

perfection of the Regional Popular Assembly of East Timor should be implemented.

Article 9

(a) The members of the Popular Assembly are elected from the people residing in the administrative *postos/conselhos*/region concerned in accordance with the principles of consensus and consent and with consideration of the traditional and cultural values prevailing and developing in the area.

(b) The Regional Popular Assembly, besides being represented by prominent citizens of East Timor, is complemented by representatives from the *conselhos*, comprising two or three members, and should also include representatives of the tribal chiefs/kings and representatives of the religious groups.

Article 10

This act is drafted legally on the second day of April 1976 and is sanctioned by the Deliberative Council of the Region of East Timor.

DOCUMENT S/12107

Letter dated 22 June 1976 from the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]
[22 June 1976]

I am transmitting to you herewith in Russian and English a TASS statement of 21 June 1976 on the question of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would issue this statement as an official Security Council document.

(Signed) Y. MALIK
Permanent Representative of the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United Nations

TEXT OF THE STATEMENT

There has recently been an intensification of efforts aimed at partitioning Cyprus and liquidating the unified Cypriot State. For almost two years, as a result of constant foreign interference, the normal life of the country has been disrupted. Thousands of Cypriots have become refugees in their own country. The Security Council and General Assembly decisions aimed at resolving the Cypriot crisis are not being carried out. Negotiations between representatives of the Greek and Turkish communities on the island have reached an impasse. There continue to be foreign troops in the territory of Cyprus. It is also impossible to ignore the increasingly obvious attempt by certain circles, acting in contravention of United Nations decisions, to convert Cyprus into a NATO base in this area.

From the very outset of the Cypriot crisis, the Soviet Union has insisted at every stage, and it continues to insist, that a settlement should be based on

the principles of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Cypriot State, that all foreign interference should be excluded and that the internal affairs of Cyprus should be settled by the people of Cyprus themselves with due regard for the interests of both the Greek and the Turkish population of the island. It is, of course, precisely these principles for a settlement that were made the basis of the decisions adopted by the United Nations.

TASS is authorized to state that Soviet leading circles express serious concern at the unwarranted delay in a Cyprus settlement and at the attempts to take advantage of the difficult position in which the Republic of Cyprus finds itself in order to impose upon it decisions which are alien to the interests of the Cypriot people. The Soviet Union is opposed to attempts to seek avenues to a Cyprus settlement behind the backs of the people of Cyprus in the narrow interests of particular countries or military blocs. The Soviet Union continues to believe that the best chance for solving the Cyprus problem lies in convening a representative international conference on Cyprus within the framework of the United Nations.

The Soviet Union strongly favours immediate, full compliance with the United Nations decisions on Cyprus and is prepared to co-operate with other States with a view to achieving a just settlement of the Cypriot crisis and preventing events from developing in a way that will further aggravate the situation in that part of the world.

DOCUMENT S/12108*

Letter dated 23 June 1976 from the representative of Algeria to the Secretary-General

[Original: French]
[23 June 1976]

In response to the letter dated 14 June 1976 [S/12095] addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of Mauritania, I have the honour, on instructions from my Government, to inform you that, while Algeria has never concealed its position of support for the legitimate demands of the Saharan people, it rejects, as being utterly baseless and contrary to the truth, any other Mauritanian accusation against the Government of Algeria.

When the Permanent Representative of Mauritania refers to the "hopes of hegemony over Mauritania" which he claims are cherished by the Algerian leaders, he shows that his recollection of history is somewhat confused, even though the history in question is very recent.

The incidents which he recounts in his letter are the direct consequence of the Madrid agreement of 14 November 1975, of the policy pursued by the Governments of Morocco and Mauritania in denying the

* Circulated under the double symbol A/31/112-S/12108.

rights of the Saharan people, of illegal occupation of the Territory of Western Sahara and of flagrant aggression against the Saharan people, most of whom are now refugees in Algeria. Such a policy is totally at variance with the most solemn undertakings assumed by the highest Mauritanian authorities towards the Saharan people. To shift this problem from the context of decolonization of the Territory of Western Sahara and the struggle of a people against an occupier to that of a dispute with another country, Algeria, is an exercise in deception and an attempt to evade a grave historical responsibility.

The Government of Algeria has repeatedly drawn the attention of the international community to the inescapable consequences of such a policy and to the deterioration of the situation which it inevitably entails. It is no use trying to cloak this reality and going to extreme lengths to find other causes for the aggravation of tension in the region.

The Government of Algeria continues to affirm that the only possible step to rectify this situation, with its dangers to all the countries of the region, is the effective exercise by the Saharan people of their right to self-determination. That step should be accepted and encouraged by the Mauritanian leaders if their genuine desire is in fact to avoid any exacerbation of their conflict with the Saharan people, as was proved by the recent incidents at Nouakchott. It would in any event be the best course to a peaceful settlement of the Sahara problem, since it would enable the root causes of tension to be eliminated.

I shall be most grateful if you will circulate this letter as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdellatif RAHAL
Permanent Representative of Algeria
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/12109

Report of the Committee on the Admission of New Members concerning the application of the People's Republic of Angola for membership in the United Nations

[Original: English]
[23 June 1976]

1. At its 1931st meeting, on 22 June 1976, the Security Council had before it the application of the People's Republic of Angola [S/12064] for admission to membership in the United Nations. In accordance with rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure and in the absence of a proposal to the contrary, the President of the Council referred the application to the Committee on the Admission of New Members for examination and report.

2. At its 53rd meeting, held on 23 June, the Committee considered this application.

3. The representative of the United States urged the Committee to defer action on the application of the People's Republic of Angola to a date not later than 35 days in advance of the thirty-first session of the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure. He stated that such a procedure would maximize the chances for positive action by the Council and would permit the General Assembly to take action at the beginning of the session.

4. The representatives of the United Kingdom, France, Italy and Japan supported the United States suggestion that a decision on the substance of the application for admission should be deferred until a later date. Each of those delegations made it clear that it fully supported the application and would vote in favour of it should it come before the Council. None of them wished to see the admission of Angola to the United Nations delayed even by a single day. They were, however, impressed by the consideration that a deferment of the Committee's decision as suggested by the United States would not cause such a delay but would, on the contrary, improve the chances that Angola's admission would then encounter no obstacle.

5. The representative of Panama vigorously supported the admission of the People's Republic of An-

gola. Nevertheless, he stated, he would have no difficulty in agreeing to the request for postponement submitted by the representative of the United States.

6. In his statement, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania proposed that the Committee recommend to the Security Council the adoption of the following draft resolution, sponsored by Benin, Guyana, the Libyan Arab Republic, Romania, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Republic of Tanzania:

[See S/12110.]

7. Further statements in favour of the immediate admission of the People's Republic of Angola were made by the representatives of the following members: Benin, Guyana, the Libyan Arab Republic, Pakistan, Romania, Sweden and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

8. The representative of China stated that under the prevailing circumstances China was unable to associate itself with the recommendation for the admission of Angola to membership in the United Nations and that it would expound its position at the formal meeting of the Security Council.

9. The representative of the United States stated that his delegation would be unable at this time to concur in a recommendation to the General Assembly that the People's Republic of Angola be admitted to membership in the United Nations.

10. In summing up the debate, the Chairman stated that since the Committee was unable to make a unanimous recommendation to the Security Council, it would submit to the Security Council a report reflecting the attitudes of delegations towards the application.

11. In conclusion, the Committee approved the present report on its consideration of the application of the People's Republic of Angola for membership in the United Nations.