



Twenty-first session  
Agenda item 23

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF  
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

FRENCH SOMALILAND

Report of the Fourth Committee

Rapporteur: Dr. Mohsen Sadigh ESFANDIARY (Iran)

1. At its 162nd meeting, on 21 September 1966, the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of an item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: 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". At its 163rd meeting, on 22 September, the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the allocation to the Fourth Committee of all of the chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to specific Territories.
2. At its 1415th plenary meeting, on 24 September, the General Assembly, by adopting the recommendations of the General Committee, included the item in its agenda and allocated to the Fourth Committee those chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to specific Territories.
3. At its 1630th meeting, on 9 November, the Fourth Committee decided to consider separately the chapter of the report of the Special Committee relating to French Somaliland (A/6300/Add.8, chapter XII).
4. The Fourth Committee considered this item at its 1657th, 1663rd, 1664th, 1666th and 1667th meetings, between 6 and 12 December.

5. At the 1657th meeting, on 6 December, 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 report of that Committee concerning French Somaliland (A/6300/Add.8, chapter XII).

6. During the consideration of this item, the Committee had before it the following communications concerning French Somaliland, received by the Secretary-General:

(a) Letters dated 30 August and 6 December 1966 from the Permanent Representative of Somalia (A/6401 and A/6558);

(b) Letters dated 29 November and 9 December 1966 from the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia (A/6538 and Add.1).

7. In connexion with the consideration of this item, the Committee, at its 1644th meeting, on 28 November, decided to grant a request for a hearing to the following:

Mr. Ali Ahmed Udun and Mr. Abdurahman Ahmed Hassan Gabot (former members of the Territorial Assembly of French Somaliland), Mr. Mohamed Dahan, Assistant General Secretary, Mr. Ibrahim Dahir Egeh, Branch Secretary, and Mr. Omar Aboubakar, Liberation Front of the French Somali Coast (FLCS) (A/C.4/676).

The petitioners did not appear before the Committee.<sup>1/</sup>

8. At the 1663rd meeting, on 9 December, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania introduced a draft resolution, which was finally sponsored by Afghanistan, Ceylon, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Syria, the United Arab Republic, the United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen and Zambia (A/C.4/L.847/Rev.1 and Corr.1).

9. At the 1666th meeting, on 12 December, the representative of the Secretary-General, in accordance with rule 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, made a statement concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

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<sup>1/</sup> These petitioners were heard by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, at its 470th and 471st meetings, on 6 and 10 October 1966. An account of the hearings is contained in the report of the Special Committee (A/6300/Add.8, chapter XII, section III A).

10. At the same meeting, the Fourth Committee voted on the twenty-Power draft resolution (A/C.4/L.847/Rev.1 and Corr.1), as follows:

Operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution was adopted by a roll-call vote of 70 to 2, with 32 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Ceylon, Chile, China, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives Islands, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Portugal, South Africa.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Dahomey, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Spain, Togo, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The draft resolution as a whole (A/C.4/L.847/Rev.1 and Corr.1) was adopted by a roll-call vote of 87 to 1, with 16 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives Islands, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Portugal.

Abstaining: Belgium, Central African Republic, Chad, Dahomey, Gabon, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Netherlands, Niger, Senegal, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE

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

Question of French Somaliland

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of French Somaliland (Djibouti),

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

Having considered the chapter of the report of the Special Committee with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to French Somaliland (Djibouti),<sup>2/</sup>

Noting the decision taken by the third ordinary session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Addis Ababa, from 5 to 9 November 1966,

Having noted the recent political developments in the Territory and the subsequent announcement made by the administering Power that a referendum will be held in the Territory before July 1967 to enable the people to decide their political future,

1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of French Somaliland (Djibouti) to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. Calls upon the administering Power to ensure that the right of self-determination shall be freely expressed and exercised by the indigenous inhabitants of the Territory on the basis of universal adult suffrage and with full respect for fundamental human rights and freedoms;

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<sup>2/</sup> A/6300/Add.8, chapter XII.

3. Urges the administering Power to create a proper political climate for a referendum to be conducted on an entirely free and democratic basis;

4. Requests the administering Power, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to make appropriate arrangements for a United Nations presence before, and supervision during, the holding of the referendum;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to the administering Power and to report on its implementation 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;

6. Decides to retain the question of French Somaliland (Djibouti) on its agenda.

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