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# UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Distr. GENERAL

A/7320 13 November 1968

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-third session Agenda item 68

ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH ARE IMPEDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA, NAMIBIA AND TERRITORIES UNDER PORTUGUESE DOMINATION AND IN ALL OTHER TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL DOMINATION AND EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE COLONIALISM, <u>APARTHEID</u> AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

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

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ANNEX: REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE I\*

\* To be issued under the symbol A/7320/Add.l.

68-25727

### INTRODUCTION

During 1964, the Special Committee, in accordance with operative paragraph 81. of General Assembly resolution 1899 (XVIII) of 13 November 1963, considered the implications of the activities of the mining industry and other international companies having interests in South West Africa, in order to assess their economic and political influence and their mode of operation, and submitted a report thereon to the General Assembly at its nineteenth session.<sup> $\pm/$ </sup> Further, during 1965 and 1966 the Special Committee, pursuant to a decision taken by it in 1964, undertook a study of the activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in the Territories under Portuguese administration and submitted reports thereon to the General Assembly at its twentieth and twenty-first sessions.<sup>2/</sup> Moreover, during 1966 the Special Committee, pursuant to a decision taken by it the previous year, studied the activities of foreign economic and other interests in Southern Rhodesia and their mode of operation in order to assess their economic and poiitical influence, and submitted a report thereon to the General Assembly at its twenty-first session.2/ In the chapters of its report to the General Assembly at its twenty-first 2. session concerning the two last-named items, the Special Committee recommended that the General Assembly should inscribe on its agenda for that session, as a matter of urgency, an item entitled:

"The activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence in Southern Rhodesia, South West Africa, the Territories under Portuguese administration and other colonial Territories".

3. On 12 December 1966, following its consideration of the report of the Special Committee, the General Assembly by resolution 2189 (XXI) decided, <u>inter alia</u>, to

- <u>1</u>/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, annex No. 15 (A/5840).
- <u>2</u>/ <u>Ibid.</u>, <u>Twentieth Session</u>, <u>Annexes</u>, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/6000/Rev.1), chapter V, section D; <u>ibid.</u>, <u>Twenty-first Session</u>, <u>Annexes</u>, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/6300/Rev.1), chapter V, part II.
- 3/ A/6300/Rev.1, chapter III (part II).

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include in the provisional agenda of the twenty-second session an item entitled "Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Southern Rhodesia, South West Africa and Territories under Portuguese domination and in all other Territories under colonial domination". During 1967, in order to facilitate the consideration by the General Assembly 4. of the item referred to in paragraph 3 above, the Special Committee undertook a study of "Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Southern Rhodesia, South West Africa and Territories under Portuguese domination and in all other Territories under colonial domination", and submitted a report to the Assembly at its twenty-second session.4/Following its consideration of the above-mentioned report of the Special 5. Committee, the General Assembly adopted resolution 2288 (XXII) of 7 December 1967 concerning activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Southern Rhodesia, South West Africa and Territories under Portuguese domination and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa. By operative paragraph 12 of that resolution, the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to continue its study of the problem and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session".

6. At its 594th meeting, on 1 April 1968, the Special Committee, by approving the thirty-fourth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.454/Rev.1), decided to refer to its Sub-Committee I for consideration and report the item entitled "Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Ind+pendence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and Territories under Portuguese domination and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid, and racial discrimination in southern Africa".

7. Sub-Committee I considered the item at its meetings held between 16 September and 4 October. During its consideration of the item, the Sub-Committee had before

4/ A/6868 and Add.l.

it working papers prepared by the Secretariat at the request of the Sub-Committee on economic conditions with particular reference to foreign economic interests in a number of Territories, as well as extracts from statements concerning this question made by petitioners who appeared before the Fourth Committee in 1967 and the Special Committee in 1968. An account of the Sub-Committee's consideration of the item, as well as the working papers referred to above, is contained in the annex to the present report ( $\Lambda/7320/Add.1$ ).

## I. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

8. The Special Committee considered the item at its 646th to 648th meetings, between 31 October and 7 November.

9. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2326 (XXII) of 16 December 1967, as well as other resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution 2288 (XXII) of 7 December 1967.

10. At the 646th meeting, on 31 October, the Rapporteur of Sub-Committee I, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/SR.646), introduced the report of that Sub-Committee on this item (see A/7320/Add.1).

11. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Australia and Tunisia, as well as by the Chairman (A/AC.109/SR.646) and, at the 647th meeting, on 4 November, by the representative of the United States of America (A/AC.109/SR.647). 12. At the 648th meeting, on 7 November, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Syria, Australia and the United States of America, as well as by the Chairman (A/AC.109/SR.648). In his statement to the Committee, the representative of Syria, speaking as the Rapporteur of Sub-Committee I, submitted an oral revision to the report, by which, in paragraph 13, sub-paragraph (a), the words "the activities" were replaced by the word "activities", and the phrase "which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples" was inserted between the words "other interests" and "in the remaining dependent Territories". The above-mentioned oral revision was subsequently incorporated in the report of the Sub-Committee.

