



**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 7th MEETING**

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**Distr. GENERAL**  
**A/C.4/43/SR.7**  
**20 October 1988**  
**ENGLISH**  
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The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

REQUESTS FOR HEARING (A/C.4/43/7/Add.4)

1. The CHAIRMAN said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee decided to grant the hearing requested in connection with the question of Namibia which appeared in document A/C.4/43/7/Add.4.

2. It was so decided.

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3. Mr. ARNOUSS (Syrian Arab Republic), speaking as the Rapporteur 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, introduced the chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to agenda items 18, 108 and 110, which appeared in document A/43/23 (Parts IV and VI).

(Mr. Arnouss, Syrian Arab Republic)

4. The Special Committee reiterated that the administering Powers must create the conditions necessary in the territories administered by them so that their populations could freely exercise the right to self-determination and independence without any interference, and that, ultimately, it was for the populations of those Territories to determine their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration. It reaffirmed the importance of fostering awareness among those peoples of the possibilities open to them to exercise that right. It urged, in addition, the administering Powers to adopt measures to strengthen and diversify the economy of those Territories.

5. The Special Committee stressed the importance of United Nations visiting missions to small Territories with a view to facilitating there the speedy implementation of the Declaration, and called upon the administering Powers to co-operate or to continue to co-operate with the United Nations by affording visiting missions access to the Territories under their administration. The Special Committee hoped that France and the United Kingdom, as administering Powers, would reconsider their decision not to participate in the Special Committee's proceedings.

6. The Special Committee stressed that the assistance which had been given to date by the organizations of the United Nations system to the peoples of colonial Territories, especially to Namibians and to SWAPO, their national liberation movement, was not sufficient to meet their actual needs. It regretted that the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund continued to maintain links with the racist régime of Pretoria and expressed the view that those links should be discontinued. It reiterated its recommendation that the organizations concerned should broaden their contacts and co-operation with the colonial peoples and their national liberation movements and introduce greater flexibility in their procedures for the formulation and preparation of assistance programmes and projects. It urged the organizations of the United Nations system to extend substantial material assistance to the Governments of the front-line States in order to enable them to support more effectively the struggle of the people of Namibia for freedom and independence.

7. With respect to the preparation by the Secretariat of working papers on the Territories in accordance with Article 73 g of the Charter, the Special Committee requested the administering Powers concerned to transmit the fullest information possible on political and constitutional developments in the Territories within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year. It requested the Secretary-General to ensure that adequate information was drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of those working papers. The Rapporteur expressed the hope that the Fourth Committee would give its full support to the recommendations of the Special Committee.

**AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (Territories not already covered by other agenda items)**

**Question of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands**

**Question of New Caledonia**

**Question of the United States Virgin Islands**

**Hearing of petitioners (A/C.4/43/2 and Add.1, 4 and 5)**

**8. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. González González took a place at the petitioners' table.**

**9. Mr. GONZALEZ GONZALEZ reiterated that the assertion by the United States that the Fourth Committee had no jurisdiction over the colonial case of the Pacific Islands was erroneous and insulting. He referred to paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in which the colonial Territories were classified into three groups, namely, Trust Territories, Non-Self-Governing Territories and all other territories which had not yet attained independence. The expression used was "Trust Territories" and not "Trust Territories except those that had been categorized or designated as strategic territories". In that connection, he recalled the statement by the representative of the United States, in explanation of vote, after the adoption of resolution 1514 (XV), which contradicted that country's current claim. He cited the third preambular paragraph of resolution 1654 (XVI) in which the Trusteeship Council, the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and the specialized agencies concerned were requested to assist the Special Committee in its work within their respective fields, and regretted that the Council had so far refused to co-operate with the Special Committee. In addition, the United States had been among the original members of that Committee and had participated in debates on the colonial case of the Pacific Islands. He also quoted in that connection two excerpts from the statement made by the United States representative in the discussion held in the Special Committee on 12 November 1974.**

