



**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 5th MEETING**

**Chairman:** Mr. PETERS (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

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**REQUESTS FOR HEARINGS (continued)**

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The meeting was called to order at 10.30 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM 109: ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH ARE IMPEDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN NAMIBIA AND IN ALL OTHER TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL DOMINATION AND EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE COLONIALISM, APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (continued) (A/43/23 (Part III), 226; A/AC.109/935, 943, 946-949, 952 and Corr.1, 954, 956 and 960; A/AC.131/283 and 286)**

1. Mr. PAIC (Yugoslavia) said that the positive changes that were taking place in international relations might hasten the solution of some long-standing problems, at the core of which was the denial of the legitimate rights and aspirations of colonial peoples to freedom and independence. Unfortunately, major obstacles stood in the way, such as the activities of foreign economic and other interests in the colonial Territories, which led to unhampered exploitation of their resources. Namibia stood as an example of the way in which foreign economic interests could frustrate the yearning of colonial peoples for freedom and independence. In its report, Standing Committee II of the United Nations Council for Namibia clearly described the consistent pattern of collusion between the transnational corporations and South Africa in plundering Namibia's resources and subjugating its people.

2. For years, South Africa had used Namibian territory to perpetrate acts of aggression against neighbouring countries and crush their support for the legitimate struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), their sole and authentic representative. Those acts of aggression had transformed the whole of southern Africa into a dangerous source of international tension.

3. Yugoslavia, like the rest of the international community, was following with interest the progress of the negotiations between Cuba, Angola and South Africa, with the mediation of the United States. The hope was that Security Council resolution 435 (1978) would finally be implemented. However, past experience in dealing with South Africa indicated that pressure must continue to be brought on the Pretoria régime until the Namibian people actually exercised their right to independence.

4. Yugoslavia opposed the militarization of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Pacific, the Atlantic, the Indian Ocean and the Caribbean as an obstacle to self-determination by their peoples and a threat to international peace and security.

5. Mr. HERNANDEZ MACHADO (Cuba) observed that despite United Nations resolutions and Decree No. 1 for the Protection of the Natural Resources of Namibia, the South African corporations, allied to the transnational corporations of the United States and Western Europe, were continuing to exploit its wealth in minerals, fisheries and other resources, to the detriment of the indigenous majority population. The illegal occupiers of the Territory were entrenched and the underpinnings of apartheid were being strengthened. The Government of South Africa, relying on

(Mr. Hernandez Machado, Cuba)

continued collaboration in the nuclear and military areas by the United States, Israel and other Western Powers, had used Namibian soldiers as cannon fodder in aggressive attacks against Angola.

6. However, faced with a collapse of its aggressive policy, South Africa had been obliged to come to the negotiating table. The talks in which Angola, Cuba, South Africa and the United States were participating, the latter as mediator, could lead to a political solution of the problems in the region and, in particular, to the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). Cuba trusted that at the next session it would be possible to welcome, as the youngest member of the Organization, a free Namibia, completely in the hands of a mettlesome and noble people.

7. Yet it was not only in Namibia that the natural and human resources of a people were under colonial domination. In Puerto Rico, Guam, Micronesia, the Malvinas Islands, Bermuda, St. Helena and other colonial Territories, capitalist economic interests, combined with their strategic interests, were hindering the people from exercising their right to self-determination. Cuba called for the strict implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and reiterated its support for the draft resolutions and decisions submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

8. Mr. BENJELLOUN-TOUMI (Morocco) said that, despite all the decisions and repeated appeals by the international community, the Pretoria régime, with the support of foreign economic interests, was continuing the brazen exploitation of the abundant resources of Namibia and the subjugation of its people. Militarily, South Africa was feeding tribal discord, recruiting Namibians by force to fight against the Territory's liberation forces and using mercenaries in its incursions into neighbouring countries.

