



Fifteenth session
Agenda item 43

QUESTION OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA

Report of the Fourth CommitteeRapporteur: Poul BOEG (Denmark)

1. At its 1118th meeting on 27 March 1961, the Fourth Committee concluded its consideration of the following item on the agenda of the resumed fifteenth session of the General Assembly:

"43. Question of South West Africa: preliminary report of the Committee on South West Africa on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1568 (XV)" (A/4705).
2. The present report supplements the interim report of the Fourth Committee on this item (A/4709), considered by the General Assembly at its 963rd plenary meeting on 16 March 1961.
3. As stated in its interim report, the Fourth Committee began its consideration of the item at its 1098th meeting on 9 March 1961, when the Chairman of the Committee on South West Africa introduced the preliminary report of that Committee.
4. At the same meeting, the Fourth Committee granted requests for hearings submitted by the Reverend Markus Kooper, Messrs. Mburumba Kerina, Jacob Kuhangua, and Ismael Fortune (A/C.4/470) and by Messrs. Sam Nujoma and Moses Garoeb (A/C.4/470/Add.1). The requests were granted without vote, following an objection by the representative of the Union of South Africa.
5. Mr. Mburumba Kerina addressed the Committee at the 1098th meeting, and answered questions put by members of the Committee at that meeting and at the 1100th meeting. At the latter meeting, statements were made by Mr. Jacob Kuhangua,

Mr. Ismael Fortune and the Reverend Markus Kooper. Two of the petitioners who had been granted hearings, Messrs. Sam Nujoma and Moses Garoeb, did not appear before the Committee.

6. A discussion of the item took place during the course of the 1100th to 1103rd meetings of the Committee. At its 1103rd meeting, on 14 March 1961, the Committee adopted the above-mentioned interim report to the General Assembly.

7. At the 1107th meeting on 17 March 1961, the Committee decided to grant a second hearing to petitioners. Accordingly, Mr. Mburumba Kerina, the Reverend Markus Kooper and Mr. Jacob Kuhangua appeared before the Committee at the 1108th meeting, when Mr. Kerina made a statement on behalf of the petitioners.

8. The Committee resumed its discussion of the item at its 1110th meeting on 21 March 1961.

9. At that meeting, Bolivia, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo (Brazzaville), Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic, Venezuela and Yugoslavia, submitted a joint draft resolution (A/C.4/L.675), which Afghanistan joined in sponsoring (A/C.4/L.675/Add.1).

10. During the debate on the 23-Power draft resolution, at the 1110th to 1112th meetings, a number of comments and suggestions were made to the sponsors. Taking these into account, and particularly changes orally suggested at the 1110th meeting by the representative of the United States of America, the twenty-three sponsors, joined by Senegal, submitted a revised draft resolution (A/C.4/L.675/Rev.1) at the 1113th meeting of the Committee on 22 March 1961.

11. The committee continued its consideration of the 24-Power revised draft resolution at its 1114th to 1116th meetings.

12. At the 1115th meeting, on 23 March 1961, the sponsors of the 24-Power revised draft resolution accepted an amendment orally proposed by the representative of Bulgaria to substitute the words "colonial countries and peoples" for the words "dependent peoples" in the first preambular paragraph.

13. At the same meeting, the 24-Power revised draft resolution (A/C.4/L.675/Rev.1), as thus orally revised, was voted upon as follows:

The first to fifth preambular paragraphs, inclusive, were adopted by a roll-call vote of 76 to none, with 5 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Cameroun, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The sixth preambular paragraph was approved by a roll-call vote of 70 to 1, with 10 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Cameroun, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: Portugal.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Chile, China, Finland, France, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Operative paragraph 4 was adopted by 75 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 5 was adopted by a roll-call vote of 65 to none, with 16 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Cameroun, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Operative paragraph 7 was adopted by a roll-call vote of 74 to 1, with 6 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Cameroun, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Ghana, Greece,

Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: Portugal.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Finland, France, Netherlands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The 24-Power draft resolution as a whole, as orally revised, was adopted by a roll-call vote of 76 to none, with 6 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Cameroun, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, France, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Recommendation of the Fourth Committee

14. The Fourth Committee accordingly recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

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QUESTION OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the General Assembly's Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples which declares that immediate steps shall be taken to transfer all powers to such peoples, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, without any distinction as to race, creed or colour, in order to enable them to enjoy complete independence and freedom,

Recalling its resolution 1568 (XV) of 18 December 1960 inviting the Committee on South West Africa to go to South West Africa immediately, inter alia, to investigate the situation prevailing in the Territory,

Noting with deep regret from the preliminary report of the Committee on South West Africa (A/4705) called for under the said resolution that the Government of the Union of South Africa refuses to co-operate with the United Nations by facilitating the mission of the Committee on South West Africa,

Convinced that it is both the right and the duty of the United Nations to discharge fully and effectively its obligation with respect to the proper implementation, under its supervision, of the Mandate for South West Africa conferred upon His Britannic Majesty, to be exercised on his behalf by the Government of the Union of South Africa,

Noting with grave concern the continuing deterioration in the situation of South West Africa resulting from the continued application, in violation of the letter and spirit of the Mandate, of tyrannical policies and practices of the Union of South Africa's administration in South West Africa, such as apartheid,

Reiterating its concern that this situation constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security,

1. Recognizes and supports the passionate yearning of the people of South West Africa for freedom and the exercise of national independence and sovereignty;

2. Rejects the position taken by the Government of the Union of South Africa in refusing to co-operate with the United Nations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1568 (XV) as well as other resolutions concerning South West Africa;

3. Deplores the attempts at the assimilation of the mandated Territory of South West Africa, culminating in the so-called referendum held on 5 October 1960, as totally unacceptable, having no moral or legal basis and being repugnant to the letter and spirit of the Mandate;

4. Considers that the full and effective discharge of the tasks assigned to the Committee on South West Africa in operative paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 1568 (XV) is essential to the protection of the lives and property of the inhabitants of South West Africa, to the amelioration of the prevailing conditions of South West Africa, the continuance of which is likely to endanger international peace and security, to the exercise of the right of self-determination by the people of South West Africa in complete freedom and their right of accession to national sovereignty and independence with the least delay;

5. Requests the Committee on South West Africa, therefore, immediately to proceed to discharge the special and urgent tasks entrusted to it in resolution 1568 (XV) as fully and expeditiously as possible with the co-operation of the Government of the Union of South West Africa if such co-operation be available, and without it if necessary;

6. Requests the States Members of the United Nations to extend to the Committee on South West Africa such assistance as it may require in the discharge of these tasks;

7. Decides to call the attention of the Security Council to the situation in respect of South West Africa which, if allowed to continue, will, in the General Assembly's view, endanger international peace and security, and to this resolution, the full implementation of which is necessary to bring that situation to a speedy end;

8. Takes note with grave concern of reports of the terrorization of, and armed action against, the indigenous inhabitants, and calls upon the Government of the Union of South Africa to desist from such acts;

9. Requests the Committee on South West Africa to submit a report on the implementation of resolution 1568 (XV) as well as the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixteenth session.
