

2. 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 Namibia and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa
and
Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

In considering the item relating to the activities of foreign economic and other interests, the Fourth Committee followed the procedure adopted at its previous sessions on the recommendation of the Special Committee, namely, to consider the chapter of the report of the Committee relating to military activities in conjunction with that item. Following its consideration of the item, which took place between 2 and 10 October 1989, 22/ the Fourth Committee approved the draft text of its recommendations prepared by the Special Committee on these two questions.

During the general debate, the Fourth Committee heard 30 statements by representatives and also heard a statement by a petitioner, Mr. J.A. González-González. 23/

Subsequently, at its 80th plenary meeting, on 11 November, the General Assembly adopted the draft resolution relating to the activities of foreign economic and other interests by a recorded vote of 125 to 10, with 17 abstentions (resolution 44/84). At the same meeting, it adopted the draft decision relating to military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers by a recorded vote of 125 to 12, with 13 abstentions (decision 44/425).

The majority of the speakers viewed the activities of foreign economic and other interests in colonial Territories as a way of denying the right of those peoples to dispose of their natural resources in their best interests. They condemned the activities of transnational corporations which, particularly in Namibia, led to the exploitation of cheap labour and depletion of those resources. They also condemned those activities and considered them to be, particularly in southern Africa and Namibia, one of the main obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration. The continued exploitation of the natural and human resources of colonial Territories was a major obstacle to the realization of the legitimate rights of the population to political independence and racial equality.

The majority of the speakers noted that the relevant decisions of the United Nations continued to be disregarded, and therefore urged the adoption of more decisive measures to put an end to foreign investments detrimental to the peoples of colonial Territories, particularly in Namibia, including the adoption of effective sanctions against South Africa in order to isolate the racist régime. A number of delegations considered that South Africa's collusion with certain Western and other countries in the nuclear field constituted a threat to peace in the region.

As regards military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers, the majority of speakers denounced the military and nuclear collaboration of certain countries with South Africa, as such collaboration prolonged the illegal occupation of Namibia and posed a threat to international peace and security. Many delegations also denounced the use of other Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories, especially small island Territories, for military purposes and called for the dismantlement of all military bases and installations in those Territories as they obstructed the people from achieving their rights.

3. Specific Territories and other related questions

The Fourth Committee considered the remaining items, namely, specific Territories and other related questions, between 10 and 25 October. 24/ A general debate was held covering all of these items, in which 71 delegations participated. The Committee also heard 27 petitioners, whose names are listed below:

<u>Petitioner</u>	<u>Summary record</u>
<u>New Caledonia</u>	
Mr. Kwame M.A. Somburu, Bay Area Anti-Colonial Committee	A/C.4/44/SR.7
Mr. Glenn Alcalay, National Committee for Radiation Victims	A/C.4/44/SR.7
Miss Marcia McBroom Landess, Peace for Our Children's Sake	A/C.4/44/SR.7
Miss Donna Winslow	A/C.4/44/SR.7

<u>Petitioner</u>	<u>Summary record</u>
<u>New Caledonia</u> (continued)	
Mr. Richard P. Stevens, International Organization Against All Forms of Racial Discrimination	A/C.4/44/SR.8
Mr. Yann Céléné Uregei, FULK	A/C.4/44/SR.8
Mr. Rock Wamytan, FLNKS	A/C.4/44/SR.8
Mr. Stephen Collett, Quaker Office at the United Nations	A/C.4/44/SR.11
Mr. Howard Dodson, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture	A/C.4/44/SR.11
Reverend Jesse Jackson, National Rainbow Coalition	A/C.4/44/SR.11
Mr. Percy Sutton, on behalf of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People	A/C.4/44/SR.11
Senator Dick Ukeiwe, on behalf of the Rassemblement pour la République	A/C.4/44/SR.12
Miss Rosemary Mealy, on behalf of the National Alliance of Third World Journalists	A/C.4/44/SR.12
Congressman Donald M. Payne, on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus	A/C.4/44/SR.12
Reverend Bernice Powell, on behalf of the United Church of Christ and the Commission for Racial Justice	A/C.4/44/SR.12
Mr. Charles Scheiner, National Mobilization for Survival	A/C.4/44/SR.12
Mr. Henry J. Boonzaier, Political Consultative Council	A/C.4/44/SR.13

