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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTY-THIRD MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Wednesday, 16 May 1962, at 3.40 p.m.

CONTENTS

Northern Rhodesia: report of the Drafting Sub-Committee on Northern
Rhodesia (A/AC.109/L.14) (continued)

Sixth report of the Sub-Committee on Petitions (A/AC.109/L.15).

Question of Southern Rhodesia (continued)

PRESENT:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. JHA	(India)
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mr. RIFAI	Syria
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. PLIMSOLL	Australia
	Mr. NONG KIMNY	Cambodia
	Mr. GEBRE-EGZY	Ethiopia
	Mr. NATWAR SINGH	India
	Mr. IVELLA	Italy
	Mr. COULIBALY	Mali
	Mr. SOLTYSIAK	Poland
	Mr. NGAIZA	Tanganyika
	Mr. Taieb SLIM)	Tunisia
	Mr. MESTIRI)	
	Mr. UIANYCHEV	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
	Mr. CROWE	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Mr. BINGHAM	United States of America
	Mr. VELAZQUEZ	Uruguay
	Mr. SILVA SUCRE	Venezuela
	Mr. KREACIC	Yugoslavia
<u>Secretariat:</u>	Mr. PROTITCH	Under-Secretary for Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self- Governing Territories
	Mr. CHACKO	Secretary of the Committee

NORTHERN RHODESIA: REPORT OF THE DRAFTING SUB-COMMITTEE ON NORTHERN RHODESIA
(A/AC.109/L.14) (continued)

The CHAIRMAN invited those members of the Committee who wished to do so to explain the votes they had cast at the previous meeting.

Mr. MESTIRI (Tunisia) recalled that his delegation had voted against the minority report (A/AC.109/L.14, annex I), not because it was opposed to the substance of the text in question but because it could not agree to the substitution of that text for that approved by the majority of the Drafting Committee.

Mr. NATWAR SINGH (India) said that his delegation had abstained in the vote on the minority report. It would normally have voted against a minority report, but there were portions of the text in question to which it could take no exception. Had the minority report been put to the vote paragraph by paragraph his delegation would naturally not have opposed those portions with which it agreed, but since the text had been put to the vote as a whole it had been obliged to abstain.

Mr. SILVA SUCRE (Venezuela) said that his delegation had voted against the minority report, not because it was opposed to the substance, but because it saw no contradiction between the contents of the minority report and those of the report of the Sub-Committee, and it preferred the latter text as being more complete and couched in more vigorous language than that of the minority report.

Mr. BINGHAM (United States of America) emphasized that it should be made quite clear in the report that the minority report had been supported by three delegations.

Mr. ULANYCHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that the Committee had voted against the minority report but that it was the right of every delegation to have its views recorded in the Committee's report; the views of the three delegations could be included in an annex.

Mr. GEBRE-EGZY (Ethiopia) said that his delegation had no objection to the views of the three delegations who had supported the minority report being transmitted to the General Assembly. In his view there had been no need to vote on the minority report, but the United States delegation had insisted that a vote should be taken and that had been done.

Mr. BINGHAM (United States of America) pointed out that his delegation had insisted on a vote on the minority report only after there had been a vote on the majority report. Its position had been that if one text were voted on, there should be a vote on the other also.

The CHAIRMAN observed that the Rapporteur's report would naturally state that the minority report had been put to the vote and would give the result of the voting; the text on which the vote had been taken would therefore have to be included.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria), Rapporteur, said that it was unnecessary to discuss what should or should not be included in the report, since in accordance with normal practice everything that had taken place in the Committee would be reflected.

SIXTH REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (A/AC.109/L.15)

The CHAIRMAN said that if there were no objections he would take it that the Committee approved of the Sub-Committee's recommendation that the Paramount Chief of Basutoland should be granted a hearing.

Mr. CROWE (United Kingdom) said that he wished to make his delegation's customary reservations in the matter.

The CHAIRMAN said that if there were no further observations it would be understood that the Committee decided to grant the hearing.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Secretary of the Committee would write to the petitioner and suggest that he should appear before the Committee either at Tangier, at Addis Ababa or at Dar es Salaam, whichever would be most convenient to him.

He asked if there were any observations regarding paragraph 3 of the Sub-Committee's report, relating to procedures for the handling of petitions and requests for hearings.

Mr. ULANYCHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that examination of the paragraph in question should be deferred until the Committee's return from Africa.

It was so decided.

QUESTION OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA (continued)

The CHAIRMAN observed that the Committee had concluded its consideration of the question of Southern Rhodesia and had adopted certain decisions. It had been the feeling of the members that the Committee should report to the General Assembly on the subject and the Secretariat had circulated an informal draft report, consisting of a table of contents, an introduction and an account of the Committee's decision on the question. The annexes would consist of the report of the Sub-Committee on Southern Rhodesia (A/AC.109/L.9), the draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Ethiopia, Mali and Tunisia (A/AC.109/L.4/Rev.3) and the draft resolution recommended by the Special Committee for consideration by the General Assembly (A/AC.109/L.12). All that was necessary was to send a brief letter to the Acting Secretary-General transmitting those documents. He read out the following proposed text of the letter:

"I have the honour to transmit to you herewith 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 concerning the question of Southern Rhodesia.

"In view of the recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly that action should be taken as a matter of urgency in accordance with paragraph 45 of the report of the Sub-Committee on Southern Rhodesia, which forms annex I of the report of the Special Committee, I should be grateful if you would circulate this report immediately to all Members of the United Nations."

Mr. CROWE (United Kingdom) suggested that in the introduction to the report there should be a reference to the fact that four delegations, which should be named, had expressed reservations regarding the decision taken by the Special Committee.

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Mr. GEBRE-EGZY (Ethiopia) pointed out that paragraphs 1 and 2 of the introduction mentioned the numbers of the meetings of the Committee at which the question of Southern Rhodesia had been discussed. Since the records of those meetings would be available to the Members of the General Assembly, he felt that there was no need to include in the report the reservations referred to by the United Kingdom representative.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria), Rapporteur, agreed with the representative of Ethiopia. The question of Southern Rhodesia was being brought to the attention of the General Assembly as a matter of urgency and he had therefore considered it unnecessary to include in the body of the report the views expressed by the various delegations, all of which would be found in the records.

Mr. CROWE (United Kingdom) maintained his request that the reservations to which he had referred should be included in the report.

Mr. BINGHAM (United States of America), Mr. PLIMSOLL (Australia) and Mr. IVELLA (Italy) asked that the reservations made by their delegations should also be included.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that a new paragraph, which would not be numbered, should appear in parentheses after paragraph 3 and should read: "The representatives of Australia, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States of America made reservations concerning these decisions".

It was so decided.

Mr. ULANYCHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that the decisions reached by the Committee at the present meeting should be transmitted to the petitioners for their information.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 4.35 p.m.