



Twentieth session
Agenda item 23

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

(covering its work during 1965)

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CHAPTER V (part II)

TERRITORIES UNDER PORTUGUESE ADMINISTRATION*

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* This document contains an addendum to the chapter on Territories under Portuguese administration which was previously issued under the symbol A/6000/Add.3(part I). The general introductory chapter of the report of the Special Committee has been issued under the symbol A/6000. Other chapters appear as addenda.

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Introduction

417. On 3 July 1964, the Special Committee adopted a resolution on Territories under Portuguese administration (A/5800/Add.3, para. 352), whereby in paragraph 7 it requested "Sub-Committee I of the Special Committee, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, to study the activities of foreign economic and other interests, which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the granting of independence in the Territories under Portuguese administration".

418. The Rapporteur of Sub-Committee I introduced the Sub-Committee's report (see annex) at the Special Committee's 391st meeting on 27 October 1965. The Special Committee considered the report at its 391st and 392nd meetings on 27 and 28 October 1965.

General Statements by members on the report of Sub-Committee I

419. The representative of the United States of America said that her delegation considered the Sub-Committee's conclusion, in paragraph 275 (f) of its report, that foreign interests were impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the granting of independence in the Territories under Portuguese administration, to be a distorted finding, since it was based on only some of the facts and on only some of the relevant considerations.

420. In paragraph 260 of its report the Sub-Committee said that in order to make a full assessment it was necessary to take into account the nature of the Portuguese colonial system. In her delegation's view, it was equally necessary to consider the nature of the process of economic development. If the Sub-Committee had considered the role of foreign economic interests in providing the social overhead capital on which further economic development of the Territories depended, and if it had considered the effect which the contributions made by the firms had on the welfare of the inhabitants, it might then have been able to make the full and balanced assessment of the activities of foreign economic interests which its report purported to be. The Sub-Committee had chosen, however, to ignore that important aspect of foreign investment, although it was not unaware of the