the situation with regard to Western Sahara as well as the related efforts of OAU to arrive at a solution of the problem. Further, the Secretary-General has maintained close contacts with the parties concerned and will continue to extend his full co-operation to them in the search for a solution, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

ANNEX

Decision AHG/DEC.118 (XVII), adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, at its seventeenth ordinary session

Question of Western Sahara

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity meeting, at its seventeenth ordinary session in Freetown, Sierra Leone, from 1 to 4 July 1980,

Having reviewed the report of the third session of the Ad Hoc Committee of Heads of State on Western Sahara,

Taking cognizance of the views expressed on the report by various delegations,

1. Takes note of the report of the third session of the Ad Hoc Committee of Heads of State on Western Sahara;

2. Agrees that the Committee, under the chairmanship of the current Chairman, H.E. Dr. Siaka Stevens, should continue its work with a view to reconciling the parties to the conflict and seeking a peaceful and lasting solution thereto;

3. Welcomes the willingness of the Kingdom of Morocco to engage in discussions with all interested parties and to participate fully in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;

4. Decides that the Ad Hoc Committee shall convene in Freetown, Sierra Leone, within the next three months.
