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

QUESTION OF WESTERN SAHARA

Report of the Secretary-General

1. At its thirty-first session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 31/45 of 1 December 1976 on the question of Western Sahara. The operative paragraphs of the resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"...

"1. Reaffirms its commitment to the principle of self-determination of peoples in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

"2. Takes note of the decision taken by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity to convene an extraordinary session with a view to finding a just and lasting solution to the problem of Western Sahara;

"3. Decides to postpone consideration of the question of Western Sahara until its thirty-second session;

"4. Requests the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the progress achieved in the implementation of the decisions of the Organization of African Unity concerning Western Sahara, and invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to report on that information to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session."

2. Having regard to the provisions of paragraph 4 of the resolution quoted above, the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

informed the Secretary-General of the United Nations, at a meeting on 11 October 1977, that, following its examination of the question of Western Sahara at its fourteenth ordinary Session, held at Libreville from 2 to 5 July 1977, the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU had decided to hold a special summit meeting on the question at Lusaka from 5 to 10 October 1977. Subsequently, the Government of Zambia informed the Administrative Secretary-General that it was unable to be host to the meeting at that time. The meeting was therefore postponed.

3. The Administrative Secretary-General of OAU assured the Secretary-General that he would be kept informed of further developments regarding the holding of the meeting within the context of the aforementioned decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU.
