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QUESTION OF TERRITORIES UNDER PORTUGUESE ADMINISTRATION

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/9100.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 2084th plenary meeting, on 14 November 1972, the General Assembly adopted resolution 2918 (XXVII), the operative paragraphs of which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

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"1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the peoples of Angola, Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde and Mozambique and other Territories under Portuguese domination to self-determination and independence, as recognized by the General Assembly in its resolution 1514 (XV), and the legitimacy of their struggle to achieve that right;

"2. Affirms that the national liberation movements of Angola, Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde and Mozambique are the authentic representatives of the true aspirations of the peoples of those Territories and recommends that, pending the accession of those Territories to independence, all Governments, the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system and the United Nations bodies concerned should, when dealing with matters pertaining to the Territories, ensure the representation of those Territories by the liberation movements concerned in an appropriate capacity and in consultation with the Organization of African Unity;

"3. Deems it imperative that negotiations should be initiated at an early date between the Government of Portugal and the national liberation movements referred to above with a view to the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples with respect to Angola, Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde and Mozambique, particularly in order to bring about the following as a matter of priority:

(a) The immediate cessation by Portugal of its colonial wars and all acts of repression against the peoples of Angola, Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde and Mozambique, the withdrawal of its military and other forces and the elimination of all practices which violate the inalienable rights of those populations, including the eviction and regrouping of the African populations and the settlement of foreign immigrants in the Territories;

(b) The just treatment of the freedom-fighters of Angola, Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde and Mozambique captured during the struggle for freedom as prisoners of war, in accordance with the principles of the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, of 12 August 1949, 1/

1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 972, p. 135.

and in compliance with the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949; 2/

"4. Appeals to all Governments, the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to render to the peoples of Angola, Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde and Mozambique, in particular the populations in the liberated areas of those Territories, all the moral and material assistance necessary to continue their struggle for the achievement of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence;

"5. Requests all Governments, particularly those members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization which continue to render assistance to Portugal, to withdraw any assistance that enables Portugal to prosecute the colonial war in Angola, Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde and Mozambique, and to prevent the sale or supply of weapons, military equipment and material to the Government of Portugal, as well as all supplies, equipment and material for the manufacture or maintenance of weapons and ammunition that it uses to perpetuate its colonial domination in Africa;

"6. Calls upon all States to take forthwith all possible measures to put an end to any activities that help to exploit the Territories under Portuguese domination and the peoples therein and to discourage their nationals and bodies corporate under their jurisdiction from entering into any transactions or arrangements that contribute to Portugal's domination over those Territories and impede the implementation of the Declaration with respect to them;

"7. Recommends that, in the event of the non-compliance by the Government of Portugal with the provisions of paragraph 3 above, the Security Council should urgently consider taking all effective steps with a view to securing the full and speedy implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and of the related decisions of the Council;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of the present resolution, in particular to provide such assistance as may be necessary with respect to the negotiations referred to in paragraph 3 above, and to report thereon, as appropriate, to the General Assembly and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

"9. Commends the Special Committee for the work it has accomplished during the year, particularly through the dispatch of the Special Mission to Guinea (Bissau), and requests it to continue to seek the best ways and means of effectively assisting in the achievement by the peoples of the Territories under Portuguese domination of the goals set forth in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Charter of the United Nations."

2/ Ibid., No. 973, p. 287.

2. In accordance with the request addressed to him in paragraph 8, the Secretary-General, in transmitting the text of the resolution, requested Governments to furnish information on steps taken or envisaged by them in the implementation of the various provisions of the resolution.

3. Having regard to the request addressed to him in the same paragraph concerning the provision of assistance with respect to the negotiations referred to in paragraph 3 of the resolution, the Secretary-General, in a letter dated 20 November 1972, addressed to the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations, stated, inter alia, as follows:

"In transmitting the text of the resolution, I wish to draw the particular attention of your Government to operative paragraphs 3 and 8 thereof.

"With regard to the request addressed to me by the General Assembly in operative paragraph 8 of the resolution, I stand ready to provide such assistance as may be necessary and would appreciate receiving any comments which your Government may have in that connexion."

4. The substantive portions of the replies received from Governments are reproduced below. Any further replies will be issued as addenda to the present document.

