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Agenda item 18

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

QUESTION OF WESTERN SAHARA

Letter dated 5 October 1979 from the Permanent Representative  
of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of  
the Fourth Committee

I have the honour to refer to document A/C.4/34/4, distributed on 28 September 1979, which contains a request for a hearing before the Fourth Committee when it takes up the question of so-called Western Sahara.

The colonial status of the former Spanish Sahara ended on 26 February 1976, in conformity with the provisions of the United Nations Charter and General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV).

What is called Western Sahara, that is to say, Saguia el-Hamra and Gued-ed-dahab (Río de Oro), has since then been an integral part of Moroccan territory.

There is no longer any justification for any consideration of this question by the Fourth Committee and such consideration would constitute blatant interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign State.

Accordingly, no petitioner should be granted the right to a hearing in the Fourth Committee, and for that reason I wish to convey to you my delegation's firm opposition to the request contained in the said document.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter distributed as a document of the Fourth Committee.

(Signed) Abdellatif FILALI  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative