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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

Report of the President of the Council on consultations held
with 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

1. On 22 July 1981, at its second regular session of 1981, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1981/54, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and assistance to the oppressed people of South Africa and their national liberation movement by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations". In paragraph 14 of that resolution, the Council requested its President to continue consultations on these matters with 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 and the Chairman of the Special Committee on Apartheid and to report thereon to the Council.
2. At its 1196th meeting, on 17 August 1981, the Special Committee adopted a resolution on the question, by which it decided to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session. 1/
3. At its thirty-sixth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 36/52 of 24 November 1981, in paragraph 24 of which it requested the Council to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for co-ordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other

1/ A/36/23 (Part III), chap. VI, para. 17, to be issued in Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/36/23/Rev.1).

organizations within the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

4. An account of the consultation held between the President of the Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee under the terms of the above-mentioned resolutions is set out below.

5. The President of the Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee noted that, in response to the relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies concerned, several agencies and organizations had continued to extend assistance, in varying degrees, to the peoples of the remaining colonial Territories, particularly within the framework of programmes funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). In noting with satisfaction the successful completion in 1981 of UNDP-assisted training projects in progress in Zimbabwe since before the country's independence in April 1980, the two presiding officers agreed that those and other projects had greatly enhanced the efforts of the national liberation movement of Zimbabwe in its preparation for the national reconstruction of that country. They hoped that, guided by those and other positive achievements elsewhere, the organizations concerned would continue to intensify their programmes of assistance, including in particular the training of cadres. They recalled that UNDP had financed, under the combined resources of the indicative planning figure (IPF) and the Trust Fund for Assistance to Colonial Countries and Peoples, six ongoing programmes of assistance to the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), three each to the African National Congress and to the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania and five jointly benefitting several liberation movements, in the fields of education, community development, telecommunications training, agricultural training, health services, vocational training and women in development. UNDP-assisted projects under the Nationhood Programme for Namibia, they noted, were funded from IPF which UNDP specifically established for Namibia. They further noted that UNDP also administered, on the basis of an agreement with the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia, several Nationhood Programme projects financed by the United Nations Fund for Namibia, and that 27 of such projects were continuing in 1981.

6. In the same context, the presiding officers noted that, pending the completion of the evaluation by the Administrator of all programmes of assistance to the three national liberation movements, the Governing Council had approved no new projects in 1981 under the combined resources of IPF for national liberation movements and the Trust Fund for Assistance to colonial Countries and Peoples. They noted that, taken together with the uncommitted resources under the respective IPF in 1977-1981, the amount to be programmed for 1982-1986 for assistance to national liberation movements would be \$US 17.34 million under the related illustrative IPF, and \$9.42 million with respect to Namibia for the period. The two presiding officers, in welcoming the initiatives taken by the Administrator, in undertaking the evaluation of the programmes concerned, including the dispatch in September/October 1981 of an evaluation mission to Africa and the holding of an interagency meeting at Dar es Salaam in December 1981, expressed the hope that as a result of the exercise a further enhancement of administrative procedures for assistance projects would be effected, in particular with respect to their formulation, implementation, monitoring and co-ordination.

7. The two presiding officers noted with satisfaction that, under the leadership of the United Nations Council for Namibia, assisted by the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia, continuing efforts were thus being made to prepare various programmes of assistance benefitting the Namibians, in close collaboration with UNDP and a number of specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system. Bearing in mind the continuing critical needs of the Namibian people, they appealed to the organizations concerned to continue to enlist whatever resources were available in order to provide Namibia with the assistance required. The presiding officers called for, in particular, renewed efforts to secure an increased flow of the funds required in the preparation of extended programmes of assistance and for the support of the major funding institutions within the United Nations system to that end. They strongly urged that those institutions should take steps to remove any existing constraints or difficulties so as to ensure the availability of the added resources required. In the same context, they once again emphasized that the role to be played by the executive heads of the institutions concerned was of special importance. They hoped that, in keeping with paragraph 22 of General Assembly resolution 36/52 and paragraph 12 of Council resolution 1981/54, the executive heads would formulate specific proposals for consideration by the respective governing and legislative organs. The two presiding officers also agreed that the agencies and organizations that had so far depended mainly on extrabudgetary sources for the financing of assistance projects should endeavour to find, to the extent possible, ways and means of including or increasing provision in their regular budgets for initiating and/or expanding projects supported by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the national liberation movements.

8. The two presiding officers noted that close liaison established by the organizations within the United Nations system with the national liberation movements, OAU and the United Nations Council for Namibia had greatly enhanced their efforts to render effective assistance to the peoples concerned. They noted with satisfaction that the national liberation movements had continued to be represented at the relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations, contributing to the positive consideration by the organizations concerned of measures in support of colonial peoples. They also noted that, in conformity with paragraph 6 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2015 (LXI) of 3 August 1976, several agencies continue to defray the cost of travel and other related expenses of representatives of national liberation movements invited to attend such meetings. Further, they noted that the United Nations Council for Namibia had been admitted to membership in certain agencies and had represented the Namibian people at a number of important conferences and meetings held during the year by the organizations concerned. The President of the Council drew attention to an action taken in response to the request by the General Assembly, in paragraph 7 of its resolution 36/121 D of 10 December 1981, by the Economic and Social Council at its 9th plenary meeting, on 16 April 1982, to grant membership in the Executive Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia.

