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OBSERVER STATUS OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RECOGNIZED
BY THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AND/OR BY THE LEAGUE
OF ARAB STATES

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/39/150.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 16 December 1982, the General Assembly adopted resolution 37/104 entitled "Observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States", the operative part of which reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"..."

"1. Invites all States that have not done so, in particular those that are hosts to international organizations or to conferences convened by, or held under the auspices of, international organizations of a universal character, to consider as soon as possible the question of ratifying, or acceding to, the Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character; 1/

"2. Calls once more upon the States concerned to accord to the delegations of the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States, and accorded observer status by international organizations, the facilities, privileges and immunities necessary for the performance of their functions in accordance with the provisions of the Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

2. By a note dated 25 March 1983, the Secretary-General invited Governments to provide him with any information and comments they might wish to suggest in order to contribute to the report of the Secretary-General requested in paragraph 3 of the above resolution.

3. As at 7 September 1984, replies had been received from Argentina, the Byelorussian SSR, Hungary, Mexico, Sri Lanka, the Ukrainian SSR and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Further replies which might still be forthcoming will be reproduced in addenda to the present report.

1/ See Official Records of the United Nations Conference on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations, Vienna, 4 February-14 March 1975, vol. II (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.V.12), document A/CONF.67/15, annex.

II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

ARGENTINA

[Original: Spanish]

[16 May 1983]

The Argentine Republic ratified the Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character on 6 March 1981.

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[25 April 1984]

1. The Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic reaffirms its position on the question of the observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States, as stated in document A/37/326 of 28 July 1982.
2. The resolution adopted in 1975 at the United Nations Conference on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations relating to the observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States was a major step in furthering the efforts of the world community to bring about the broad participation of national liberation movements in the work of the United Nations, of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, and of conferences held under the auspices of international organizations.
3. The Byelorussian SSR upholds, as it always has, the just cause of peoples struggling for their national and social liberation, firmly supports their struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racism, apartheid and zionism, and consistently advocates the strengthening of their political and economic independence.
4. As a party to the 1975 Convention, the Byelorussian SSR advocates full compliance with the provisions of this Convention and of the resolution adopted at the United Nations Conference on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations on according to delegations of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States the facilities, privileges and immunities necessary for the performance of their tasks; such compliance was also called for by the General Assembly in resolution 37/104 of 16 December 1982.
5. Implementation of the provisions of these documents will promote the more active participation of the national liberation movements in international affairs,

will enhance their authority and prestige at the international level, and will further efforts to ensure that they have normal working conditions in international organizations and at conferences.

HUNGARY

[Original: English]

[26 March 1984]

1. The Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character, done at Vienna on 14 March 1975, was signed on 12 February 1976 and ratified on 28 July 1978 by the Hungarian People's Republic.
2. The Hungarian People's Republic is convinced that the entry into force of the Convention will contribute considerably to the actual implementation of the provisions contained in paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolutions 35/167 of 15 December 1980 and 37/104 of 16 December 1982.
3. Acting in the spirit of General Assembly resolution 3247 (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, the Hungarian People's Republic wishes to guarantee the participation of representatives of the national liberation movements and organizations recognized by the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States at international conferences to be organized on its territory.
4. The Hungarian People's Republic firmly believes that participation as observers by the above-mentioned national liberation movements and organizations in international conferences will truly reflect their ever-increasing role and influence in international politics and will contribute to the complete elimination of colonialism and to the strengthening of international co-operation.
5. In conformity with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and recommendations, the Hungarian People's Republic is ready to give sympathetic consideration, in concrete cases, to the question of granting observer status to national liberation movements and organizations, in particular to representatives of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) and the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), recognized by the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States, and to accord to them the facilities, privileges and immunities necessary for the smooth exercise of their functions deriving from their observer status.
6. In keeping with its socialist foreign policy based on respect for the fundamental principles generally recognized by international law, including the principle of self-determination of peoples and nations, the Hungarian People's Republic lends support to the national liberation movements and organizations in their struggle for political and social liberation and for the recognition of their right to self-determination. Its support is based, inter alia, on the full recognition of the right to self-determination embracing the right of peoples and

nations to be sovereign and equal subjects of international relations, thus contributing actively to the strengthening of international co-operation and peace.

