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

Letter dated 4 November 1982 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a note concerning your report on Western Sahara, distributed on 26 October 1982 under agenda item 18 (A/37/570), and to request you to arrange for it to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under the same agenda item.

(<u>Signed</u>) Mehdi MRANI ZENTAR
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Note from the Permanent Mission of Morocco

The report of the Secretary-General dated 26 October 1982 and circulated as document A/37/570 under agenda item 18 (Western Sahara) mentions that the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) had transmitted to the United Nations Secretariat the text of decision No. AHG/IMP.C/WS/Dec.l(II)/Rev.2 adopted by the Implementation Committee at its second session, held in Nairobi on 8 and 9 February 1982.

This decision of the Implemenation Committee deals exclusively with the entry into force of a cease-fire in Western Sahara. Yet this same Implementation Committee had adopted at the same session decision No. AHG/IMP.C/WS/Dec.2(II) concerning the organization of a referendum which enumerated the basic principles and the activities to be undertaken in the conduct of this referendum.

This laconic transmission of the decisions of the OAU Implementation Committee cannot be considered as accidental or as the result of an involuntary material error.

A brief review of the conduct of the administrative and political business of OAU by its Secretary-General, particularly during the current year, will reveal conclusively that this omission is another twist in a well-established plan designed to confront the members of OAU with a series of faits accomplis contradicting both the provisions of the Charter and the unanimous decisions of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of OAU.

Moreover, this omission, which tends to mislead the United Nations itself and the Member States about the nature and content of the decisions of the Organization of African Unity and of its Implementation Committee, is part of the same conspiracy to cover up the actions of fait accompli being taken with regard to the problem of Western Sahara.

The Secretary-General of OAU had taken it upon himself to invite the so-called Sahraoui Arab Republic to participate as a member State in the work of the Council of Ministers during its budgetary session held last February in Addis Ababa.

This invitation had been extended despite the African consensus expressed at the Freetown and Nairobi Summit Conferences to the effect that any decision of that nature should be postponed until the Implemenation Committee had performed its mission and organized a referendum in Western Sahara.

This illegal invitation had as its immediate consequence the withdrawal of 19 member countries from the ministerial meeting, which prevented any discussion, since the legal quorum did not exist.

The vicissitudes of the abortive Oau summit in Tripoli, last August, confirmed that the attempt to engineer the illegal admission to that Organization of a

phantom State evoked a strong and lasting reaction from a large number of member States, thus dooming the Organization to paralysis.

These desperate attempts clearly showed that the initiators, and then the defenders of a so-called "Sahraoui Republic" as a member of OAU at all costs, had neither the desire to face a popular consultation under international supervision nor the intention of allowing the procedure envisaged by the Implementation Committee to be followed in the normal manner.

Otherwise, why sabotage the action of the Implementation Committee just after the adoption of a comprehensive plan aimed precisely at the speedy proclamation of a cease-fire and the organization of a referendum?

And the fact that the Secretaty-General of OAU is today omitting from the documents of the Implementation Committee transmitted to the United Nations precisely the most substantial piece, devoted to the referendum, must be interpreted as another act doing violence to legality and right, another wish to prevent the process of self-determination envisaged by OAU from taking place in an orderly and calm manner, another attempt to secure endorsement of the fait accompli of the pseudo SADR by concealing an important part of the African decisions - that designed precisely to ascertain the free choice of the populations.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco wishes to draw attention to this unacceptable and deliberate behaviour by the secretariat of OAU, which is the sole cause of the serious difficulties currently experienced by the pan-African organization.