9. The two presiding officers agreed that those close contacts facilitated further increases in the volume and scope of the assistance provided by the specialized agencies and organizations within the United Nations system and

enhanced the ability of agencies to respond more quickly and with greater flexibility to needs as they were identified. In that connection, the two presiding officers hoped that, in order to make maximum use of the available resources, the agencies and organizations would take further steps to strengthen the existing measures of co-ordination, for it was essential to ensure that the assistance projects committed or proposed by various agencies were not left unrelated or unco-ordinated. The presiding officers welcomed the recommendations adopted at the high-level meetings held at Geneva in April 1982 between representatives of the secretariats of OAU, the United Nations and other organization within the United Nations system, aiming at further cohesive co-ordination of actions by those organizations beneficial, inter alia, to the peoples concerned. Further they noted with satisfaction that, in response to the concern expressed in the report of the President on the subject (E/1980/77), UNDP organized, in co-operation with OAU, discussions with the three liberation movements with a view to planning future assistance during the 1982-1986 programme cycle (UNDP Consultative Meeting on Assistance to African Liberation Movements, Dar es Salaam, 8-11 December 1981). The presiding officers noted that there would be a follow-up meeting at the end of 1982.

10. The two presiding officers noted that assistance to refugees from Namibia had continued to increase during the period under review through the efforts of UNHCR, in close co-operation with OAU and a number of organizations within the United Nations. They noted that, owing to repeated armed aggression against Angola by South African forces, the number of Namibian refugees in Angola was constantly increasing, estimated as of 31 January 1982 at about 70,000 falling within the mandate of UNHCR. They noted, in that connection, that for the provision to them of such emergency supplies as food, clothing, health, transportation and education, UNHCR had, by the end of 1981, approved allocations totalling some \$4 million.

11. In the same context, the President of the Council drew attention to the activities of a steering committee established by the organizers of the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (ICARA) held at Geneva in April 1981, following that Conference. According to an interim report on post-ICARA activities prepared by the ICARA Steering Committee, the President of the Council observed that there had been an increase in the amount pledged by some \$US 7 million, thus making the total pledged some \$574 million as of 1 February 1982, of which some \$160 million had been obligated for UNHCR programmes in Africa in 1981. The Council President further observed that, according to the same report, the Steering Committee had found it necessary to revise substantially its earlier estimates of funds which it had hoped might have been available for the first selection of priority projects. The Chairman of the Special Committee, in that connection, drew attention to a resolution adopted by the Council of Ministers of OAU at its thirty-eighth Ordinary Session held at Addis Ababa in February 1982, in which the Council had noted with deep regret that despite the generous contributions by the international community, the main objective of ICARA "to mobilize additional resources for refugee programmes in Africa" had fallen far short of expectations, owing to the specified nature of the contributions and the subsequent channelling of funds to the normal programmes of United Nations agencies to which contributions would have been in any case made if the ICARA Conference had not been held. The two presiding officers expressed the hope that a further

evaluation by the Steering Committee of the results of ICARA would lead to a solution which would ensure securing of additional resources to meet the critical needs of African refugees. They welcomed in that regard a decision taken by the OAU Council of Ministers at its same session to establish a Bureau for Refugees within the secretariat of that organization, entrusted with the responsibility for defining refugee policies, strategies and programmes.

12. The two presiding officers noted that measures adopted by a number of agencies to withhold all assistance from the Government of South Africa continued to be in force. They agreed that the United Nations system or organizations should strengthen such measures so as to bring about the maximum isolation of that régime, in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies concerned. The Chairman of the Special Committee drew attention to a resolution adopted by the OAU Council of Ministers at its thirty-eighth Ordinary Session concerning an attempt by certain members within UPU to reverse a decision taken by its Congress in 1979, by which it had expelled South Africa from the Union's membership. In expressing their serious concern at the developments, the two presiding officers hoped that the Union's Congress would continue to uphold its earlier decision.

13. The Chairman of the Special Committee informed the President of the Council that, in pursuance of paragraph 13 of the Council resolution 1981/54, the Special Committee's attention had been drawn to that resolution as well as to the discussions leading up to it during the Council's second regular session of 1981. ^{2/} He also informed the President of the Council that the Committee, at the beginning of its current session, had asked its Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance to continue to follow the implementation by the specialized agencies and the institutions associated with the United Nations of the Declaration and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including in particular General Assembly resolution 36/54 of 24 November 1981. During its examination of the question in August 1982, the Special Committee would take into account the results of those consultations as well as the outcome of the Council's consideration of the item at its second regular session of 1982.

14. Bearing in mind that the matter raised in the present report would require continuous review by the Economic and Social Council and the Special Committee, the two presiding officers agreed that, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give at its thirty-seventh session and in conformity with such decisions as might be taken by the Council and the Special Committee, they should maintain close contact with each other on the question.

^{2/} A/36/3/Add.30, to be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/36/3/Rev.1), chap. XXX.