

inhibited its ability to prepare details of the kind of relief supplies and services which donors are willing to furnish, and have further inhibited its ability to provide adequate pre-disaster planning advice,

1. *Expresses the belief* that there is a need for a more systematic approach to and strengthening of the operations of the United Nations system in anticipation of, during and immediately after natural disasters and other disaster situations;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to investigate the feasibility of measures to strengthen the United Nations machinery in this respect, especially the disaster prevention, pre-disaster planning, and co-ordinating roles of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, in order that this machinery may be made more efficient to deal with natural disasters and other disaster situations;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit his findings to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-ninth session;

4. *Recommends* that at its twenty-ninth session the General Assembly, taking into account the discussions on this item at the fifty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council, reconsider, in the light of the biennial nature of the budget, the proposals of the Secretary-General for additional staff resources, as initially requested by him for the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator in section 17 of his budget estimates for 1974-1975.⁸⁴

*1918th plenary meeting
31 July 1974*

1892 (LVII). Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,⁸⁵ the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council,⁸⁶ and the annual report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1973/74⁸⁷ concerning the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions adopted by United Nations bodies on this subject, including in particular

⁸⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/9006).*

⁸⁵ A/9638 and addenda; transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbols E/5542 and Corr.1, E/5542/Add.1 and Corr.1, E/5542/Add.2 and 3.

⁸⁶ E/5561.

⁸⁷ E/5488, paras. 39-51.

General Assembly resolution 3118 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973 and Council resolution 1804 (LV) of 7 August 1973,

Taking into account the statements made by the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and by the representative of the Organization of African Unity at the fifty-seventh session of the Council,⁸⁸

Gravely concerned that millions of people are still living under oppressive colonial and alien domination, and strongly condemning the ruthless repression of these people by the colonial and racist régimes in southern Africa,

Welcoming the declaration of the President of Portugal concerning the promulgation of a decree by the Council of State of Portugal recognizing the right to independence of the peoples of the colonial territories concerned, and the acceptance by the Government of Portugal of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant decisions and resolutions of the United Nations with respect to these territories,

Noting with satisfaction the progress towards national independence and freedom achieved by the national liberation movements of the territories concerned, particularly in the reconstruction and administration of the liberated areas,

Mindful of the acute and critical need for effective assistance from the United Nations system of organizations to the colonial peoples in their efforts to achieve their inalienable right to freedom and independence, to exercise their fundamental human rights and to combat poverty, deprivation and other human suffering,

Noting with regret that the action so far taken by most of the specialized agencies to provide moral and material assistance to the peoples of the colonial territories struggling against alien domination falls far short of the objectives of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Affirming that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council impose a responsibility on all the specialized agencies and bodies within the United Nations system to provide moral and material assistance to the national liberation movements and to the peoples of the liberated areas,

Noting further that, in order to facilitate the implementation of the relevant resolutions adopted by United Nations bodies concerning close co-operation with the Organization of African Unity, there is need for regular meetings between representatives of the organizations of the United Nations system and of the secretariat of the Organization of African Unity,

⁸⁸ See E/AC.24/SR.538.

1. *Reiterates* its affirmation that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations bodies of the legitimacy of the struggle of colonial peoples to achieve freedom and independence entails the extension by the organizations of the United Nations system of the necessary moral and material assistance to them, including in particular those in the liberated areas of the colonial territories, as well as to their national liberation movements;

2. *Calls upon* all the specialized agencies and organizations within the United Nations system:

(a) To discharge their responsibilities as outlined in the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council of providing moral and material assistance to the national liberation movements and the peoples in the liberated areas, and to work out and channel such assistance through the Organization of African Unity;

(b) To accelerate the full and speedy implementation of the provisions of General Assembly resolution 3118 (XXVIII) and other related resolutions adopted by United Nations bodies;

(c) To make appropriate procedural arrangements immediately and, if necessary, amend their relevant instruments, with a view to enabling the representatives of the liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity to participate fully as observers in all proceedings relating to their countries, particularly so as to ensure that assistance projects of the agencies and organizations are carried out for the benefit of the national liberation movements and peoples of the liberated areas;

(d) To consider defraying all travel and other related expenses of representatives of the national liberation movements invited to attend such proceedings;

3. *Welcomes* the action taken by those organizations which have, in varying degrees, co-operated in the implementation of the relevant resolutions adopted by United Nations bodies, and have in particular initiated programmes of assistance to the national liberation movements, as well as emergency and quasi-emergency programmes of aid to the peoples of the liberated areas;

4. *Affirms* that programmes of assistance to refugees from the colonial territories should not serve as a pretext for inaction regarding assistance to the national liberation movements and peoples of the liberated areas;

5. *Commends* the action taken by the Governments of the countries of residence in facilitating assistance to refugees from the colonial territories and in granting them the legal status provided for in the relevant international instruments, and invites them to intensify their efforts in this regard;

6. *Urges once more* the executive heads of the organizations concerned to formulate and submit to their respective governing bodies or legislative organs at their forthcoming sessions, as a matter of priority and with the active co-operation of the Organization of African Unity, specific programmes of assistance for the peoples

of the colonial territories and their national liberation movements, and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-ninth session, setting out a detailed account of the action taken and envisaged by their respective organizations;

7. *Invites* all Governments to intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant resolutions adopted by United Nations bodies, and in particular to ensure that resources are made available, on a priority basis, for the desired programmes of assistance to the peoples of the colonial territories;

8. *Takes note* of the decision taken by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme at its 438th meeting concerning assistance to colonial countries and peoples,⁸⁹ and calls upon the Programme to take all the necessary measures to accelerate the full and speedy implementation of the provisions set forth in that decision;

9. *Reiterates* its request to the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system which have not yet done so to discontinue all support and assistance to the Government of South Africa and the illegal régime in Southern Rhodesia, so long as these régimes persist in their policies of colonial and alien domination and also to refrain from taking any action which might imply recognition of the legitimacy of these régimes' colonial and alien domination;

10. *Recommends* that regular meetings be held between representatives of the organizations of the United Nations system and of the secretariat of the Organization of African Unity, to review periodically all the activities relating to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant United Nations resolutions, with a view to achieving the effective co-ordination of these activities, and requests the Secretary-General to bring the results of these meetings to the attention of the President of the Economic and Social Council and of the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in connexion with the consultations envisaged in paragraph 12 below;

11. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee to the present resolution and to the discussions that have taken place at the fifty-seventh session of the Council on the subject;

12. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to continue consultations on this matter with the Chairman of the Special Committee and to report thereon to the Council;

13. *Decides* to keep this question under continuous review.

1919th plenary meeting
1 August 1974

⁸⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 2A (E/5543), para. 136.*