



## General Assembly

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Thirty-sixth session  
Agenda item 93

### QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR

#### Report of the Fourth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ibrahim O. ADDABASHI (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 18 September 1981, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its thirty-sixth session the item entitled:

"Question of East Timor:

"(a) Report 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;

"(b) Report of the Secretary-General."

At the same meeting, the Assembly decided to allocate the item to the Fourth Committee.

2. At its 3rd meeting, on 7 October, the Fourth Committee decided to hold a general debate covering agenda items 19, 92, 93, 95 and 12, 96 and 97, on the understanding that individual draft resolutions on matters covered by those items would be considered separately. The Committee held the general debate on these items at its 9th to 20th meetings, between 19 October and 4 November.

3. The Fourth Committee considered item 93 at its 9th to 21st meetings, between 19 October and 9 November (see A/C.4/36/SR.9-21).

4. At the 9th meeting, the Rapporteur 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 made a statement in which he gave an account of the relevant activities of the Special Committee during 1981 and drew attention to chapter X of the report of that Committee relating to item 93

(A/36/23 (Part V)), 1/ as well as the relevant documentation of the Committee (A/AC.109/663).

5. The Fourth Committee also had before it the report of the Secretary-General relating to the item (A/36/598).

6. In connexion with its consideration of the item, the Fourth Committee also had before it the following communications addressed to the Secretary-General:

(a) Note verbale dated 26 March 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations (A/36/160);

(b) Note verbale dated 11 August 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Cape Verde to the United Nations (A/36/448-S/14640 and Corr.1).

7. In addition, the Fourth Committee had before it the following communications addressed to its Chairman:

(a) Letters dated 3, 13 and 20 October 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations (A/C.4/36/5 and Add.1 and 2);

(b) Letter dated 10 October 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the General Assembly (A/C.4/36/7).

8. The Fourth Committee granted the following requests for hearings in connexion with its consideration of the item:

<u>Petitioner</u>	<u>Meeting at which request for hearing was granted</u>
Jacob Xavier, Movimento Nacional para a Libertação e Independência de Timor-Díli (MNLITD) (A/C.4/36/2) .....	3rd
William R. Roff (A/C.4/36/2/Add.1) .....	3rd
Moisés da Costa Amaral, Partido do Centro Social Cristao/Uniac Democratica Timorese (SCS/UD7) (A/C.4/36/2/Add.2) .....	3rd
José Ramos-Horta, Frente Revolucionária de Timor Leste Independente (FRETILIN) (A/C.4/36/2/Add.3) .....	3rd

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1/ To be incorporated in Official Records of the General Assembly,  
Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/36/23/Rev.1).

<u>Petitioner</u>	<u>Meeting at which request for hearing was granted</u>
Michael A. Chamberlain, East Timor Human Rights Committee (A/C.4/36/2/Add.4) .....	8th
Sue Nichterlein, Minority Rights Group (A/C.4/36/2/Add.5) .....	8th
John Collins, Clergy and Laity Concerned (A/C.4/36/2/Add.6) .....	8th
Nina Shea, The International League for Human Rights (A/C.4/36/2/Add.7) .....	8th
Richard Falk (A/C.4/36/2/Add.8) .....	8th
Michel Robert, Ligue internationale pour les droits et la libération des peuples (A/C.4/36/2/Add.9) .....	11th
Margo Picken, Amnesty International (A/C.4/36/2/Add.10) .....	11th
David Scott, Australian Council for Overseas Aid, Community Aid Abroad and the Human Rights Council of Australia (A/C.4/36/2/Add.11) .....	11th

The Fourth Committee heard statements of the petitioners as follows: Mr. Roff, Miss Nichterlein, Mr. Chamberlain, Sister Blaise Lupo of Clergy and Laity Concerned and Mr. Roger Clark of The International League for Human Rights at its 9th meeting, on 19 October; Mr. Falk at its 10th meeting, on 20 October; Mr. Xavier, Mr. Paulo Pires of CSC/UDT GATIMOR, Mr. Ramos-Horta, Miss Picken and Mr. Scott, at its 11th meeting, on 21 October; and Mr. Robert at its 15th meeting, on 28 October.