**10. He said that the arguments and documents referred to proved not only that the Fourth Committee, the Special Committee and the General Assembly had clear jurisdiction in the matter of the Pacific Islands, but that they had an ineluctable duty to continue to consider that instance of colonialism until independence was achieved. The Fourth Committee should consider, as a partial remedy, one of the following measures: (a) referring the colonial case of the Pacific Islands as a separate item to plenary meetings of the General Assembly; (b) eliminating the item, if possible, from the agenda of the Trusteeship Council and continuing to consider it in the Special Committee, in order to avoid obviously costly duplication; (c) increasing the number of members of the Council, with due regard to an equitable geographical distribution; or (d) creating a council along the lines of the United Nations Council for Namibia, with a mandate to bring Micronesia to independence as a neutral nation within two or three years.**

**11. Mr. González González withdrew.**

12. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Alcalay (National Committee for Radiation Victims) took a place at the petitioners' table.

13. Mr. ALCALAY (National Committee for Radiation Victims) said that, after 41 years of the Administering Authority's stewardship over an extensive area of the Western Pacific, there was no doubt that the consequences of past errors were making themselves felt: the island people of Palau had just lost a second president in succession; the apparent suicide of President Lazarus Salii on 20 August had taken place shortly after the assassination of Palau's first elected President, Haruo Remeliik, on 30 June 1985. The nuclear legacy in the Marshall Islands was continuing to cause suffering and social dislocation among populations from Bikini to Enewetak; and the island inhabitants of the Northern Marianas had been coming to realize that what they had agreed to with the Administering Authority in 1975 was not reflected in the current reality.

14. The statements made on 9 March by Admiral William Crowe before a hearing of the House Foreign Affairs Committee revealed the Administering Authority's strategic objectives regarding Palau, inter alia, its interest in proceeding with the military arrangements with Palau and its desire to see the Compact of Free Association approved and implemented. For that reason the Administering Authority had used coercion on voters during its numerous "demonstration elections" - elections that had little to do with the exercise of self-determination and everything to do with the sinister and militaristic aims of an Administering Authority poised to guarantee its presence off the Asian mainland well into the next century.

15. Faith had been lost in the integrity of the Trusteeship Council, which had tacitly given its seal of approval to the sham and mockery following 10 referendums regarding Palau's anti-nuclear constitution. The Council's support for that attempt to undermine the true process of self-determination in Palau made a mockery of the principle of decolonization contained in the Charter of the United Nations. Consequently, the Council must now take some responsibility for the chaos and violence that reigned in that island nation. The Fourth Committee must put pressure on the Trusteeship Council not to turn a blind eye to the issue while the Administering Authority attempted to seize more territory in the Pacific in its zeal to project United States military power under the so-called "maritime strategy".

16. He also voiced concern at the problem of the radioactive contamination of the Marshall Islands and the fact that on the threshold of the 1990s several atoll populations had yet to find a permanent home. While there had been some progress in the Bikini resettlement programme, the future of its people was completely dependent on annual appropriations from an unstable Congress which regularly changed in composition and in generosity.

17. He said that, as a social scientist who had conducted anthropological research in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands for the past 13 years, he was concerned at the cultural crisis facing the island people of Micronesia after more than 40 years of United States rule. One manifestation of that crisis was the high rate of suicide in Micronesia.

(Mr. Alcalay)

18. He requested the Fourth Committee to urge the Administering Authority to renegotiate the Palauan Compact of Free Association and, as requested by the delegation from the Northern Marianas, to delay termination of the trusteeship of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands until the Administering Authority had fulfilled its obligations for proper decolonization as embodied in the Charter of the United Nations.

19. The situation in New Caledonia was explosive and the Territory had become an armed camp in which it was estimated that there was one well-armed French soldier for every adult Kanak. Referring to the events that had led to the taking of hostages on Ouvéa atoll, he said that FLNKS had decided to boycott the referendums of 24 April and 8 May, on the grounds that the elections were inimical to the interests of the Kanak people. The so-called "Pons Statute", which was to be voted on in those referendums, had contained a series of Draconian measures planned by the Government of ex-Prime Minister Jacques Chirac to disrupt the Kanak drive for independence. Included in the statute had been the elimination of the status of indigenous Kanaks, to be replaced by the status of "French citizens", the termination of traditional Kanak land tenure rights, and the dissolution of Kanak culture, to be replaced by a "New Caledonian" culture.

