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SECOND SESSION

RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 1 NOVEMBER 1947
REGARDING THE QUESTION OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA

(Item 11 of the Provisional Agenda of the Trusteeship Council:
Consideration of such items as may be proposed by the General
Assembly, etc.)

Note by the Secretary-General

At its hundred-and-fifth plenary meeting on 1 November 1947, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, in its resolution dated 9 February 1946, the General Assembly invited all States administering territories then held under mandate to submit Trusteeship agreements for approval;

"WHEREAS, in its resolution dated 14 December 1946, the General Assembly recommended, for reasons given therein, that the mandated territory of South West Africa be placed under the International Trusteeship System and invited the Government of the Union of South Africa to propose, for the consideration of the General Assembly, a Trusteeship agreement for the aforesaid territory;

"WHEREAS the Government of the Union of South Africa has not carried out the aforesaid recommendations of the United Nations;

"WHEREAS it is a fact that all other States administering territories previously held under mandate have placed those territories under the Trusteeship System or offered them independence;

"WHEREAS the Government of the Union of South Africa in a letter of 23 July 1947 informed the United Nations that it had decided not to proceed with the incorporation of South West Africa in the Union but to maintain the status quo and to continue to administer the territory in the spirit of the existing mandate, and that the Union Government has undertaken to submit reports on its administration for the information of the United Nations:

"THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THEREFORE,

"TAKES NOTE of the decision of the Government of the Union of South
/Africa

Africa not to proceed with the incorporation of South West Africa;

"FIRMLY MAINTAINS its recommendation that South West Africa be placed under the Trusteeship System;

"URGES the Government of the Union of South Africa to propose for the consideration of the General Assembly a Trusteeship agreement for the territory of South West Africa and expresses the hope that the Union Government may find it possible to do so in time to enable the General Assembly to consider the agreement at its third session.

"AUTHORIZES the Trusteeship Council in the meantime to examine the report on South West Africa recently submitted by the Government of the Union of South Africa and to submit its observations thereon to the General Assembly."

With reference to the last paragraph of this resolution, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit herewith to the Trusteeship Council, the above-mentioned "Report by the Government of the Union of South Africa on the Administration of South West Africa for the year 1946".*

The communication of this report to the United Nations was referred to in two letters from the Union Government of 23 July and 12 September 1947 respectively (documents A/334 and A/334/Add.1) in which it was stated that "the Union Government have already undertaken to submit reports on their administration (of South West Africa) for the information of the United Nations".

* As the Secretariat has received only a limited number of copies of the printed report, distribution has necessarily to be restricted so that two copies only are communicated to each member of the Council.