9. At the 18th meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Zimbabwe introduced a draft resolution (A/C.4/36/L.7), on behalf of the following Member States: Algeria, Angola, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Cape Verde, Congo, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Malawi, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Vanuatu and Zimbabwe.

10. At its 21st meeting, on 9 November, the Fourth Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.4/36/L.7 by a recorded vote of 58 to 40, with 42 abstentions (see para. 11). 2/ The voting was as follows:

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2/ Statements in explanation of vote were made by the following Member States: Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Haiti, Oman and Sweden.

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In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, Iran, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Portugal, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Democratic Kampuchea, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, New Zealand, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United States of America.

Abstaining: Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bhutan, Burma, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Romania, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

#### RECOMMENDATION OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE

11. The Fourth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

#### Question of East Timor

#### The General Assembly,

Recognizing the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Bearing in mind that the Fifth 1/ and Sixth 2/ Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo and Havana, in 1976 and 1979, respectively, reaffirmed the right of the people of East Timor to self-determination and independence,

Having examined the chapter of the report 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 relating to East Timor 3/ and other relevant documents, 4/

Deeply concerned at the suffering of the people of East Timor and at reports of the critical situation resulting from the new outbreak of famine in the Territory,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the question of East Timor, 5/

Recalling the communiqué of the Council of Ministers of Portugal, issued on 12 September 1980, 6/ in which the administering Power pledged to undertake broad initiatives with a view to ensuring the full and speedy decolonization of East Timor,

Having heard the statement of the representative of Portugal, as the administering Power, 7/

Having heard the statements of the representative of the Frente Revolucionária de Timorese Leste Independente, 8/ the liberation movement of East Timor, and various East Timor petitioners, as well as those representatives of non-governmental organizations, 9/

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- 1/ See A/31/197, annex I, para. 36.
  - 2/ See A/34/542, annex, sect. I, para. 155.
  - 3/ A/36/23 (Part V), chap. X.
  - 4/ A/36/160 and A/AC.109/663.
  - 5/ A/36/598.
  - 6/ A/C.4/35/2, annex.
  - 7/ A/C.4/36/SR.9, paras. 45-48.
  - 8/ A/C.4/36/SR.11, paras. 31-49.
  - 9/ A/C.4/36/SR.9-11 and 15.

1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of East Timor to self-determination and independence, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);
  2. Declares that the people of East Timor must be enabled freely to determine their own future on the basis of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and internationally accepted procedures;
  3. Calls upon all interested parties, namely Portugal, as the administering Power, and the representatives of the East Timorese people, as well as Indonesia, to co-operate fully with the United Nations with a view to guaranteeing the full exercise of the right to self-determination by the people of East Timor;
  4. Notes the initiative undertaken by the Government of Portugal as stated in the communiqué of the Council of Ministers of Portugal, issued on 12 September 1980, and invites the administering Power to continue its efforts with a view to ensuring the proper exercise of the right to self-determination and independence by the people of East Timor, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and to report to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples on the progress of its initiative;
  5. Expresses its deepest concern at the reports of the critical situation resulting from the new outbreak of famine in East Timor and calls upon all specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, immediately to assist, within their respective fields of competence, the people of the Territory;
  6. Notes with satisfaction the humanitarian aid given by some Member States and relief organizations to the people of East Timor and calls upon all Governments concerned to continue this aid with a view to alleviating the suffering of the people of the Territory;
  7. Requests the Special Committee to keep the situation in the Territory under active consideration and to follow the implementation of the present resolution;
  8. Requests the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;
  9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-seventh session an item entitled "Question of East Timor".
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