<u>Petitioner</u>	<u>Summary record</u>
<u>New Caledonia (continued)</u>	
Mr. Herb Boyd, Midwest Alliance for Peace	A/C.4/44/SR.13
Mr. Sean Gervasi, Center for Military Research and Analysis	A/C.4/44/SR.13
Mr. Philip A. Johnson, Lutheran World Federation	A/C.4/44/SR.13
Mr. Richard J. Harvey, on behalf of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers	A/C.4/44/SR.13
<u>New Caledonia and Pitcairn</u>	
Mr. J. A. González-González	A/C.4/44/SR.7
<u>United States Virgin Islands</u>	
Mr. Carlyle Corbin, Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee	A/C.4/44/SR.7
Miss Judith L. Bourne, Save Long Bay Coalition, Inc.	A/C.4/44/SR.8
<u>New Caledonia and the United States Virgin Islands</u>	
Mr. Roger Clark, on behalf of the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute	A/C.4/44/SR.8
<u>Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands</u>	
Mr. J. A. González-González	A/C.4/44/SR.8
<u>Western Sahara</u>	
Mr. Mohamed Sidati, Frente POLISARIO	A/C.4/44/SR.9

In the course of the general debate, many delegations underlined their conviction that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population or a lack of resources should not delay the process of self-determination of small island countries. It was the primary responsibility of the administering Powers to promote the political, economic and social progress of the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, to protect their cultural and national heritage and to provide training programmes for their educational advancement.

A number of delegations strongly condemned the continued colonial exploitation and militarization of small island Territories. Many members emphasized that the dispatch of visiting missions was an indispensable means of securing first-hand information on Territories and ascertaining the true aspirations of the peoples thereof concerning their future status; they called for the continued co-operation of the administering Powers concerned in that regard.

The majority of the delegations speaking on the question of Western Sahara supported the joint efforts of the United Nations and OAU aimed at bringing about a peaceful solution to the question. Among the latest positive developments was the appointment of a Special Representative of the Secretary-General, the establishment of the United Nations Technical Commission and the contact between Morocco and the Frente POLISARIO. Although difficulties still remained, they could be overcome if the dialogue already begun was allowed to continue. The mechanism put in place by the Secretary-General could assist the parties to the conflict in discussing various aspects of the referendum. Those parties should display the necessary flexibility and political will to arrive at a peaceful settlement, taking into consideration the desire of the Saharaoui people. Some delegations urged the Fourth Committee to adopt the draft resolution by consensus, thus contributing to the success of the mediation efforts taking place.

In the course of their statements on the question of New Caledonia, many delegations condemned the assassination of two leaders of FLNKS, Jean-Marie Tjiabaou and Yeiwene Yeiwene, and called upon the parties involved to refrain from any acts of violence. They reiterated the strong support of their Governments for an act of self-determination, and expressed the hope that the question would be resolved unanimously. Members of the South Pacific Forum that are also States Members of the United Nations expressed their satisfaction with the positive measures taken by the Government of France, in co-operation with the people of New Caledonia, to promote political, economic and social development. They expressed their continuing support for the Matignon Accords

signed in Paris in 1988 as a framework for New Caledonia's peaceful progress to self-determination. These members affirmed their willingness to contribute to the process of reconciliation and to provide training facilities to the inhabitants of New Caledonia. The representative of France stated that because of the political courage and determination of two political leaders, New Caledonia had been brought back to civility and stability. Under the Matignon Accords, it was agreed that in 1998 the people of New Caledonia would pronounce themselves on the status of their Territory with a referendum on self-determination. The assassination of the two political leaders, while to be deeply regretted, did not undermine the confidence of the people in the agreed course of action. Since the entry into force of the Matignon Accords, new territorial institutions were in place: three provinces had been given wide autonomy and elected Assemblies on the basis of universal suffrage; a large number of legislative and statutory measures had been adopted; and the state of implementation of the agreements was being monitored on a regular basis.

In their statements, many delegations made reference to the independence plan for Namibia contained in Security Council resolution 435 (1978). They called upon South Africa to abide strictly by Council resolution 435 (1978) and to create conditions for free and fair elections in Namibia. Delegations commended the Secretary-General for his persistent efforts in bringing the implementation process to a successful conclusion. In the course of their statements, many petitioners welcomed the developments leading to an independent Namibia.

Many delegations stressed the importance of the role played by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations in the struggle against colonialism and apartheid. Although the specialized agencies had made a significant contribution to the process of decolonization by providing assistance to colonial peoples and their national liberation movements, as well as to refugees, much more remained to be done, especially with regard to Namibia. The delegations called upon those specialized agencies that had not yet done so to include in the agenda of the regular sessions of their governing bodies an item dealing specifically with the review of the implementation of the Declaration. A number of speakers urged IMF and the World Bank to sever relations with South Africa and stated that decisive action must be taken to isolate the South African régime totally.

