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AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL
TERRORISM
19 March-6 April 1979

DRAFT REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE

Rapporteur: Mrs. Katherine K. ORIYO (United Republic of Tanzania)

INTRODUCTION

1. At its 105th plenary meeting, on 16 December 1977, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Sixth Committee, 1/ adopted resolution 32/147 entitled "Measures to prevent international terrorism which endangers or takes innocent human lives or jeopardizes fundamental freedoms, and study of the underlying causes of those forms of terrorism and acts of violence which lie in misery, frustration, grievance and despair and which cause some people to sacrifice human lives, including their own, in an attempt to effect radical changes", which reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Deeply perturbed over acts of international terrorism which are occurring with increasing frequency and which take a toll of innocent human lives,

"Recognizing the importance of international co-operation in devising measures effectively to prevent their occurrence and of studying their underlying causes with a view to finding just and peaceful solutions as quickly as possible;

"Recalling the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, 2/

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Annexes, document A/32/453.

2/ General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

"Taking note of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism, 3/

"Deeply convinced of the importance to mankind of the continuation of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee,

"1. Expresses deep concern over increasing acts of international terrorism which endanger or take innocent human lives or jeopardize fundamental freedoms;

"2. Urges States to continue to seek just and peaceful solutions to the underlying causes which give rise to such acts of violence;

"3. Reaffirms the inalienable right to self-determination and independence of all peoples under colonial and racist régimes and other forms of alien domination, and upholds the legitimacy of their struggle, in particular the struggle of national liberation movements, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the organs of the United Nations;

"4. Condemns the continuation of repressive and terrorist acts by colonial, racist and alien régimes in denying peoples their legitimate right to self-determination and independence and other human rights and fundamental freedoms,

"5. Appeals to States which have not yet done so to examine the possibility of becoming parties to the existing international conventions which relate to various aspects of the problem of international terrorism;

"6. Invites States to take all appropriate measures at the national level with a view to the speedy and final elimination of the problem, bearing in mind the provisions of paragraph 3 above;

"7. Invites the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism to continue its work in accordance with the mandate entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 3034 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, first by studying the underlying causes of terrorism and then by recommending practical measures to combat terrorism;

"8. Invites the States which have not yet done so to submit their observations and concrete proposals as soon as possible to the Secretary-General so as to enable the Ad Hoc Committee to carry out its mandate more efficiently;

"9. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Ad Hoc Committee an analytical study of the observations of States submitted under paragraph 8 above;

"10. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to consider the observations of States under paragraph 8 above and to submit its report with recommendations for possible co-operation for the speedy elimination of the problem, bearing in mind the provisions of paragraph 3, to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session;

"11. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the necessary facilities and services, including summary records;

"12. Decides to include the item in the provisional agenda of its thirty-fourth session."

2. The Ad Hoc Committee was composed of the following Member States appointed by the President of the General Assembly under the terms of paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 3034 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972: Algeria, Austria, Barbados, Canada, Congo, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, France, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia.

3. The Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism met at United Nations Headquarters from 19 March to 6 April 1979.

4. At its 11th and 12th meetings held on 19 and 20 March, the Ad Hoc Committee elected the following officers:

Chairman: Mr. Rikhi Jaipal (India)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. E. B. Maycock (Barbados)

Mr. Imre Hollai (Hungary)

Mr. Folke Persson (Sweden)

Rapporteur: Mrs. Katherine K. Oriyo (United Republic of Tanzania)

5. The session was opened by Mr. Erik Suy, Under-Secretary-General, the Legal Counsel, who represented the Secretary-General. Mr. Valentin A. Romanov, Director of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs, acted as Secretary of the Ad Hoc Committee. Mr. Gamal H. Badr, Deputy Director for Research and Studies, and Miss Jacqueline Dauchy, Senior Legal Officer (Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs) acted, respectively, as Deputy Secretary to the Ad Hoc Committee and Secretary to its Working Group. Mr. Manuel Rama-Montaldo, Legal Officer, and Mr. Igor Fominov, Associate Legal Officer (Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs) acted as Assistant Secretaries to the Ad Hoc Committee and its Working Group.

6. At its 11th meeting, on 19 March, the Ad Hoc Committee adopted the following agenda:

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1. Opening of the session
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Organization of work
5. Consideration of the observations of States and formulation of recommendations pursuant to General Assembly resolution 32/147
6. Adoption of the report
7. The Committee had before it the analytical study prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/147 (A/AC.160/4 and Corr.1) and the observations and proposals annexed to the analytical study, submitted by States pursuant to the same resolution. It also had before it the observations of States submitted in accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 31/102 of 16 December 1976 (document A/AC.160/3 and Add.1-2) as well as the working papers submitted during its 1973 session which are reproduced in the annex of the report of the Committee to the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly. 4/
8. The Ad Hoc Committee devoted part of its 13th to 17th meetings held between 21 and 26 March to a general debate, in which the representatives of the following States took part: Austria, Barbados, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, France, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Nigeria, Sweden, Turkey, Ukrainian SSR, USSR, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. The representative of Argentina made a statement with the consent of the Committee.
9. At its 13th meeting on 21 March, the Ad Hoc Committee decided to establish a Working Group of the Whole to deal with the questions related to the causes of international terrorism and the measures to be taken against it, in that order.
10. The Working Group was chaired by the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee, the other officers of the Ad Hoc Committee also performing their respective functions in the Working Group. It held meetings between 26 March and April.
