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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES:
REPORTS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE: COOK ISLANDS

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE
SUPERVISION OF THE ELECTIONS IN THE COOK ISLANDS

Report of the Fourth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. K. NATWAR SINGH (India)

1. The General Assembly, by resolution 2005 (XIX) of 18 February 1965, authorized the supervision by the United Nations of the elections to be held in the Cook Islands in April 1965 and authorized the Secretary-General to appoint a United Nations Representative who would supervise those elections with the assistance of the necessary observers and staff and observe the proceedings concerning the Constitution in the newly elected Legislative Assembly. Under the terms of the resolution, the United Nations Representative was to report to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to the General Assembly at its twentieth session.
2. At its 1336th plenary meeting, on 24 September 1965, the General Assembly included in its agenda and allocated to the Fourth Committee item 23 (Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: reports 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) and item 24 (Report of the United Nations Representative for the Supervision of the Elections in the Cook Islands). At the same meeting, the

General Assembly decided that item 23, in its general aspects, should be allocated to plenary meetings, and that the chapters of the Special Committee's reports on specific Territories, including those on the Cook Islands, should be referred to the Fourth Committee.

3. At its 1517th meeting, on 28 September 1965, the Fourth Committee decided to consider the chapters of the reports of the Special Committee relating to the Cook Islands (A/5800/Add.6, chapter XV; A/6000/Add.6) jointly with the item concerning the report of the United Nations Representative for the Supervision of the Elections in the Cook Islands (A/5962 and Corr.1).

4. The Fourth Committee considered the two items at its 1560th to 1563rd meetings, from 17 to 19 November, and at its 1579th to 1581st meetings, on 8 and 9 December.

5. At the 1560th meeting, on 17 November, the United Nations Representative for the Supervision of the Elections in the Cook Islands presented his report to the Fourth Committee (A/5962 and Corr.1). At the same meeting, 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 chapters of the reports of that Committee concerning the Cook Islands (A/5800/Add.6, chapter XV; A/6000/Add.6).

6. The Fourth Committee also had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/5961) containing the letter dated 13 August 1965, addressed to him by the Permanent Representative of New Zealand, which concerned constitutional developments in the Cook Islands subsequent to the elections which took place on 20 April 1965.

7. The general debate on the items took place at the 1560th to 1563rd meetings, from 17 to 19 November.

8. At the 1579th meeting, on 8 December, the representatives of Togo and Pakistan introduced a draft resolution, which was finally sponsored by Congo (Democratic Republic of), Guinea, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Rwanda, Togo and Zambia (A/C.4/L.811/Rev.1 and Corr.1 and Add.1). The operative paragraphs of this draft resolution read as follows:

"1. Approves the chapters of the reports 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 concerning the Cook Islands;

"2. Notes the findings and conclusions of the United Nations Representative for the Supervision of the Elections in the Cook Islands and expresses its high appreciation to the Representative and his staff;

"3. Notes that the Constitution of the Cook Islands came into force on 4 August 1965, from which date the Cook Islanders have had control of their internal affairs and of their future;

"4. Reaffirms the responsibility of the United Nations under General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) to assist the people of the Cook Islands in the eventual achievement of full independence, if they so wish, at a future date."

9. At the same meeting, Ghana submitted an amendment (A/C.4/L.815) to the draft resolution to delete from operative paragraph 3 the words "from which date the Cook Islanders have had control of their internal affairs and of their future".

10. The Committee decided that the statement made by the representative of Ghana introducing his delegation's amendment (A/C.4/662) and the statement made by the representative of New Zealand in reply (A/C.4/663) to the statement of the representative of Ghana, should be circulated as Committee documents.

11. At the same meeting, Liberia submitted the following amendments (A/C.4/L.816) to the draft resolution:

"1. Insert, as operative paragraph 3, the following:

'Expresses its appreciation of the co-operation extended to the United Nations by the New Zealand Government in the study of the question of the Cook Islands;'

"2. Number as operative paragraph 4 the present operative paragraph 3.