9. The recent diplomatic activities had helped the peace process in southern Africa and probably would facilitate a rapid solution to the question of Namibia, as well as the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). Morocco insisted on the need to protect Namibia's natural resources, the inalienable heritage of its people. However, the Pretoria régime did not seem disposed to observe the dictates of international law or world opinion. The international community should therefore be alert to any new strategem by South Africa to gain time and continue its illegal occupation of the Territory. The Organization must avail itself of all the resources of the Charter to achieve its objectives. It should also adopt further measures against South Africa, such as breaking off trade relations and taking effective disinvestment measures, and preventing indirect collaboration through practices such as issuing licences and making arrangements with subsidiaries and local branches; in other words, the selective sanctions imposed so far should be supplemented by comprehensive mandatory sanctions. Morocco reaffirmed its clear and constant position: it condemned in its entirety and it systematically rejected South Africa's policy of apartheid and its illegal occupation of Namibia.

10. Mr. OKEYO (Kenya) said that his delegation was watching with interest the latest developments in southern Africa, especially as they related to Namibia. Although there were those who maintained that a positive change in the situation in Namibia and southern Africa was imminent, South Africa's conduct and its blatant breach of the terms of the mandate to administer the Territory did not inspire confidence or optimism. The Organization should take the necessary steps to secure the independence of Namibia in accordance with Security Council resolution 435 (1978).

11. It was unacceptable that racist South Africa and the transnational corporations from industrialized Western countries, particularly those in the mining sector, should continue to plunder the Territory's resources, which were the inalienable heritage of the Namibian people, in violation of the Charter, the relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, Decree No. 1 for the Protection of the Natural Resources of Namibia, and the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice.

12. The international community must redouble its efforts to free the peoples still suffering under the colonial yoke. On behalf of the people of Kenya, he expressed appreciation for the leading role that SWAPO had played and would continue to play in the struggle for the liberation of Namibia.

13. Mr. LAPITSKY (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the work of the forty-third session of the General Assembly was taking place at a time of major and positive changes in the international situation. The recognition that racial and colonial methods of domination were inadmissible in the nuclear space age had underscored the need to settle international problems peacefully. The spirit of the times imposed that need, in an age oriented towards greater democracy in international relations. As Mikhail Gorbachev pointed out in his book on perestroika and the new political thinking, all peoples had the right to choose their own development and determine their own future.

14. In that respect, his delegation hoped for the success of the current four-party negotiations towards a peaceful solution to the problem of southern Africa. He urged the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to bring about the implementation of the United Nations plan for the independence of Namibia. However, one of the main obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was the activities of foreign, economic and other interests that continued to exploit the natural and human resources of the Territories.

15. In Namibia, the last colony on the African continent, forces opposed to the logic of historical development were still alive. Western and South African transnational corporations were still causing enormous damage to the natural resources and the inhabitants of that Territory and reaping vast wealth as a result of the favourable conditions granted to them. The South African régime and foreign economic interests were supporting each other and obstructing the attainment of Namibian independence. His delegation had repeatedly stated that it was impossible

(Mr. Lapitsky, Ukrainian SSR)

to justify the crimes of the apartheid system. It could not be transformed; it would have to be eliminated.

16. The activities of foreign economic interests also had consequences for other small Territories under colonial domination. It was evident that the administering Powers did not wish to promote the development of those Territories, but to further subordinate them in order to continue investing capital and taking advantage of cheap labour. His country called on all States to act as mediators and to bring an end to activities which were contrary to the interests of the inhabitants of the dependent Territories.

17. The international community was also concerned at South Africa's military activities in southern Africa, especially its military presence in Namibia, where no less than 76 of its military bases were installed. The dismantling of those bases and the withdrawal of South African troops was essential in order for Namibia to achieve its independence and for peace to be established in the region. It was evident that the increase and modernization of South Africa's military might in Namibia would be impossible without the broad military support provided to the apartheid régime by various States and transnational corporations. That aid constituted a flagrant violation of the arms embargo against South Africa. His delegation strongly supported the demands for an end to all forms of military cooperation with Pretoria, especially in the nuclear sphere, since that was an especially serious threat to international peace and security.