20. The appointment of Mr. Michel Rocard to replace Mr. Chirac as Prime Minister and the recent talks in Paris were a very positive step in re-establishment of dialogue between the parties. Mr. Rocard, the Prime Minister, Mr. Tjibaou, President of FLNKS, and Mr. Jacques La Fleur, leader of the anti-independence Caldoche faction, had agreed that France would govern New Caledonia directly from July 1988 to July 1989. The Paris agreement, known as the Rocard Plan, contrasted starkly with the often violent and belligerent policies of the Chirac Government. In that regard France's new attitude was to be heartily commended. A recent agreement had set 6 November for a national referendum in New Caledonia on the Rocard Plan; the French Government would be investing 300 million francs for economic development and the expansion of health and education services for the Kanaks. The one-year investment programme was intended to correct the historical economic injustices suffered by the Kanaks vis-à-vis other ethnic factions in the Territory. Finally, the Rocard Plan called for a national referendum on the question of independence, to be held in 1998. The postponement of the referendum for 10 years, together with the question of voter eligibility, had caused much concern among the Kanak people. Mr. Tjibaou had recently indicated that the Rocard Plan would not automatically lead to independence, and had expressed concern that the Plan did not currently commit subsequent French Governments to the promises contained therein.

21. He requested the Fourth Committee to urge France to accept and respect the Rocard Plan in its entirety; to respect the Kanak people's goal of locking subsequent French Governments into the agreements reached under the Plan; to allow only those residents of New Caledonia who had been eligible to vote in 1988 and their progeny to be eligible to vote in the 1998 referendum; and finally, to

(Mr. Alcalay)

support an international inquiry into the bloody incident of 5 May 1988 on Ouvea atoll, which had led to the release of the hostages and the death of 19 Kanaks and two French gendarmes.

22. Mr. Alcalay withdrew.

23. At the invitation of the Chairman, Miss Bourne (Save Long Bay Coalition, Inc.) took a place at the petitioners' table.

24. Miss BOURNE (Save Long Bay Coalition, Inc.) said that the rights of the people of the United States Virgin Islands were currently being violated by the action of the West Indian Company, Ltd. (WICO) in dredging the harbour of Charlotte Amalie, capital of the Territory, and filling seven and one half acres of submerged land in Long Bay for the purpose of commercial development. WICO claimed unrestricted ownership of that land, basing its claim on the 1917 Treaty by which the United States had acquired the Virgin Islands from Denmark, even though the current administering Power, the United States, had begun a law suit against the company in 1968 on the grounds that those rights had lapsed, and that in 1944 all the submerged and filled lands had been conveyed to the Virgin Islands Government, in trust for the people of the Virgin Islands.

25. The activities of WICO were continuing the ecological destruction of Long Bay, which had had its beginnings in 1912, when the Government of the then colonial power, Denmark, had granted a concession to a consortium to dredge and fill some 42 acres in Long Bay. The concession had stipulated, however, that the islands would be guaranteed a significant share of the wharf proceeds. Notwithstanding that guarantee, more than half a century later WICO was claiming to have the rights to reclaim additional land, but was asserting that part of the concession which had provided for St. Thomas to share in the proceeds of the venture did not exist.

26. In 1978 the Legislature of the Virgin Islands had passed the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZM Act) to administer and protect submerged and filled trustlands, but in March 1979, WICO had claimed that the CZM Act constituted a breach of the 1973 Agreement and had threatened to sue the Virgin Islands Government for \$5 million in damages. The Fourteenth Legislature had reacted by approving an Addendum to the Agreement which limited the amount of submerged lands that could be filled, specified the commercial purposes to which the land might be put, and exempted the company from the CZM Act. Those events had caused great concern among the people of St. Thomas. The League of Women Voters, which had fought hard for the passage of the CZM Act, had cited in its testimony the serious effects of the proposed project on the economy, ecology and infrastructure of the Virgin Islands. In the spring of 1986, when the company had been about to begin dredging operations, the Save Long Bay Coalition, Inc. had been formed and had received public support in its efforts to obtain repeal of the agreements which had granted rights to WICO. The company had immediately sought an injunction to prohibit the enforcement of the repeal act. Under the injunction, the Government of the Virgin Islands had lost the power to regulate the development both of the lands already filled and of the area yet to be filled.