"3. Insert as operative paragraph 5, the following:

'Considers that since the Cook Islands have attained full internal self-government, the transmission of information in respect of the Cook Islands under Article 73 e of the Charter is no longer necessary;'

"4. Number as operative paragraph 6 the present operative paragraph 4.

"5. Add as operative paragraph 7 the following:

'Expresses the hope that the United Nations Development Programme and the specialized agencies will endeavour to contribute in every way possible to the development and strengthening of the economy of the Cook Islands.'

12. The draft resolution (A/C.4/L.811/Rev.1 and Corr.1 and Add.1) and the amendments thereto by Ghana (A/C.4/L.815) and by Liberia (A/C.4/L.816) were voted upon at the 1580th meeting, on 8 December, as follows:

The amendment proposed by Ghana to operative paragraph 3 was rejected by a roll-call vote of 29 to 28, with 43 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republics, Cameroon, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Ghana, Hungary, Kenya, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Ceylon, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Liberia, Malaysia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Niger, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierre Leone, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela.

The amendments proposed by Liberia were voted upon as follows:

(a) The first amendment was adopted by 78 votes to one, with 20 abstentions.

(b) The third amendment was adopted by a roll-call vote of 49 to 17, with

34 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Ceylon, China, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, Greece, Guinea, India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republics, Congo (Brazzaville), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, Hungary, Kenya, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Sudan, Syria, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yemen.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Burma, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dahomey, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Tunisia, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

(c) The fifth amendment was adopted by 76 votes to none, with 23 abstentions.

(d) The second and fourth amendments, containing consequential amendments, were adopted without objection.

Operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.811/Rev.1 and Corr.1¹ and Add.1) was adopted by a roll-call vote of 65 to 16, with 18 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Congo (Brazzaville), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, Hungary, Kenya, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen.

Abstaining: Algeria, Burma, Cameroon, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cyprus, Dahomey, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Portugal, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Republic, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution was adopted by 86 votes to 4, with 6 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole, as amended, (A/C.4/L.811/Rev.1 and Corr.1 and Add.1), was adopted by a roll-call vote of 76 to none, with 24 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dahomey, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Algeria, Australia, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Congo (Brazzaville), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, Ghana, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE

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

Question of the Cook Islands

The General Assembly,

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

Recalling its resolution 2005 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 authorizing the Secretary-General to appoint a United Nations representative to supervise the elections to be held in the Cook Islands under New Zealand administration and to observe the proceedings concerning the Constitution in the newly elected Legislative Assembly,

Having examined the chapters of the reports 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 relating to the Cook Islands, including the statements made in the Special Committee by the Premier of the Cook Islands,^{1/}

Having considered the report of the United Nations Representative for the Supervision of the Elections in the Cook Islands and the information on subsequent developments,^{2/}

Having heard the statements made by the United Nations Representative and the representative of New Zealand,

Noting that, under the Constitution which came into force on 4 August 1965, the people of the Cook Islands have reserved their right to move to a status of complete independence,

1. Approves the chapters of the reports 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 concerning the Cook Islands;

2. Notes the findings and conclusions of the United Nations Representative for the Supervision of Elections in the Cook Islands and expresses its high appreciation to the Representative and his staff;

3. Expresses its appreciation of the co-operation extended to the United Nations by the New Zealand Government in the study of the question of the Cook Islands;

4. Notes that the Constitution of the Cook Islands came into force on 4 August 1965, from which date the Cook Islanders have had control of their internal affairs and of their future;

5. Considers that since the Cook Islands have attained full internal self-government, the transmission of information in respect of the Cook Islands under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations is no longer necessary;

6. Reaffirms the responsibility of the United Nations under General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), to assist the people of the Cook Islands in the eventual achievement of full independence, if they so wish, at a future date;

7. Expresses the hope that the United Nations Development Programme and the specialized agencies will endeavour to contribute in every way possible to the development and strengthening of the economy of the Cook Islands.