A number of delegations stressed the importance of the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa and appealed to all States, institutions, organizations and

individuals to pledge increased financial support for the programme for southern Africa. They requested Member States to provide or continue to provide the inhabitants of Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories with financial assistance and scholarships, as well as training facilities for both secondary and post-secondary education.

Subsequently, on 11 December 1989, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, the General Assembly adopted the following recommendations and decisions in relation to these items:

<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Voting</u>
44/83	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 <u>e</u> of the Charter of the United Nations	150-0-3
44/84	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 Namibia and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, <u>apartheid</u> and racial discrimination in southern Africa	125-10-17
44/85	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	142-2-10
44/86	United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa	Without objection

<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Voting</u>
44/87	Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories	Without objection
44/88	Question of Western Sahara	Without objection
44/89	Question of New Caledonia	Without objection
44/90	Question of Tokelau	Without objection
44/91	Question of the Cayman Islands	Without objection
44/92	Question of Bermuda	Without objection
44/93	Question of the Turks and Caicos Islands	Without objection
44/94	Question of Anguilla	Without objection
44/95	Question of the British Virgin Islands	Without objection
44/96	Question of Montserrat	Without objection
44/97	Question of American Samoa	Without objection
44/98	Question of Guam	Without objection
44/99	Question of the United States Virgin Islands	Without objection

<u>Decision</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Voting</u>
44/425	Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	125-12-13
44/426	Question of Gibraltar	Without objection
44/427	Question of Pitcairn	Without objection
44/428	Question of St. Helena	122-2-27

With regard to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Fourth Committee, on the proposal of the Chairman based on his consultations with the Chairman of the Special Committee and with a number of delegations concerned, decided not to take any action at that stage on a draft resolution submitted by the Special Committee on the item.

With the exception of General Assembly resolutions 44/86 to 44/88 and decision 44/426, all other resolutions and decisions (summaries of which are given in sect. I) were prepared by the Special Committee in accordance with decision 34/401 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the General Assembly.

By its resolution 44/86, the General Assembly appealed to all States, institutions, organizations and individuals to offer greater financial and other support to the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa in order to secure its continuation and steady expansion.

In respect of its resolution 44/87 relating to offers of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories, the General Assembly invited all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to inhabitants of Territories that had not yet attained self-government or independence and to provide travel funds to prospective students. It urged the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination of information relating to offers of study and training facilities.

By its resolution 44/88, the General Assembly reaffirmed that the question of Western Sahara was a question of decolonization which remained to be completed on the basis of the exercise by the people of Western Sahara of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence; stressed the importance of the agreement in principle given on 30 August 1988 by the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente POLISARIO to the joint proposals of the current Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU and the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to the holding of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, organized and supervised by the United Nations in co-operation with OAU; welcomed the efforts of the current Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to promote a just and definitive solution of the question of Western Sahara, in

accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/50; welcomed the talks at Marrakech between King Hassan II of Morocco and a high-level delegation from the Frente POLISARIO, and endorsed the hope of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the current Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU that there would be further meetings of that nature to improve the prospects for the success of the peace process; expressed its conviction that the continuation of direct dialogue between the two parties to the conflict could contribute to the completion of the joint good offices process of the current Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to the restoration of peace in Western Sahara and to stability and security in the whole region; and appealed once again to the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente POLISARIO to display the co-operation and the political goodwill necessary for the success of the joint good offices process of the current Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

By its consensus on the question of Gibraltar (decision 43/411 of 22 November 1988), the General Assembly took note that the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Governments of Spain and the United Kingdom had met at Madrid on 5 and 6 December 1985, in London on 13 and 14 January 1987, at Madrid on 27 and 28 November 1987 and in London on 2 December 1987. The meetings were part of the negotiating process provided for in the Brussels declaration. 25/ The Assembly urged the parties to continue those negotiations with the object of reaching a definitive solution to the problem of Gibraltar.

C. Issues considered in plenary meeting

Following an introductory statement by the Chairman of the Special Committee concerning the work of the Committee for the year, 20 delegations participated in the general debate on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (agenda item 18). They pointed out that the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) had helped to change the fate of many colonial countries by providing a basis for the struggle of oppressed peoples for their liberation.

Many representatives believed that despite these accomplishments, of which the international community could be proud, the objectives of the Declaration had not been fully met and the process of decolonization had not been completed. A great deal remained to be done before colonialism, racism and apartheid in all its forms and manifestations could finally be eliminated.