18. Despite repeated calls by the United Nations, the colonial Powers were continuing their military activities in the Territories under their domination, as seen in the Special Committee's reports on Guam, Bermuda, the Virgin Islands and Micronesia. His delegation considered the maintenance of those military bases and their use for military manoeuvres to be activities which were incompatible with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and which merited universal condemnation.

19. Mr. THEBE (Nepal) said that his country firmly supported the right of the peoples of dependent Territories to self-determination and independence. Under the provisions of the United Nations Charter, it was an obligation of the administering Powers to promote the welfare and interests of the peoples of the Territories under their administration. The natural resources of those Territories were the heritage of the inhabitants. The exploitation of those resources by foreign economic interests were a blow to the aspirations of the peoples and a violation of the principles on which the Organization was based.

20. The negative impacts of foreign economic interests impeding the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) were nowhere more evident than in South Africa and Namibia. His delegation strongly condemned the continued exploitation of Namibia's natural resources by the racist South African régime. The foreign economic interests operating in Namibia in disregard of the legitimate aspirations of the Namibian people were acting in open defiance of Decree No. 1 enacted by the

(Mr. Thebe, Nepal)

United Nations Council for Namibia. His delegation urged all countries to discontinue all economic, financial and trade co-operation with the racist South African régime. It also supported the call for all Governments to take appropriate measures to end their collaboration with the racist régime in the exploitation of the mineral and marine resources of Namibia.

21. Ten years after the adoption of Security Council resolution 435 (1978), there was a revival of hope for an end to South African occupation. The recent visit of the Secretary-General to Angola and South Africa, as well as the ongoing quadripartite talks, promised to create the necessary background for an early and full implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibian independence.

22. Mr. MAJENGO (United Republic of Tanzania) said that it was regrettable that 20 years after the General Assembly had decided to assume direct responsibility for the Territory of Namibia, its people were still suffering under the worst colonial rule. South Africa had continued to perpetuate its oppressive, exploitative and discriminatory policies against the Namibian people in total defiance of the outcry of both the Namibian people and the international community, and the Pretoria racist régime had systematically continued to turn the Territory into another bantustan.

23. The policy of apartheid had been able to continue unabated owing to the tacit support South Africa received from certain industrialized countries with economic interests in the Territory. Furthermore, the collaboration of transnational corporations in Namibia was impeding the Namibian people's right to self-determination. Those foreign economic activities had resulted in extreme social injustice and untold hardship for the majority of the Namibian people. His delegation registered its strong condemnation of the continued exploitation of the Namibian people's national heritage against their interests.

24. Furthermore, South Africa had consistently used Namibia as the springboard for launching its destabilizing activities in the region, especially against Angola. The frequent incursions into the front-line States and South Africa's support to the bandits of the RENAMO and UNITA in Mozambique and Angola, respectively, were yet another manifestation of the entrenchment of South Africa's inhuman system of apartheid. Conservative estimates of the destruction caused by the destabilization policies of the racist régime to its neighbours had been set at more than \$20 billion over the last five years, not to mention the uncountable human suffering and displacement of refugees.

25. His delegation was following with keen interest the current tripartite negotiations which were aimed at the withdrawal of South African troops from Angola and at making possible the implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibia. The United Republic of Tanzania hoped that the South African régime would abide by the letter and spirit of the negotiations and would proceed to the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) which, inter alia, called for the holding of free and fair elections under the supervision of the United Nations.

(Mr. Majengo, United Republic  
of Tanzania)

26. Military collaboration encouraged the apartheid régime to obstruct international efforts aimed at bringing an end to South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia. His delegation urged the international community to scrupulously observe Security Council resolution 418 (1977), which called for the imposition of an arms embargo against South Africa.

