



Eighteenth session  
Agenda item 30

THE POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA:  
REPORTS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE  
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AND REPLIES BY MEMBER STATES  
UNDER GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 1761 (XVII)

Report of the Special Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mrs. Huguette ACHARD (Dahomey)

1. At the 381st meeting of the Special Political Committee, on 10 October 1963, during the course of the Committee's general debate on the question of the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa, a joint draft resolution (A/SPC/L.96) was submitted by fifty-five delegations, with the request that it be considered by the Committee at once as a matter of urgency.
2. The delegations co-sponsoring the draft resolution were the following:  
Afghanistan, Algeria, Burma, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Cyprus, Dahomey, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tanganyika, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Republic, Upper Volta and Yemen. Under its operative paragraphs, the General Assembly would condemn the Government of the Republic of South Africa for its non-observance of the repeated resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council calling upon it to put an end to the repression of persons opposing apartheid, and request it to abandon the arbitrary trial which was in progress and forthwith to grant unconditional release to all political prisoners and to all persons imprisoned, interned, or subjected to other

restrictions for having opposed the policy of apartheid. It would also request all Member States to make all the necessary efforts to persuade the Government of the Republic of South Africa to ensure that the provisions of the preceding paragraph were put into effect, and request the Secretary-General to report, as soon as possible at the present session, to the General Assembly and to the Security Council on the application of the resolution.

3. The Committee agreed to waive the application, in the special circumstances, of rule 121 of the rules of procedure and to proceed at once to the consideration of the draft resolution.

4. Following a suspension of the meeting, the representative of India announced that the co-sponsors had agreed, taking into consideration suggestions made by the representative of Norway, to revise the last paragraph of the preamble to read "thereby further disturbing international peace and security" instead of "thereby further dangerously increasing the threat to international peace and security".

5. The Committee then voted on the joint draft resolution as revised and adopted it by a roll-call vote of 87 to 1, with 9 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Tanganyika, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: Portugal.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

6. The Committee further agreed, without objection, that the draft resolution which it had just adopted as a matter of urgency should be presented to the plenary meeting of the General Assembly the following morning.

Recommendation of the Special Political Committee

7. The Special Political Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Recalling resolution 1761 (XVII) of 6 November 1962,

Recalling the Security Council resolution of 9 August 1963 (S/5386), which called upon the Government of South Africa "to liberate all persons imprisoned, interned or subjected to other restrictions for having opposed the policy of apartheid",

Taking note of the reports of the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa, which stress the fact that the harsh repressive measures instituted by the Government of South Africa frustrate the possibilities for peaceful settlement, enhance hostility among the racial groups, and precipitate a violent conflict,

Considering reports to the effect that the Government of the Republic of South Africa is arranging the trial of a large number of political prisoners under arbitrary laws prescribing the death sentence,

Considering that such a trial will inevitably lead to a further deterioration in the already explosive situation in South Africa, thereby further disturbing international peace and security,

1. Condemns the Government of the Republic of South Africa for its failure to comply with the repeated resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council calling for an end to the repression of persons opposing apartheid;

2. Requests the Government of the Republic of South Africa to abandon the arbitrary trial now in progress and forthwith to grant unconditional release to all political prisoners and to all persons imprisoned, interned or subjected to other restrictions for having opposed the policy of apartheid;

3. Requests all Member States to make all necessary efforts to induce the Government of the Republic of South Africa to ensure that the provisions of paragraph 2 above are put into effect immediately;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly and the Security Council, as soon as possible during the eighteenth session, on the implementation of this resolution.

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