



# General Assembly

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**Fifty-fifth session**  
**Special Political and Decolonization Committee**  
**(Fourth Committee)**

Agenda item 18

**Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of  
Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples**

## **Question of Western Sahara**

### **Request for hearing**

**Letter dated 21 September 2000 from Richard Cazenave addressed to the  
Chairman of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth  
Committee)\***

As the Chairman of the Groupe d'Etudes parlementaire sur les droits de l'homme of the French National Assembly, I have had an opportunity to go on a parliamentary visit and meet the Saharan peoples and to receive their testimony on the living conditions of individuals and families who have escaped from Frente POLISARIO camps.

I have thus been able to take full stock of the humanitarian problem. This situation raises an issue for all democratic countries which value human rights, and, as a matter of conscience, I wish to testify on this issue before the Fourth Committee.

*(Signed)* Richard Cazenave

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\* Circulated in accordance with a decision taken by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) at its 3rd meeting, on 25 September 2000.