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II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

BHUTAN

/Original: English/
9 January 1973

The Royal Government of Bhutan have always supported the inalienable right of the peoples of Angola, Guinea (Bissau), Cape Verde, Mozambique and other Territories under Portuguese domination to self-determination and independence as recognized by the General Assembly in its resolution 1514 (XV). The Royal Government of Bhutan consider the national liberation movements of Angola, Guinea (Bissau), Cape Verde and Mozambique as the authentic representatives of the true aspirations of the peoples of those Territories and have always extended their moral support to the peoples of these Territories struggling for self-determination and independence. Bhutan believes that negotiations between the Government of Portugal and the national liberation movements of the above Territories should be initiated as soon as possible with a view to achieving full and speedy Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The Royal Government of Bhutan would be happy to provide such assistance as is possible with respect to the negotiations between the Government of Portugal and the authentic representatives of the national liberation movements of Angola, Guinea (Bissau), Cape Verde and Mozambique.

BURUNDI

/Original: French/
12 February 1973

As a member of the Organization of African Unity, the Republic of Burundi recognizes the liberation movements alone as being entitled and qualified to represent the Territories and peoples under Portuguese domination. Accordingly, whenever it has had to deal with matters relating to these Territories, the Republic of Burundi has always made sure that the liberation movements were represented. This holds true in its bilateral relations with those Territories and within a number of regional and international organizations to which the Republic of Burundi belongs.

Through the Organization of African Unity, the Republic of Burundi is supporting the liberation struggle of the peoples of Angola, Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde and Mozambique by means of sizable and regular contributions to the African Liberation Fund.

As long ago as 1963, the Republic of Burundi took boycott action against Portugal by undertaking to refrain from importing or exporting any products, merchandise or footstuffs from or to Portugal and South Africa. Ministerial Order No. 020/320 of 9 November 1963 (see below), under which boycott action was

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instituted against both those countries, remains in force and is applied strictly. Thus, the Republic of Burundi has no trade in weapons, matériel and military equipment with the Portuguese Government and prohibits its nationals and companies established in its territory from engaging in any business activity which might serve to exploit the Territories and peoples under Portuguese domination.

Ministerial Order No. 020/320 of 9 November 1963

The Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade;

Having regard to article 55 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Burundi concerning ministerial responsibility;

Having regard to the preamble of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Burundi affirming its faith in the high dignity of the human person and its determination to guarantee fundamental human rights;

Faithful to the principles defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and solemnly proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations;

Imbued with the spirit that inspired the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, particularly articles II and III thereof which establish the principles of solidarity and absolute devotion to the cause of total emancipation of the African peoples and proclaiming its faith in the ideal of justice and the dignity of the African personality;

Considering that, notwithstanding the condemnations by the United Nations, these countries continue to endorse racial discrimination, persecution and exploitation of the black man on his own soil;

Convinced that this intransigent attitude constitutes a serious threat to peace and an intolerable interference in African affairs;

Persuaded that the only way to eradicate the vestiges of discrimination in general and apartheid in particular is to oppose by all possible means the pernicious activities and growth of these particularly hateful colonial systems;

Whereas boycott action in the form of punitive sanctions must be taken against both these countries equally;

Having regard to the welfare of Africa in general and of Burundi in particular;

Having regard to the gravity and urgency of the situation;

Taking into account the opinion of all the Ministers in Council assembled;

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Hereby orders:

Art. 1. The Kingdom of Burundi shall not establish any diplomatic or consular relations with the State of Portugal or the Republic of South Africa.

Art. 2. The Kingdom of Burundi undertakes to put an end to such economic and trade relations as may exist with these two countries. To that end, it shall refrain from importing or exporting any products, merchandise or foodstuffs from or to these countries.

Art. 3. Access to the Kingdom shall be barred to all aircraft registered in either of these countries, it being understood that the ban shall apply to over-flights and landings by all aircraft bearing the markings, colours, or national insignia of either of these countries.

Art. 4. Vessels sailing under the flag of either of these countries shall be barred from entering the territorial waters of the Kingdom. They shall be denied the right of free entry into and mooring in the internal waterways and ports of the Kingdom.

Art. 5. All nationals of these countries shall be prohibited from travelling or residing in the territory of the Kingdom. Entrance visas shall be refused to any men or women nationals of these countries who may apply for them. Nevertheless, this ban shall not extend to nationals of these same countries who were already settled in the territory of Burundi on the date of issue of this Order, and also all those who may subsequently flee from the régimes denounced above.

Art. 6. These provisions shall remain in force as long as the countries concerned have not changed their African policy.