27. Mr. BOKOV (Bulgaria) said that the General Assembly had repeatedly condemned the activities of foreign interests in the Non-Self-Governing Territories as an obstacle to the political independence of indigenous peoples and to their enjoyment of the natural resources in their Territories. Unfortunately, such activities continued to favour the foreign corporations, which made enormous profits, and to harm the interests of the population. According to United Nations statistics, more than 2,000 transnational corporations continued to operate in the dependent Territories, where they exploited the natural and human resources and repatriated huge profits to the detriment of the interests of the local populations. Capital investments were concentrated primarily in the production and processing of raw materials.

28. In Namibia, it was known that approximately 40 per cent of the gross national product was sent abroad and only 10 per cent of all assets derived from the work of Namibians were used for their benefit. The racist régime of Pretoria had treated the Territory virtually as its fifth province and had appropriated approximately 60 per cent of the total land area for the exclusive use of the white minority.

29. His delegation expressed concern at the continued military activities of the colonial Powers. The report of the Committee on decolonization indicated that the military presence in the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories could constitute a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. For many years the General Assembly had called for an end to such activities and for the dismantling of the existing military bases and facilities. However, the colonial Powers had continued to disregard the explicit will of the international community.

30. Mr. N. U. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh) said that it was ironic that even after the adoption of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), debate continued on decolonization in Namibia and other Territories under colonial domination. On the threshold of the twenty-first century, the legacies of colonialism lingered on; the most glaring example of that was Namibia, which was still under the illegal occupation of Pretoria. The systematic exploitation of Namibia's natural resources was the result of close collaboration between the South African régime and transnational corporations operating in the Territory and impeded the realization of the legitimate aspirations of the Namibians in violation of international law and all relevant United Nations resolutions. Transnational corporations collaborated with South Africa in its illegal occupation of Namibia by paying taxes, providing fuel and other supplies for the occupation forces and directly helping the Pretoria régime to violate international law and defy the international institutions seeking self-determination and independence for Namibia.

(Mr. N. U. Chowdhury, Bangladesh)

31. Bangladesh strongly condemned the activities of the foreign economic interests that were exploiting the natural and human resources of Namibia, including its marine resources and its uranium deposits, and supported the payment of compensation to an independent Namibia for the economic losses it had suffered. His Government also condemned those countries and transnational corporations that supplied the racist régime with technological assistance, in particular in the nuclear field, which enhanced Pretoria's political strength and economic resistance.

32. His delegation welcomed the recent initiatives taken in southern Africa to pave the way for a possible implementation of the United Nations Plan for Namibia. It should, however, be recalled that South Africa's attitude towards the United Nations in respect of Namibia's liberation had at every turn been one of contempt, duplicity, bad faith and intransigence. Pretoria must not be allowed to use extraneous issues to elude the central question of the Namibian people's right to self-determination and independence. Bangladesh hoped that South Africa would live up to the letter and spirit of the tripartite agreement and would proceed to implement Security Council resolution 435 (1978) on the independence of Namibia.

33. Mr. MOUNKHOV (Mongolia) said that, like the overwhelming majority of States, Mongolia condemned the economic, financial and other activities being carried out by foreign interests in colonial Territories, because they deprived the indigenous populations of their right to their countries' resources, including the right to own the land. The adverse consequences of foreign economic activities were particularly glaring in Namibia, where South Africa and other economic interests continued their pillage of the natural resources of the Territory. That had led to a situation in which the Namibian economy was totally dependent on the needs of foreign capital, in particular from South Africa, and was geared primarily to exporting raw materials.

34. There were no restrictions on the economic activities of foreign interests in Namibia, which were conducted with the complicity of the occupying régime and transnational corporations. The apartheid régime offered favourable conditions to those enterprises so that they could reap huge profits by plundering Namibia's economic resources. In return, the transnational corporations supported the illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa.