7. In accordance with the above principles, the Hungarian People's Republic attaches great importance to the earliest possible and full recognition and exercise of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. As the people of Palestine has the right to establish an independent State of its own and the Palestine Liberation Organization is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the Hungarian People's Republic has accorded to the mission of the PLO a status equal to that enjoyed by other diplomatic missions in Hungary in respect of privileges and immunities. Consequently, it is ready to treat representatives of the PLO on an equal footing with those of States at international conferences to be organized on its territory.

MEXICO

[Original: Spanish]

[3 May 1983]

The Government of Mexico voted in favour of General Assembly resolution 37/104 of 16 December 1982, entitled "Observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States".

SRI LANKA

[Original: English]

[20 June 1983]

... the Government of Sri Lanka is not a signatory of the Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character. However the Government of Sri Lanka has extended to the Resident Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Colombo the status of a full Diplomatic Mission.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[7 May 1984]

1. The position of principle of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic concerning the observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States, which was set forth in the previous reply of the Ukrainian SSR with regard to this question (document A/37/326 of 28 July 1982), remains unchanged.

/...

2. The Ukrainian SSR, faithful to the Leninist principles of proletarian internationalism, unswervingly follows the course of strengthening the alliance of the forces of socialism and the movement for national liberation. In accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, the Ukrainian SSR provides broad political, moral and material assistance and support to the movement for national liberation of oppressed peoples struggling for national independence, self-determination and social progress, and against imperialism, racism, apartheid, zionism and the remnants of colonialism. In the United Nations and other international organizations, and also in various other international forums, the Ukrainian SSR has unfailingly advocated recognition of the legitimacy and righteousness of their struggle.

3. In this connection, it is the opinion of the Ukrainian SSR that the direct participation, on as active a basis as possible, of representatives of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States in the work of the United Nations, of other international organizations, and of conferences convened under their auspices is of great importance. Such participation is a major factor in the more effective consideration by international forums of practical measures to support struggling peoples and helps them defend their interests. It enhances the authority and prestige of the national liberation movements, enables them to be made active at the international level, and provides the opportunity for broad segments of world opinion to realize fully the importance and urgency of settling, as rapidly as possible, the problems confronting them. One of the important conditions for such participation is the earliest possible ratification by States which have not already done so of the Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character, or the accession to it of the largest possible number of States, and also the implementation by States of the provisions of the resolution relating to the observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States adopted at the Conference on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations.

4. The Ukrainian SSR signed and ratified the Vienna Convention of 1975 and advocates both unswerving compliance with its provisions and the implementation of the provisions of the resolution.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[24 April 1984]

1. The position of principle of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the question of the observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States and the practical measures which it has taken in this field were explained in detail in the reply of the Soviet Union issued in document A/37/326 of 28 July 1982.

2. The Soviet Union, faithful to the Leninist principles of solidarity with peoples struggling for their national and social liberation, continues to uphold the just cause of the movement for national liberation, consistently supports the just struggle of peoples against imperialism, colonialism, racism, zionism and apartheid, and advocates the strengthening of the economic and political independence of liberated States and the steady expansion of their role in solving international problems.
 3. The active participation of representatives of national liberation movements in the activities of the United Nations and other international organizations, and also in conferences convened by them, is a vital factor in promoting the more effective functioning of national liberation movements in the international arena and the enhancement of their prestige and authority. The implementation by States of the provisions of the resolution adopted at the United Nations Conference on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations relating to the observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States is an important condition for ensuring the all-round participation of national liberation movements in international forums and intergovernmental organizations. This resolution, as is well known, recommends that States, on the basis of the provisions of the 1975 Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character, accord to delegations of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States the facilities, privileges and immunities necessary for the performance of their tasks.
 4. As a party to the 1975 Convention, the Soviet Union advocates unswerving compliance with the provisions of the Convention and the implementation of the resolution referred to in order to regulate and enhance the international legal status of the representatives of the national liberation movements and ensure that they have normal working conditions at international conferences and in organizations.
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