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Agenda item 64

QUESTION OF NAMIBIA

Report of the Fourth Committee (part I)

Rapporteur: Mr. Mohammad Ali ABDULLA (Southern Yemen)

1. At its 1758th plenary meeting, on 20 September 1969, the General Assembly decided, on the recommendation of the General Committee (A/7700), to include in the agenda of its twenty-fourth session an item entitled

"Question of Namibia:

"(a) Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

"(b) Report of the United Nations Council for Namibia;

"(c) Appointment of the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia."

At the same meeting, the Assembly decided that the item should be discussed in plenary meeting, on the understanding that petitioners on this question would be heard by the Fourth Committee, which would then submit a report on such hearings to the plenary. Accordingly, an item entitled "Question of Namibia (hearing of petitioners)" was included in the list of agenda items allocated to the Fourth Committee (A/C.4/719).

2. At its 1770th plenary meeting, on 29 September, the General Assembly decided, in modification of its decision referred to above, to allocate to the Fourth Committee sub-items (a) and (b) of agenda item 64. In communicating the

Assembly's decision to the Chairman of the Fourth Committee, the President of the General Assembly, in a letter of the same date (A/C.4/719/Add.1), stated that "in the light of this decision, the Fourth Committee may wish not to submit a separate report on the question of the hearing of petitioners on the item".

3. At its 1817th meeting, on 30 September, the Fourth Committee decided to give priority to the present item (item 64), together with two other items on its agenda, namely, the question of Territories under Portuguese administration (item 65) and the question of Southern Rhodesia (item 102). At the same meeting, it decided further that a general debate should be held covering these three items, it being understood that individual draft resolutions on matters covered by the items would be considered separately after the conclusion of the general debate and following the hearing of petitioners who might appear before the Committee concerning those items.

4. The Fourth Committee considered this question at its 1818th to 1837th meetings, from 3-27 October.

5. At the 1818th meeting, on 3 October, the Rapporteur of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples introduced the chapter of the report of that Committee relating to Namibia (A/7623/Add.2).

6. The Fourth Committee also had before it the report of the United Nations Council for Namibia (A/7624).

7. The Committee decided to grant the following requests for hearings concerning the item:

<u>Petitioner</u>	<u>Meeting at which the request for hearing was granted</u>
The Reverend G. Michael Scott (A/C.4/721)	1817th
Messrs. Kuaima I. Riruako, Kahepure B. Mbaha, Mburumba Kerina and Veue N. Mbaeva, representatives, South West Africa National United Front (SWANUF) (A/C.4/721/Add.1)	1822nd
Mr. Gottfried Hage Geingob, South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) (A/C.4/721/Add.2) . .	1831st
Mr. Katuutire ua Kaura, representative, South West Africa National Union (SWANU) (A/C.4/721/Add.3) . .	1835th

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8. At its 1818th meeting, on 3 October, the Fourth Committee heard a statement by the Reverend G. Michael Scott. At the 1819th meeting, on 6 October, the Reverend Scott replied to questions put to him by members of the Committee. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to grant a hearing to Mr. Gidon Gottlieb in order to enable him to furnish the Committee with information supplementary to that given by the Reverend Scott. At the 1820th meeting, on 7 October, Mr. Gidon Gottlieb made a statement and replied to questions put to him by members of the Committee. At the 1824th meeting, on 10 October, Mr. Mburumba Kerina and Mr. Veive N. Mbaeva made statements. At the same meeting, Mr. Kerina replied to questions put to him by a member of the Committee. At its 1832nd meeting, on 16 October, the Committee heard statements by Mr. Gottfried Hage Geingob and by two other members of his organization, Mr. Theo Ben Gurirab and Mr. Hivana D. Sheepo. At the same meeting, the three petitioners replied to questions put to them by members of the Committee. At its 1834th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee heard a supplementary statement by Mr. Geingob. At the 1836th meeting, on 21 October, Mr. Geingob and Mr. Sheepo replied to questions put to them by members of the Committee. At the 1837th meeting, on 27 October, Mr. Katuutire ua Kaura made a statement.

9. The general debate covering the present item, together with the two other items referred to in paragraph 3 above, took place at the 1821st to 1836th meetings, between 8 and 21 October.

10. At the 1837th meeting, on 27 October, Mr. H.M. Sahnoun, Deputy Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), made a statement concerning the three items referred to in paragraph 3 above. At the same meeting, the representative of the World Health Organization also made a statement.

11. At its 1834th meeting, on 17 October, the representatives of Algeria, Indonesia, Zambia, Venezuela and Ecuador introduced a first draft resolution dealing with specific aspects of the question, which was finally sponsored by the following Member States: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Dahomey, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar,

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Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Southern Yemen, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zambia (A/C.4/L.934 and Add.1 and 2).

12. The Fourth Committee considered the draft resolution at its 1834th and 1836th meetings, on 17 and 21 October.

13. At the 1836th meeting, on 21 October, the Fourth Committee adopted the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.934 and Add.1 and 2) by a roll-call vote of 96 to 2, with 6 abstentions (see paragraph 15 below). The result of the voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Southern Yemen, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Portugal, South Africa.

Abstaining: Australia, Botswana, France, Ivory Coast, Malawi, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

14. Another report covering the Committee's further consideration on the question of Namibia will be submitted at a later date as an addendum to the present document.

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RECOMMENDATION OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE

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

Question of Namibia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Bearing in mind the particular responsibilities of the United Nations towards Namibia,

Recalling Security Council resolution 246 (1968) of 14 March 1968, in particular the last preambular paragraph in which the Council takes cognizance of its special responsibility towards the people and Territory of Namibia,

Recalling further Security Council resolution 269 (1969) of 12 August 1969, in particular paragraph 5 in which the Government of South Africa was requested to withdraw its administration from the territory immediately and in any case before 4 October 1969,

Noting the report of the Secretary-General^{1/} submitted in pursuance of Security Council resolution 269 (1969) concerning the situation in Namibia,

1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Namibia to self-determination and independence in conformity with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the legitimacy of their struggle against the foreign occupation of their country;

2. Condemns the Government of South Africa for its persistent refusal to withdraw its administration from Namibia and in particular its defiance of paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 269 (1969);

3. Draws the attention of the Security Council to the deteriorating situation which has arisen as a result of the refusal of South African authorities to comply with Security Council resolution 269 (1969).