35. The military activities in Namibia and in other colonial Territories were a threat to peace and security, in particular the nuclear-weapons testing in the Territories of the Pacific Ocean, which jeopardized peace in that region and constituted a violation of the principles of the Charter. The uninterrupted military presence of imperialist Powers on the island of Diego Garcia and in the Persian Gulf was also a cause for deep concern.

36. The positive changes currently taking place in the world had created a favourable climate for settling international problems, including the elimination of colonial anachronisms. Mongolia had been following with interest the talks between Cuba, Angola, the United States and South Africa on the granting of independence to Namibia in accordance with Security Council resolution 435 (1978).



(Mr. Mounkhov, Mongolia)

It was to be hoped that those talks would lead to an agreement on a comprehensive and definitive settlement of the Namibian problem and that an end would be put to the activities of foreign economic and other interests exploiting Namibia's resources.

37. Mr. SEVILLA BOZA (Nicaragua) said that his delegation was participating in the debate on agenda item 109 because it was opposed as a matter of principle to the abhorrent system of apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa, as well as to all activities of foreign economic and other interests which were impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The decolonisation process had still not been concluded despite all the claims made to that effect. The most shameful example of that reality was the situation that existed in southern Africa, where the Territory of Namibia continued to be illegally occupied by the odious Pretoria régime. There was no doubt that if the Powers allied to the apartheid régime withdrew the support that they had been giving it for years, an independent Namibia would now be participating in the discussions of the Fourth Committee and firmly supporting the struggle of other peoples that were still suffering the consequences of colonialism.

38. The part played by Western transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia was well known. Not only were Namibia's natural resources being plundered in flagrant violation of Decree No. 1, but its human resources were also being exploited without respite. Nicaragua had always supported and would continue to support the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against Pretoria under Chapter VII of the Charter. His delegation noted with satisfaction the holding of quadripartite talks. It was to be hoped that they would lead to the longed-for independence of Namibia and that South Africa would cease its aggression against Angola. It was, however, necessary for the international community to continue to bring pressure to bear upon Pretoria in order to prevent that régime from reversing its steps, as it had done in the past.

39. In addition to the situation in southern Africa, there were other Territories where the activities of foreign, political, economic and military interests continued to hinder those Territories in obtaining their full independence. That was the case in Latin America with regard to the island of Puerto Rico, which had been converted into an international centre for training mercenaries and holding military manoeuvres for rehearsing invasions. A similar case was that of the Malvinas Islands where, in March 1988, British military manoeuvres had been held which, in addition to unnecessarily worsening the tension in the region constituted a blatant attempt to perpetuate colonial rule there.

40. Mr. SISOUVONG (Lao People's Democratic Republic) said that the Pretoria régime and its Western supporters continued to disregard General Assembly resolutions 2621 (XXV) and 42/74, which called upon Governments to take measures to put an end to activities detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of the colonial Territories. The Lao People's Democratic Republic, which had gone through the bitter experience of being deprived of independence, supported the cause of the Namibian and other African peoples, which were waging a heroic struggle to

(Mr. Sisouvang, Lao People's  
Democratic Republic)

eliminate the vestiges of colonialism, racism and apartheid. The decolonisation of Namibia had not been effected because South African and transnational corporations had formed an alliance to exploit Namibia's natural resources in disregard of local development and the need to improve the socio-economic conditions of the Territory. Aware of the powerful protection afforded it by certain foreign countries that supported its policy and blocked the implementation of sanctions against South Africa, Pretoria had consolidated the apartheid régime and its colonial domination and had intensified the plundering and draining of Namibia's human and natural resources. Even more serious was the increased South African military presence in the Territory, which strengthened the illegal occupation and enabled Pretoria to attack neighbouring States. The international community condemned such collaboration and activities, which threatened international peace and security and constituted an obstacle to the granting of independence to Namibia.