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13. At the same meeting, the Chairman informed the Special Committee of the receipt of a letter dated 4 November 1968, addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, requesting that the additional information contained therein should be reflected in the working paper annexed to the report of Sub-Committee I. The Committee decided, without objection, to authorize its Rapporteur to take appropriate action on that request. The additional information referred to above was subsequently incorporated in the report of the Sub-Committee.

14. Before proceeding to the vote on the report of the Sub-Committee, as revised, statements in explanation of vote were made at the same meeting by the representatives of Finland, Italy and the Ivory Coast (A/AC.109/SR.648). 15. At the same time, the Special Committee, by a vote of 16 to 3, with 2 abstentions, adopted the report of Sub-Committee I, as revised, and endorsed the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, it being understood that the reservations expressed by certain members would be reflected in the record of the meeting.

16. Statements were made by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania and, in explanation of his vote, by the representative of the United Kingdom (A/AC.109/SR.648).

17. The conclusions and recommendations mentioned in paragraph 15 above are set out in section II below.

# II. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

# Conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 648th meeting on 7 November 1968

#### CONCLUSIONS

18. Following its conciseration of this item, the Special Committee adopted the following conclusions:

(1) Despite the condemnation by the General Assembly of the activities of foreign monopolies in colonial Territories impeding the progress towards selfdetermination and independence, the countries whose companies and nationals are in such activities have done nothing to implement the Assembly's recommendations. No

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legislative, administrative or other measures have been taken to restrain the activities of those interests; indeed, as can be ascertained from the supplementary information provided by the Secretariat of the United Nations, further consolidation and expansion have taken place in the processes of exploitation which deprive the people of the natural resources needed for a viable independence. The information submitted by the Secretariat confirms the conclusions reached by the Special Committee in its previous report on this question (A/6868/Add.1).

(2) The Special Committee's study proves that foreign economic and other interests operating in the way they are at present in colonial Territories constitute a major obstacle standing in the way of political independence, as well as of social and economic justice. As already described in the last report of the Special Committee, foreign monopolies continue to follow economic and financial policies detrimental to the Territories' genuine interests: they continue to develop only those economic sectors yielding the highest profits and to manipulate agricultural production with emphasis on export crops, thus reducing the Territory to the role of supplier of agricultural products and raw material to the metropolitan country; they earn high profits because of special privileges granted by the colonial administration, and the pursuance of a policy of racial discrimination, particularly in the Territories of southern Africa; the indigenous labourers continue to receive wages several times lower than non-indigenous workers and have no social security benefits. The monopolies are still able to stifle trade union activities and labour movements. The high profits earned by the foreign monopolies continue to be taken out of the Territories or to remain in the hands of the exploitive minority of foreign settlers and are not used for the improvement of economic and social conditions of colonial peoples.

(3) In the large African Territories of Southern Rhodesia, Namibia, Angola and Mozambique, foreign monopolies have been able to increase their profits. Even the application of the economic sanctions proclaimed against the racist régime in Southern Rhodesia has been undermined. The continued study of conditions in colonial Territories shows the great extent of community of interests between the colonial Governments and big international monopolies. The political economic and social policies and institutions established by colonial régimes in the Territories are geared to ensure more concessions and privileges for the monopolies

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and to use the indigenous inhabitants as a source of cheap labour. The indigenous populations of the Territories continue to scratch off their meagre subsistence at the mercy of their foreign oppressors, deprived of labour and social rights, and of medical protection. In return the monopolies supply the colonial régimes with funds and other forms of assistance, including the military assistance needed to crush national liberation movements.

(4) Information on Territories in the Caribbean and Pacific Ocean areas also demonstrates the continuing exploitation of their natural resources by foreign monopolies without fair regard to the legitimate interests of the populations concerned. Whether in the field of agriculture, mining or industry, the same pattern of land alienation and unfair exploitation prevails. While foreign companies enjoy the special privileges granted by the administering Powers, the indigenous inhabitants are deprived of their countries' fertile lands and suffer the indignities of economic inferiority and social injustice.

(5) The Special Committee concludes with deep regret that the colonial Powers have not implemented, even in a preliminary way, resolution 2288 (XXII) of the General Assembly. By ignoring this resolution, they have added to the obstacles standing in the way of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

19. The Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly that it:

(1) Decide to continue to examine this question in order to determine further effective ways and means for restraining activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in the remaining dependent Territories, with a view to their cessation.

(2) Request the Special Committee to formulate appropriate recommendations in this regard and to submit them to the General Assembly at its next session.

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