With the independence process under way in Namibia, the United Nations had demonstrated its capabilities for negotiated political settlements of conflicts, including the complex issue of colonialism. It showed that such solutions were possible if and when there was the requisite political resolve, a readiness for compromise and due respect for the legitimate interests of all sides involved. The future of the new State of Namibia, its security and stability would depend to a great extent on the course of action to be taken by the Government of South Africa in respect of the eradication of the system of apartheid. Members stressed that it was important for the international community to continue to bring pressure to bear on the South African régime to dismantle its apartheid régime.

In the course of their statements, representatives of delegations made reference to the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration and the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and they stressed the importance of the renewed efforts on the part of the international community to assist in facilitating the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration.

Many delegations paid tribute to the Special Committee for its dedicated endeavours to promote the interests of the peoples of Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to uphold their inalienable right to self-determination and independence. They pointed out that for the small Territories, because of their special features and environment, special solutions might be required in the implementation of the principles relating to decolonization. The people in each Territory must determine freely, however, and from a well-informed standpoint, what was in their own best interests, particularly with regard to their future political status. It was the responsibility of the administering Powers to facilitate such unfettered expression of their wishes. A number of speakers stated that the obstacles impeding the process of decolonization were the maintenance of military bases and the military arrangements of the colonial Powers in the Territories. Despite the repeated calls by the international community, it was evident from the report of the Special Committee that the colonial Powers had not complied with these appeals. The speakers expressed the view that the military bases and installations constituted a threat to regional and international security.

Delegations considered that colonialism, in whatever form, was a contradiction to the principles set out in the Charter and was a major obstacle to the success of the many efforts undertaken by the United Nations to bring about freedom, justice and equality. The speedy implementation of the resolutions and decisions adopted

by the United Nations designed to eliminate the remaining vestiges of colonialism would no doubt speed up the process of decolonization and lead to the realization of the legitimate aspirations of the people still living under colonial domination.

On 11 December, the General Assembly adopted a draft resolution submitted to it by the Special Committee on the Programme of Activities in Observance of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Declaration (resolution 44/100, adopted by 137 votes to 2, with 14 abstentions). In doing so, the Assembly approved the activities proposed in the annex to the draft resolution.

On the same day, the General Assembly adopted a 38-Power draft resolution on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by which, among other things, it renewed the mandate of the Special Committee in relation to the implementation of the Declaration with respect to the remaining colonial Territories (resolution 44/101, adopted by 142 votes to 2, with 8 abstentions). Also on 11 December, the General Assembly adopted, by 143 votes to 2, with 7 abstentions, a 36-Power draft resolution concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization (resolution 44/102), in which it called for a series of action-oriented programmes.

At the same meeting, the General Assembly also adopted, by 130 votes to none, with 22 abstentions, a draft decision by which it took note of the interim report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism 26/ and recommended that the Secretary-General should request those States and organizations of the United Nations system that had not yet done so to submit suggestions on a proposed action plan (decision 44/429).

Notes

1/ A/AC.109/975 and Add.1, A/AC.109/976-978, A/AC.109/979 and Add.1, A/AC.109/980, A/AC.109/982-990, A/AC.109/992-998, A/AC.109/999/Rev.1, A/AC.109/1000, A/AC.109/1003, A/AC.109/1004, A/AC.109/1007 and Corr.1, A/AC.109/L.1705 and A/AC.109/L.1707.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/44/23), chap. IV, para. 11.

3/ Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fourth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1989, documents S/20412 and Add.1 and 2.

4/ Ibid., document S/20457.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/44/23), chap. IX, addendum, annex.

6/ Ibid., Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 24 (A/35/24), vol. I, annex II.

7/ Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/44/23), chap. X, para. 23.

8/ Ibid., chap. XI, para. 14.

9/ Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Special Supplement No. 1 (S/20168), para. 120.

10/ A/AC.109/L.1703.

11/ A/AC.109/L.1436, A/AC.109/L.1519, A/AC.109/L.1571, A/AC.109/L.1598, A/AC.109/L.1633 and A/AC.109/L.1676.

12/ A/AC.109/L.1572 and Corr.1 and 2.

13/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/44/23), chap. I, para. 48.

14/ Ibid., chap. V, para. 9.

15/ Ibid., chap. VI, para. 9.

16/ A/44/297 and Add.1 and 2.

17/ A/AC.109/L.1705 and E/1989/112.

18/ A/AC.109/L.1686 and Add.1.

19/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/44/23), chap. VII, para. 14.

20/ Ibid., Supplement No. 23 (A/44/23).

21/ See A/C.4/44/SR.1 and 2.

22/ See A/C.4/44/SR.2-6.

23/ See A/C.4/44/SR.4.

24/ See A/C.4/44/SR.5 and A/C.4/44/SR.7-16.

25/ A/39/732, annex.

26/ A/44/800.