41. Other Territories, such as Micronesia, also continued to suffer the consequences of the foreign economic and military activities of the administering Powers. The establishment of military bases had resulted in significant demographic changes and had weakened the sense of national identity in those Territories. His Government strongly condemned all those activities and hoped that that obstacle would be removed in order to ensure the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. He hoped that the selfish colonialist mentality would cease so that all peoples would be able to enjoy liberty, equal rights and human dignity.

42. Mr. SAIF (Democratic Yemen) said that the activities of foreign economic, military and other interests in the Non-Self-Governing Territories were having adverse effects on the peoples of those Territories and violated the principles of the Charter and of international law. Various General Assembly resolutions, including those on the question adopted at the forty-second session, urged States to take measures to guarantee the rights of the peoples in the Territories and to enable them to live in peace. The administering Powers' military presence in the Territories must not be an obstacle to the right of self-determination and independence, and the Territories should not serve as storehouses for nuclear arms.

43. It would be useful to know what measures the administering Powers had taken to comply with the relevant resolutions; what had been done to put an end to the activities of the interests which were impeding the implementation of the Declaration on decolonisation; what had been done to dismantle military installations; and what had been done to enable the colonial peoples to accede to independence. Nothing had been done so far, as indicated by the inclusion of the item under consideration in the agenda for so many years.

44. States with interests in the Territories under colonial domination, such as South Africa, continued to deny subjugated peoples their rights. The transnational corporations continued to plunder the Territories' natural resources, preventing the indigenous populations from exercising their rights. For example, the Namibian people lived in grossly unjust conditions imposed by the racist Pretoria régime,

(Mr. Saif, Democratic Yemen)

which denied Namibians political and economic rights in their own country. Some Western countries and Israel continued to maintain trade and political relations with the apartheid régime, in defiance of the international community's appeal, set forth in the relevant United Nations resolutions, to isolate the racist régime of South Africa. The strengthening of relations between South Africa and Israel in the military and nuclear spheres was a matter of great concern, since it threatened the stability of the African and Arab peoples.

45. Democratic Yemen called for the implementation of immediate and effective measures to put an end to the relations between the racist régimes of South Africa and Israel, and called upon States which maintained relations with the Pretoria régime to support the international community's appeal and to break off relations with South Africa, since that was the only effective way for the South African and Namibian peoples to achieve independence, freedom and economic and social progress.

46. Mr. AGBODJI (Togo) said that his Government wished once again to denounce the activities of foreign economic, military and strategic interests, whose magnitude and persistence impeded and prohibited unrestricted implementation of the Declaration. In the economic sphere, the exploitation of colonial Territories and the reduction of their populations to slavery remained the general rule wherever colonialism still existed. Namibia was the most outrageous case. That Territory, which was being illegally occupied by the racist régime of South Africa, in disregard of the international community's unanimous condemnation, of the Charter and of the relevant General Assembly resolutions - was being robbed of its natural resources by South African, Western European and North American companies and financial institutions. The latter were drawn to Namibia because of the enormous profits which could be obtained, owing to the fact that Pretoria had established the heinous apartheid régime in the Territory, thus ensuring abundant, cheap slave labour. The mining companies were engaging in unrestricted prospection for and mining and exportation of Namibia's resources. Over 1,000 multinational corporations were plundering Namibian natural resources. The banks were investing in the Territory and transferring their profits to the mother countries. For every dollar invested in Namibia in the 1970s, \$4.2 had been repatriated. In the military sphere, some Powers continued to consider South Africa a strategic ally and extended to it their military and nuclear co-operation, thus enabling the apartheid régime to intimidate sovereign States in the region and to threaten international peace and security.

47. Togo believed that, in spite of the efforts of the racist minority in South Africa, Namibia, like the other Territories and peoples under colonial domination, would accede to independence. Pretoria's vast machinery of repression had been unable to weaken either the spirit of the Namibian people in their struggle for freedom or the determination of the black South African majority to free itself from the yoke of apartheid. Togo, which was committed to the inviolable principle of human rights, would continue to support all peoples struggling for their freedom in order to achieve peace and justice in the world.