Art. 7. This Order shall take effect immediately.

Done at Bujumbura, on 9 November 1963

Pierre NGENDANDUMWE
Prime Minister and Acting Minister for
Foreign Affairs and External Trade

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CUBA

/Original: Spanish/
13 February 1973

The Revolutionary Government of Cuba fully supports the provisions of resolution 2918 (XXVII). Cuba provides the peoples of the colonial Territories with all the moral and material assistance of which it is capable for the purpose of achieving their liberation and independence. Cuba does not and will not provide the Government of Portugal with assistance which might contribute to the execution of its colonial policy against the peoples of Angola, Mozambique and Guinea (Bissau).

CYPRUS

/Original: English/
21 December 1972

The position of the Government of Cyprus regarding the struggle of the peoples of these Territories for self-determination, is as stated in United Nations documents A/8348 and A/8758.

HUNGARY

/Original: English/
9 March 1973

On the basis of principles of its foreign policy, the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic supports the efforts to the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

The activity of the Hungarian Government in the United Nations and specialized agencies and other organization within the United Nations system is determined by these principles.

In conformity with resolution 2918 (XXVII) concerning Territories under Portuguese administration, adopted by the General Assembly on 14 November 1972, the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic expresses its full solidarity with the national liberation movements of Angola, Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde and Mozambique.

In compliance with resolutions adopted by the Security Council and the General Assembly, the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic declares that it does not intend in the future either to enter into such relations with the Portuguese Government as might enable Portugal in any way to continue the exploitation of the peoples of the Territories under its administration and repression by economic, military or any other means.

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JAPAN

/Original: English/
5 June 1973

As was mentioned in the general statement made by the Chairman of the Japanese delegation at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly on 27 September 1972 as well as the statement on this question made by the Japanese representative in the Fourth Committee on 13 October 1972, Japan entertains profound sympathy for the aspirations of the peoples of Territories under Portuguese administration and has a full understanding of the sincere endeavours which they have been making towards the goal of achieving self-determination. Having the foregoing as its basic position, my country regrets the attitude of the Government of Portugal which has continued to ignore the resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly and hopes that the Government of Portugal will fully implement the relevant United Nations resolutions including in particular the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Japan has consistently maintained the policy of not granting approval for the sale or supply to the Government of Portugal of arms, military equipment or materials which may be used for the repression of the peoples in Territories under its administration. With regard to investment as well, the steps taken by Japan for the liberalization of direct overseas investment have specifically excluded the application of such liberalization to southern Africa. Furthermore, Japan has extended assistance to the peoples of these areas through the relevant channels of the United Nations such as the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa. With regard to the said Programme, Japan's annual contribution which previously amounted to \$US 20,000 has been very substantially increased beginning in the current fiscal year, and on 21 March this year the pledging for its contribution of \$US 80,000 was made on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Japan believes that every effort should be made for the peaceful settlement of the question of Territories under Portuguese administration, and in this belief, it hopes that the Government of Portugal will make every effort for the settlement of the question by taking heed to resolution 2918 (XXVII) which deems it imperative for the Government of Portugal to enter into negotiations with the national liberation movements concerned, while on its part, Japan is determined to continue as well as to strengthen its endeavours for the settlement of the question.

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OMAN

/Original: English/
11 June 1973

The Government of Oman has supported and voted in favour of General Assembly resolution 2918 (XXVII). The Government of Oman's vote was guided by its policy and firm conviction in the inalienable rights of all peoples to self-determination and independence. Time and again the Government has expressed deep sympathy with the peoples of southern Africa struggling for independence from colonial rule.

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos, in his National Day address to the nation in November 1972, said that "Oman stands by African causes and supports their struggle for freedom and independence". The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Sayyid Fahad Al-Said, participating in the general debate of the General Assembly declared that his Government's policy with regard to the situation in southern Africa was based upon complete support of the principle of self-determination for African peoples and their right to freedom and independence.

The Government of Oman has all along honestly maintained and pursued this policy. This is manifested in the fact that Oman does not have diplomatic, consular or any official relations with Portugal. In compliance with another resolution of the General Assembly, resolution 2911 (XXVII), the Government has made arrangements for a special broadcast on the radio throughout the Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa and Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Equal Rights to give wider publicity to the African cause. For the same purpose, articles will also be published in the local press. In short, the Government will do everything possible within its limited means to develop moral and material support among all sections of the public in the country.
