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Item 23 of the preliminary list\*

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

Question of French Somaliland

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In paragraph 14 of resolution 31/59 of 1 December 1976 on the question of French Somaliland, the General Assembly endorsed the decisions of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations to send representatives to observe the referendum and all subsequent stages of the independence process to ensure that the principle of self-determination in the Territory is carried out smoothly and in the most democratic manner.
2. In accordance with the understanding reached when resolution 31/59 was adopted, the Secretary-General has carried out the necessary consultations with the parties concerned and has appointed Norway, Sri Lanka and Venezuela as members of the United Nations Mission to Observe the Referendum and Elections in French Somaliland (Djibouti).
3. The three Member States concerned have designated the following persons to represent them on the Mission:  
  
Mr. Ignatius B. Fonseka (Sri Lanka),  
  
Miss María Clemencia López (Venezuela),  
  
Mr. Tom Eric Vraalsen (Norway).  
  
Mr. Fonseka will serve as Chairman of the Mission.

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\* A/32/50.