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QUESTION OF TERRITORIES UNDER PORTUGUESE ADMINISTRATION

Report of the Fourth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. James E.K. AGGREY-ORLEANS (Ghana)

1. At its 1676th plenary meeting, on 27 September 1968, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee (A/7250), decided to include in the agenda of its twenty-third session an item entitled "Question of Territories under Portuguese administration: 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", and to allocate the item to the Fourth Committee for consideration and report.
2. At the 1772nd meeting of the Fourth Committee, on 25 October, the Rapporteur of the Special Committee introduced the report of that Committee concerning the Territories under Portuguese administration (A/7200/Add.3 and Corr.1).
3. The Fourth Committee considered this item at its 1772nd to 1776th, 1780th, 1782nd to 1788th, 1790th and 1793rd meetings, between 25 October and 20 November.
4. The Committee decided to grant the following requests for hearings on this question:

<u>Petitioner</u>	<u>Meeting at which the request for hearing was granted</u>
Mr. Sharfudine Mohamed Khan, representative <u>Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (FRELIMO)</u> (A/C.4/711)	1772nd
Mr. Albert Bonaparte Nank (A/C.4/711/Add.1) ...	1780th

Subsequently, at its 1772nd meeting, on 25 October, the Committee was informed that Mr. Miguel Murupa, the Deputy Secretary for External Affairs of the Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (FRELIMO) should be included in the request for hearing submitted by Mr. Khan.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee also granted a request by Mr. Khan to show to the Committee two films concerning Mozambique and Guinea (called Portuguese Guinea). The films were shown to the Committee during its 1773rd meeting, on 28 October. At the same meeting the Committee heard a statement by Mr. Murupa. Mr. Khan and Mr. Murupa replied to questions put to them by members at the 1773rd to 1775th meetings, on 28 and 29 October. The other petitioner referred to in paragraph 4 above, Mr. Albert Bonaparte Nank, did not appear before the Committee.

6. The general debate on the item took place at the 1776th, 1780th and 1782nd to 1788th meetings, between 26 October and 13 November.

7. At the 1785th meeting, on 6 November, the representative of Guinea submitted to the Chairman certain photographs concerning the Territories under Portuguese administration and proposed that they be exhibited in the Committee room during the Committee's consideration of the item. At the same meeting, the Committee approved the Guinean proposal. Accordingly, the photographs were exhibited in the Committee room.

8. At the 1790th meeting, on 15 November, the representatives of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and India introduced a draft resolution (A/C.4/L.912 and Add.1), which was finally sponsored by the following Member States: Afghanistan, Algeria, Barbados, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Ceylon, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cyprus, Dahomey, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Laos, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Niger,

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Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Southern Yemen, Sudan, Syria, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

9. At the 1793rd meeting, on 20 November, the representative of Ghana, on behalf of the sponsors, submitted a revised text of the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.912/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1), which contained the following changes:

(a) In the sixth preambular paragraph, the words: "which continues to pose a grave threat to", were replaced by the words "which constitutes a serious disturbance of";

(b) Operative paragraph 2, which is set out below, was deleted and, as a consequence, the original operative paragraphs 3 to 17 were renumbered as new operative paragraphs 2 to 16, respectively:

"2. Approves the chapter of the 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 relating to the Territories under Portuguese domination and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein."

10. At the same meeting, the Secretary-General submitted, in accordance with rule 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, a statement of financial implications (A/C.4/L.913) in connexion with the revised draft resolution.

11. At the same meeting, the Fourth Committee adopted the revised draft resolution (A/C.4/L.912/Rev.1 and Add.1) by a roll-call vote of 96 to 3, with 13 abstentions (see paragraph 12 below). The result of the voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Barbados, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives Islands, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Southern Yemen, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Brazil, Portugal, South Africa.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Ecuador, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE

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

Question of Territories under Portuguese administration

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Territories under Portuguese administration,

Having heard the statements of the petitioners,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling also all the relevant resolutions concerning the Territories under Portuguese administration adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council,

Expressing its profound concern over the persistent refusal of the Government of Portugal to implement the relevant United Nations resolutions,

Gravely concerned about the deteriorating situation in the Territories under Portuguese domination which constitutes a serious disturbance of international peace and security,

Deeply disturbed about the continued and intensified activities of foreign economic, financial and other interests which impede the realization of the legitimate aspirations of the African peoples in those Territories,

Deploring the aid which the Government of Portugal continues to receive from its allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and from other countries, which enables it to pursue its military operations against the African population of those Territories,

Gravely concerned about that Government's constant threats against and violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the independent African States that border the Territories under its domination,

Noting with satisfaction the progress towards national independence and freedom made by the liberation movements in those Territories both through their struggle and through reconstruction programmes,

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1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the peoples of the Territories under Portuguese domination to self-determination, freedom and independence, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and the legitimacy of their struggle to achieve that right;

2. Condemns the persistent refusal of the Government of Portugal to implement resolution 1514 (XV) and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council;

3. Calls upon the Government of Portugal to apply without delay to the peoples of the Territories under its domination the principle of self-determination, freedom and independence in accordance with the provisions and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and of resolution 1514 (XV);

4. Draws the attention of the Security Council to the grave situation in the Territories under Portuguese domination, which has also aggravated the explosive situation in southern Africa;

5. Appeals to all States to grant the peoples of the Territories under Portuguese domination the moral and material assistance necessary for the restoration of their inalienable rights;

6. Reiterates its appeal to all States, and in particular to members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, to withhold any assistance to Portugal which enables it to prosecute the colonial war in the Territories under its domination;

7. Condemns the collaboration between Portugal, the minority racist régime of South Africa and the illegal racist minority régime in Southern Rhodesia, which is designed to perpetuate colonialism and oppression in southern Africa;

8. Condemns the violations by the Government of Portugal of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of independent African States;

9. Urgently appeals to all States to take all measures to prevent the recruitment or training in their territories of any persons as mercenaries for the colonial war being waged in the Territories under Portuguese domination and for violations of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the independent African States;

10. Deplores the policy of the Government of Portugal, which violates the economic and political rights of the indigenous population by the arbitrary eviction of the African population and the settlement of foreign immigrants in the Territories, and calls upon Portugal to cease those practices immediately;

11. Deplores also the activities of the financial interests operating in the Territories under Portuguese domination, which obstruct the struggle of the peoples for self-determination, freedom and independence and which strengthen the military efforts of Portugal;

12. Calls upon the Government of Portugal, in view of the armed conflict prevailing in the Territories and the inhuman treatment of prisoners, to ensure the application to that situation of "the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War of 12 August 1949";^{1/}

13. Expresses its appreciation to the Member States concerned, to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and to the specialized agencies and other international relief organizations concerned for the help they have given so far and invites them to increase their assistance, including health and medical facilities, to the victims of Portuguese colonialism;

14. Invites the Secretary-General, in the light of General Assembly resolution 2349 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and in consultation with the specialized agencies and the host Governments, to develop and expand programmes of training indigenous inhabitants from the Territories under Portuguese domination, taking into account their needs for cadres of civil servants, technical and professional personnel to assume responsibilities for the public administration and the economic and social development of their own countries;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to take such action as he may deem appropriate for the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session;

16. Requests the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to keep the situation in the Territories under review.

^{1/} United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75 (1950), No. 972.