



Twenty-first 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 1966)

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CHAPTER II

MEETINGS HELD IN AFRICA

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## INTRODUCTION

1. In its report to the General Assembly at its twentieth session, the Special Committee envisaged, as part of its programme for 1966, the possibility of holding another series of meetings in Africa during that year, in view of the great importance of the work that its previous visits to Africa had enabled it to carry out. This programme was approved by the General Assembly in operative paragraph 7 of resolution 2105 (XX). Within the context of the programme thus approved, the Governments of the United Republic of Tanzania, the United Arab Republic, Ethiopia, Somalia and Algeria extended invitations to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/147-150 and 152) to hold meetings at their respective capitals during 1966.
2. During the discussions on the organization of work which took place at its meetings held between 8 March and 6 May 1966, a wide measure of support was expressed by members of the Special Committee for the holding of a series of meetings in Africa. Several members expressed the view that the holding of such meetings would enable the members of the Committee to study closely the situation in certain Territories, the attitudes of the administering Powers concerned and the extent to which the provisions of previous resolutions had been implemented. It would, moreover, facilitate the appearance before the Committee of petitioners who would otherwise find it impossible to travel to New York.
3. At its 406th meeting on 4 April 1966, the Special Committee considered and, after discussion, approved, by 20 votes to none with 3 abstentions, a recommendation in this regard which was contained in the twenty-second report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.265/Rev.1). By approving this recommendation, the Committee decided to hold a series of meetings in Africa during 1966 and to travel to Africa for that purpose not later than the middle of May.
4. At its 408th and 409th meetings on 26 April, the Special Committee considered further recommendations on the subject which were contained in the twenty-third and twenty-fourth reports of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.270 and 275). The Committee also had before it a report by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of the Working Group's recommendations (A/AC.109/L.271). The Committee at its 409th meeting decided to adopt the reports of the Working Group, on