48. Mr. BRISTOL (Nigeria) said that the activities of foreign economic and other interests in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, engaged in an insatiable quest for huge profits adversely affected the exercise of the right of self-determination and independence of the peoples of the Territories, since they distorted the indigenous economies and integrated them into those of the administering Powers, thus impeding freedom. The view had been expressed that such activities were not inherently negative, and that foreign investment could promote the welfare of colonial peoples. However, it was for the populations concerned to decide, once they had attained their inalienable right to independence, whether such interests should play a role in their economies.

49. Nigeria was concerned about the impoverishment and mindless exploitation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories resulting from the plunder of their human and natural resources by foreign interests in collaboration with the administering Powers. In the largest colonies, foreign capital was concentrated in mining, agriculture and fishing, while in the small island Territories, it was being invested in tourism and financial services. The development of local skills and integration of the various sectors of the local economy were being completely neglected. The Territories served only as sources of raw materials for the administering Powers and as a market for goods manufactured in the mother countries, thus establishing a centre-periphery model in international economic relations, which encouraged political manipulation, cultural alienation and social anomy in the Territories. Some of the Territories had been converted into centres for money laundering, gambling and drug trafficking. Moreover, Nigeria wished to draw the Committee's attention to the possibility that the dependent Territories were secretly being used as dumps for toxic and radioactive industrial wastes, as had occurred in Africa and in other developing countries, which was why it was necessary to monitor such activities.

50. Foreign interests had hindered the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in Namibia more than in other Territories. Namibian resources were being plundered by transnational corporations with South Africa's co-operation. The participation of such corporations not only sustained and nurtured the apartheid régime but also served as the basis for the illegal occupation of the Territory. Namibia's mineral wealth was being plundered without any reinvestment in the country's economy, in blatant violation of Decree No. 1 for the Protection of the Natural Resources of Namibia. The establishment of the apartheid system in the Territory had ensured the making of windfall profits through the exploitation of abundant, cheap manpower. Most of the companies which had allegedly disinvested from South Africa and Namibia were resorting to other types of participation, with a view to perpetuating their presence in the economies of those countries.

51. Nigeria recognized that nearly all States had implemented political, economic, diplomatic and moral measures against the racist régime, and believed that change in southern Africa could be expedited if all those measures were harmonized and generalized in the form of comprehensive, mandatory and universal sanctions, with a view to forcing the Pretoria régime to relinquish its pernicious domination over Namibia and to eliminate apartheid in South Africa.

52. Mr. LUKANGA (Mozambique), expressing concern at the situation in southern Africa, said that colonialism persisted and was both a source of violence and conflict and a serious obstacle to peace and independence. The illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa, the continuous exploitation and plundering of Namibia's natural resources, and South Africa's denial of the right to independence to the Namibian people were a clear indication of apartheid's nature. However, it would be impossible to eliminate racism, racial discrimination and apartheid as long as some countries continued to give economic and military support to the apartheid régime, which already possessed nuclear capability. Nevertheless, such current peace initiatives as the talks between Angola, Cuba and South Africa, with the United States as mediator, and the Secretary-General's recent efforts to implement Security Council resolution 435 (1978) were a response to the aspirations of the region and of the world. In addition to those promising initiatives, there were other equally important ones, such as those concerning Western Sahara and East Timor.

REQUESTS FOR HEARINGS (continued) (A/C.4/43/7 and Add.1)

53. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had before it two communications contained in documents A/C.4/43/7 and Add.1 requesting hearings concerning the question of Namibia. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee decided to grant those requests.

54. It was so decided.

55. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that he had received two communications containing requests for hearings concerning Western Sahara, under agenda item 18, and concerning Namibia, under agenda item 29. In accordance with the usual practice, the communications would be circulated as Committee documents for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.