(Miss Bourne)

27. The Charlotte Amalie harbour had been recognized as one of the best and most beautiful natural harbours in the entire Caribbean area, rich in aquatic resources. WICO's dredge and fill operation had already destroyed several acres of the hatchery area. Another short-term outcome of the commercial development would be the deterioration of the residential communities surrounding Long Bay. A long-term effect would be the complete ownership of a significant portion of waterfront land, a major natural resource of St. Thomas, by a foreign economic interest. That such a result was being fostered by the administering Power was in direct contravention of General Assembly resolution 42/89, especially as the status of the Virgin Islands was that of an unincorporated territory to which the Constitution of the administering Power did not apply in total. In fact, a referendum in which the electorate would choose its future political status had been scheduled for November 1989.

28. Miss Bourne withdrew.

AGENDA ITEM 29: QUESTION OF NAMIBIA

Hearing of organizations concerned (A/C.4/43/7 and Add.1-4)

29. At the invitation of the Chairman, Miss von Roemer (International Confederation of Free Trade Unions) took a place at the petitioners' table.

30. Miss von ROEMER (International Confederation of Free Trade Unions) said that events inside Namibia within the past year had made it difficult to feel optimistic regarding a speedy settlement of the problem. An example was the violence which had broken out on the tenth anniversary of the adoption of Security Council resolution 435 (1978), when students demonstrating outside the offices of the South African-appointed Administrator General had been assaulted and beaten by police, and several persons, including at least one journalist, had been injured. Earlier in 1988, the Government's refusal to remove South African Defence Force bases stationed near schools in northern Namibia had given rise to a massive school boycott, which had been met with brutal police action, leading to injuries, detentions and the disappearance of children. The response of the National Union of Namibian workers had been to call for a general strike, the first in Namibia in almost 18 years, in which 70 per cent of the total work-force had participated.

31. The Namibian unions had thus declared that workers were not prepared to continue accepting the harsh conditions of poverty and suffering in exchange for their labour, which made Namibia one of the richest countries in Africa. The unions had said that the economy was completely geared to exploiting Namibians, and was dominated by the fundamental racial discrimination which pervaded Namibian society. They had also warned that employers would do well to consider that a new era was dawning in Namibia and that all should make it their obligation to contribute positively to the social, economic and political changes which lay ahead. The General Secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions had visited Namibia in 1987 in order to extend solidarity to the workers in their struggle for human and trade-union rights. He and his group had seen the



(Miss von Roemer)

appalling conditions under which the workers lived in the mining compounds. The Confederation welcomed the initiative taken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to further the speedy implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978).

32. Miss von Roemer withdrew.

33. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Deffenbaugh (Lutheran World Federation) took a place at the petitioners' table.

34. Mr. DEFFENBAUGH (Lutheran World Federation) said that there was great hope for the success of the current negotiations among Angola, Cuba and South Africa under the auspices of the United States. However, the situation inside the country was still grim and there were no indications that South Africa had begun its withdrawal. To the contrary, in the north of Namibia the occupation forces were even more numerous. The exodus of schoolchildren from Namibia was a cause of particular anxiety. Although there were no exact statistics, it was estimated that approximately 5,000 youths had fled the country in 1988 owing to harassment by the security forces, the location of military bases next to schools and the political and economic uncertainty of life under occupation. There had been several student strikes in 1988, and in June, Namibian workers had joined the student protests with a two-day work stoppage. The students had returned to classes except those in the schools which were next door to military bases.

35. On a recent visit to Namibia, he had sensed the general morale of the people to be higher than during his previous visit two years earlier. He attributed that to the increased level of community organisation, as illustrated by the student protests and the emergence of trade-union activity over the previous two years, as well as to the hopes raised by the current round of international negotiations.

