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(FOURTH COMMITTEE)
13th meeting
held on
Friday, 29 October 1993
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 13th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. KALPAGE (Sri Lanka)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (continued)

Decisions of the Committee on draft texts relating to specific Territories

Draft consensus on Gibraltar (A/C.4/48/L.6)

1. The draft consensus was adopted without objection.

Draft resolution on New Caledonia (A/48/23 (Part VII), chap. XI, para. 9)

2. The draft resolution was adopted without objection.

Consolidated draft resolution on the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands (A/48/23 (Part VI), chap. X, para. 28 and A/C.4/48/L.7-L.10)

3. Mr. WALLACE (United States of America), introducing his delegation's amendments to the consolidated draft resolution, reaffirmed his country's commitment to the objective of decolonization. In order to achieve that objective, the Committee should ensure that its resolutions regarding Non-Self-Governing Territories were factually correct. That was why he had proposed a number of amendments to the consolidated resolution submitted by the Special Committee on decolonization. None of the proposed amendments, which essentially were intended to present the facts accurately, ran counter to the principle of self-determination, and in drafting them his delegation had sought to ensure that they would be non-controversial.

4. In the interests of maintaining the consensus of the past two years regarding the consolidated resolution, which was a positive step towards the reform and revitalization of the Fourth Committee, his delegation was withdrawing the amendment to paragraph 2 of document A/C.4/48/L.7, which meant that it no longer wished to delete the words "including marine resources" from paragraph 8. It urged the Committee to accept the other amendments in order to preserve the consensus. It hoped that all other delegations would join in efforts to ensure that the facts were accurately reflected and, thereby, to strengthen the credibility of the Committee.

5. Mr. LOHIA (Papua New Guinea) thanked the Committee for adopting by consensus the amendments he had proposed on behalf of the members of the Special Committee in documents A/C.4/48/L.11, L.12 and L.13. He would have liked to bring to the Special Committee the amendments proposed in documents A/C.4/48/L.7, L.8, L.9 and L.10 in order to facilitate the Fourth Committee's action on the amendments, and regretted that he had been unable to do so. The new information that was now before the Fourth Committee had not been available to the Special Committee on decolonization at the time the decisions had been taken. He would ensure that the new information was taken into account when the Special Committee on decolonization considered the consolidated resolution on the 10 territories in question in 1994. However, if the delegation which had

/...

(Mr. Lohia, Papua New Guinea)

submitted the amendments and the members of the Fourth Committee agreed to put the proposals formally to the Special Committee on decolonization so that it could consider them in informal consultations before the Fourth Committee took action on the draft resolution, he would be happy to so inform the members of the Special Committee. On the other hand, if the Fourth Committee took action immediately, his delegation, as a member of the Special Committee on decolonization, reserved the right to express its position at the substantive session of the latter Committee in 1994.

6. Mrs. CORRIGAN (United Kingdom), referring to Bermuda, said that, as in 1992, her delegation still found it inconceivable that the presence of military bases in Bermuda could constitute an obstacle to independence. Furthermore, her country had no doubt that it was discharging its obligations to the people of the Territory in full.

7. With regard to the British Virgin Islands, her country would take the wishes and interests of the Government and people of the Territory fully into account in connection with the constitutional review.

8. With reference to paragraph 7 of the text on the Turks and Caicos Islands, consultants had recommended to the territorial Administration against the establishment of an investment bank but in favour of a domestic investment agency. Any external assistance to the agency, if established, would be welcome.

Document A/C.4/48/L.7

9. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment proposed to paragraph 1.

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Botswana, Cuba, Guyana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guinea, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam.

10. The amendment was adopted by 57 votes to 11, with 41 abstentions.

Document A/C.4/48/L.8

11. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment to delete paragraph 2.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Zaire.

Against: Cuba.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Rwanda, Senegal, Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

12. The amendment was adopted by 48 votes to 1, with 62 abstentions.

13. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment to delete paragraph 3.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former

Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Rwanda, Senegal, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen.

14. The amendment was adopted by 52 votes to none, with 58 abstentions.

15. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment to delete paragraph 4.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Zaire.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Rwanda, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

16. The amendment was adopted by 46 votes to none, with 64 abstentions.

17. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the paragraphs of the text should be renumbered accordingly.

Draft resolution B VI on Guam (A/C.4/48/L.9)

18. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment to the second preambular paragraph (A/C.4/48/L.9).

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Congo, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen, Zaire.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Senegal, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

19. The amendment was adopted by 62 votes to none, with 48 abstentions.

20. The amendment to paragraph 1 (A/C.4/48/L.9, para. 2) was adopted without a vote.

21. The amendment to paragraph 3 (A/C.4/48/L.9, para. 3) was adopted without a vote.

Draft resolution B X on the United States Virgin Islands (A/C.4/48/L.10)

22. The amendment to the second preambular paragraph (A/C.4/48/L.10, para. 1) was adopted without a vote.

23. The amendment to paragraph 1 (A/C.4/48/L.10, para. 2) was adopted without a vote.

24. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment to delete paragraph 4 (A/C.4/48/L.10, para. 3)

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen, Zaire.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Rwanda, Senegal, Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

25. The amendment was adopted by 50 votes to none, with 58 abstentions.

26. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that paragraph 5 should become paragraph 4.

27. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment to delete paragraph 6 (A/C.4/48/L.10, para. 4).

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zaire.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Rwanda, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

28. The amendment was adopted by 47 votes to none, with 64 abstentions.

29. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that, with the voting now completed, paragraph 6 had been deleted and the subsequent paragraphs should be renumbered accordingly.

30. The consolidated draft resolution, as amended, was adopted without a vote.

Draft decision I on Pitcairn (A/48/23 (Part VI), chap. X)

31. The draft decision was adopted without a vote.

Draft decision II on St. Helena (A/48/23 (Part VI), chap. X)

32. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine.

33. The draft decision was adopted by 79 votes to 2, with 43 abstentions.

34. Mrs. CORRIGAN (United Kingdom), explaining her vote after the vote, said that the draft decision on St. Helena was, as in previous years, unacceptable to her Government since as it referred to military facilities on Ascension Island - even though it was not mentioned by name - which, though linked to St. Helena for administrative reasons, was not on the Committee's agenda. Furthermore, the suggestion that the very limited military facilities in question could be a source of concern regarding offensive acts or interference in the affairs of neighbouring States was incomprehensible. Her Government's policy towards the British Dependent Territories was conducted fully in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. Accordingly her delegation had voted against the draft decision.

REQUESTS FOR HEARINGS

35. The CHAIRMAN informed the members of the Committee that he had received a communication containing a request for a hearing relating to the elimination of apartheid and the establishment of a united, democratic and non-racial South Africa, under agenda item 38. In accordance with the usual practice, he suggested that the communication should be circulated as a Committee document and considered at a subsequent meeting.

36. It was so decided.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

37. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to document A/C.4/48/L.15 containing the programme budget implications of the draft resolution on agenda item 88 (Questions relating to information).

The meeting rose at 4.15 p.m.