36. With regard to the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978), the three elements of the resolution which had provoked consternation among Namibians were that Namibia's major port should be left aside in the negotiations and should remain in South African hands, that the civilian administration of Namibia during the transition period should remain under South Africa's control, even with the presence of the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group, and that the 1,500 South African troops which were to remain in Namibia until after the elections should be based in the north of Namibia, where most of the people lived. Should the resolution be implemented, the United Nations would have to remain vigilant lest those or other factors give South Africa undue influence during the transitional period.

37. Mr. Deffenbaugh withdrew.

38. At the invitation of the Chairman, Miss Moorehead (U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network) took a place at the petitioners' table.

39. Miss MOOREHEAD (U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network), said that approximately 23 years of oppression, genocide and mass terror had elapsed since South Africa's occupation of Namibia. For the first time since the beginning of that declared war, the South African racists had agreed to a cease-fire. The question that needed to be asked was whether South Africa and the United States transnational corporations which had been extracting the wealth from Namibia for years would agree to honour the cease-fire, and whether the corporations would give up their super-profits and allow the Namibian people to determine the destiny of their country and their own destiny in peace.

40. Among the United States corporations which controlled whole sectors of the Namibian economy were the Tsumeb Mining Corporation, which was the largest base metal producer in the country, Newport Mining Corporation and AMAX. That powerful mining conglomerate also had a controlling interest in three other mines in Namibia. In a statement which had appeared in The New York Times on 19 August 1988, the President of SWAPO, Sam Nujoma, had given his views on the transnational corporations in Namibia, indicating that the SWAPO compatriots would agree to the cease-fire if the transnational corporations and the South African racists also agreed.

41. While both her organization and the international community welcomed the cease-fire as a historic first step, it was necessary to remain vigilant, together with SWAPO and the Namibian people, since anything might happen between the present time and June 1989. The apartheid régime had been founded and had consolidated itself through violent repression and it would therefore not hand over the reins of power easily without pressure from the world-wide anti-apartheid movement. She hoped that the United Nations would do everything possible to accelerate the process of transferring power to the Namibian people and to SWAPO, their sole and legitimate representative.

42. Miss Moorehead withdrew.

43. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Roberts (Namibia Support Committee) took a place at the petitioners' table.

44. Mr. ROBERTS (Namibia Support Committee) said that since the General Assembly's forty-second session, many developments concerning Namibia had occurred both inside and outside the Territory. On 11 October 1988, a deliberately planned and large-scale arson attack had taken place, at the capital, Windhoek, at the offices of The Namibian, the Territory's only independent newspaper, rendering inoperable or destroying office furniture, equipment and machines. The attack had occurred against the background of peace negotiations which many considered would shortly deliver Namibia to independence. The objective of the attack had been the total destruction of the newspaper, which was the major internal voice of opposition to the illegal South African racist régime.

45. Despite the peace negotiations which were being held between Angola, Cuba and South Africa, with the United States mediating, South Africa had only made statements concerning its withdrawal from Namibia and the immediate independence of Namibia in order to gain time, mainly because of two important events which had a

(Mr. Roberts)

direct effect on those negotiations, namely the internal municipal elections in South Africa itself and the presidential elections in the United States. Members should not forget the lessons of 1978, the adoption of Security Council resolution 435, the attack against Namibian refugees at Kassinga (Angola), Pretoria's failure to accept a cease-fire with SWAPO at the pre-implementation talks at Geneva in 1981, and South Africa's prevarication at Lusaka in 1983.

46. South Africa was engaged in a diplomacy of intrigue and he mentioned the role that UNITA had played in that respect. He asked the representative of Zaire to explain how his country could be judge and party in that matter, since at a time when it was involved in the peace negotiations in southern Africa, it was initiating an open dialogue with Pretoria and allowing the United States to provide funds to establish military bases for UNITA in its territory. In addition, he asked the Government of Argentina to provide information on the sale of Mirage jets to South Africa, which it had carried out at the beginning of 1988.

47. The economic activities of some transnational corporations which were extracting large sums and profits from gold and uranium mines in Namibia constituted an obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and were being undertaken in defiance of the compulsory sanctions imposed by the Security Council against South Africa. If South Africa claimed that it was withdrawing from Namibia, it was incomprehensible why it had drafted new legislation against the trade union movement and, in particular, against the newspaper The Namibian in order to put an end to its activities and expressions of support for SWAPO, to detain its members and to restrict their activities. He urged the Fourth Committee to consider the immediate preparation of measures to oblige South Africa to act peacefully and to exert pressure on that country through Security Council sanctions, within the shortest possible time, to ensure the independence of Namibia on the basis of the provisions of Security Council resolution 435 (1978).

48. Mr. Roberts withdrew.

49. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Price (SWAPO Support Committee) took a place at the petitioners' table.

50. Mr. PRICE (SWAPO Support Committee) said that justice could not be done without going to the roots of the problem of the exploitation of the Namibian people and exposing the conspiracy and institutions which were oppressing the people of Namibia. Two important factors had stimulated the shedding of blood in Namibia since the nineteenth century: the discovery of diamonds in 1896 and the beginning of the exploitation of copper in the Tsumeb mine in 1906 by German capitalists. The German settlers had had a two-fold objective: to occupy the fertile lands and to force the indigenous peoples into the desert, obliging them to work in the mines as their only means of survival. After the invasion of the Territory of Namibia by South Africa in 1915, several United States companies had acquired the German financial interests in the diamond mines. Ten years later, companies from the United States and the United Kingdom had established a total

(Mr. Price)

monopoly over those mines. In the period between the Second World War and the 1970s, foreign investment in Namibia, in particular from those two countries, had grown considerably.

51. During the 1960s, prospecting for uranium in Namibia had increased and in 1979 the firm Rössing Uranium Ltd. had achieved peak production. The United Kingdom firm Rio Tinto Zinc possessed 46.5 per cent of the Rössing mine's stock and the remainder was held by South African and French interests. It was the largest open-pit mine in the world. Its operation constituted a dangerous threat to the environment, since residue from the mining process contained radioactive particles which were dispersed by the rain and wind over a large area and threatened the health of the Namibian people.

52. According to population statistics, in apartheid Namibia, expenditure for health care and the education of the white population was higher than for the rest of the population. He reaffirmed his support for the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) so that the task of reconstruction could be undertaken and the needs of the Namibian people met.

53. Mr. Price withdrew.

54. Mr. BOMINA-N'SONI LONGANGE (Zaire), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that Mr. Roberts of the Namibia Support Committee had made a gratuitous accusation in claiming that there were in Zaire bases allegedly intended to protect UNITA members. Zaire had no bases financed by the United States of America. If the Government of Zaire wished to have a base in Shaba and another in lower Zaire, that was its sovereign right. He categorically denied unfounded rumours to the effect that Zaire wished to maintain those bases in order to attack a neighbouring country.

55. Mr. Roberts had also referred to the visit by Mr. Botha to Zaire. Such a visit was a normal event. In any case, Zaire also maintained relations with Sam Nujoma, the President of SWAPO. It was important to note that Zaire shared a frontier of more than 2,000 kilometres with Angola and was not only part of central and eastern Africa but also of southern Africa. Consequently, it could not be indifferent to the events in Namibia and, in fact, supported SWAPO and its sympathizers. He recalled also that the Government of Zaire had called for the release of Nelson Mandela and that Mr. Botha had given a flexible reply in that respect. He considered that Mr. Roberts should be better informed on the geopolitics of the African continent before making erroneous statements. He reserved the right to speak again on the matter.

56. Mrs. DE ESPADA (Argentina), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that Mr. Roberts had referred to an alleged sale of aircraft by the Government of Argentina to South Africa. In that connection, she wished to draw attention to a press release from the Government of Argentina in which it categorically denied such a sale. The Argentine Republic's position concerning the racist régime of South Africa had been strongly reaffirmed and clearly demonstrated with the severing of relations with that régime in 1986.

57. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that he had received a communication with a request for a hearing relating to Namibia, in connection with agenda item 29. He suggested that, in accordance with established practice, the communication should be distributed as a Committee document for consideration at a later stage.

58. It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 1.25 p.m.