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INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

Report of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION .....	3
II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM MEMBER STATES .....	3
Bulgaria .....	3
Chile .....	4
China .....	5
Ecuador .....	6
India .....	6
Iraq .....	8
Jamaica .....	9
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya .....	11
Mexico .....	12
Poland .....	13
Solomon Islands .....	14

CONTENTS (continued)

	<b>Page</b>
Sudan .....	15
<b>Vanuatu</b> .....	16
Yugoslavia .....	18
III. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM	<b>20</b>
International Labour <b>Organisation (ILO)</b> .....	<b>20</b>
IV. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS .....	21
Organization of American States ( <b>OAS</b> ) .....	21

## I. INTRODUCTION

The present report contains replies received from Member States, organisations within the United Nations system and intergovernmental organisations, in response to General Assembly decision 44/429 of 11 December 1989 adopted in connection with the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

## II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM MEMBER STATES

### BULGARIA

[Original: English]

(26 June 1990)

1. The People's Republic of Bulgaria has always participated actively and consistently in the joint struggle for the complete elimination of colonialism, racism and **apartheid**. This has been in line with the founding principles of its foreign policy aimed at strengthening international peace and security and at developing equitable and mutually advantageous co-operation. In this connection, Bulgaria welcomes General Assembly resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988 which proclaimed the period 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. We share the hope that this document will play an important role in mobilising the efforts of the international community in attaining the noble goals of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.
2. Bulgaria is of the view that in the international community, where the desire for dialogue and constructive co-operation has prevailed over confrontation and rivalry, favourable conditions are being established for the complete resolution of the problems encountered in the struggle against the remnants of colonialism. An important role was played by the United Nations in the successes scored in this area. The successful completion of the process of granting independence to Namibia under the auspices of the United Nations has clearly demonstrated the potential of the world Organization for an even greater and more significant role in the future.
3. The concrete programme of action called for to usher in mankind in a twenty-first century that is free of any remaining form of national oppression, together with the general principles of guaranteeing self-determination and the right to free political choice, should envisage measures aimed at avoiding the depletion of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and at preserving the environment. The process of the complete elimination of the remnants of colonialism should also be viewed in connection with the establishment of just and lasting peace in all parts of the planet.
4. Due attention should be given to the elaboration of a special programme for United Nations action in the area of public information with respect to the Decade, fully utilising the potential of the Organisation's entire system in this effort,

5. Bulgaria **pledges** its readiness to continue to contribute actively to **the** efforts of the international community aimed at building a world free of all **forms** of colonialism.

CHILE

[Original: Spanish]

[6 June 1990]

1. Chile has played a resolute, sustained and consistent role with respect to the eradication of colonialism from the **world**, a task that has been one of the fundamental responsibilities of the United Nations since its inception and which continues to be so. From the outset, Chile has been a full member 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, in this capacity, has contributed directly to the founding of many independent **States**. Chile's work in the United Nations Council for Namibia also deserves special mention, Namibia having become a symbol of decolonisation brought about by the determined **action** of the United Nations.

2. Chile encourages and supports increased efforts to ensure that the remaining colonial situations in the world are eliminated in the next 10 years, so that the twenty-first **century** can usher in a world in which all peoples will have an opportunity to exercise their right to self-determination and where all Territories under colonial administration will have an opportunity to choose to join the **community** of free and sovereign nations.

3. The Government of Chile believes that efforts aimed at bringing about global decolonisation **must** also focus on perfecting mechanisms whereby new States will be guaranteed resources, support and genuine international solidarity, particularly during the early stages of their independence.

4. The Government of Chile deems it essential to promote an understanding within its own borders of the various aspects of decolonisation, for it is **confident** that future generations will increasingly cherish and value freedom if they are fully aware of what it took to create a world of sovereign peoples with equal rights and responsibilities. The Government of Chile, with the support of the United Nations, will therefore do its utmost throughout the Decade to instil such awareness in its students, possibly by including the **subject** in the corresponding curricula.

5. Similarly, the Government of Chile will provide **information** periodically to the **mass** media so that the vast majority of Chileans will become fully and permanently aware of the issue of **decolonization** and its importance, thereby strengthening the traditional opposition of Chileans to colonialism, which **stems** from their profound sense of justice.

6. Lastly, the Government of Chile is staunchly committed to continuing its active diplomatic participation in all forums dealing with decolonisation, both within and outside the United Nations **system**.

CHINA

[Original : Chinese ]

[19 March 1990]

1. Since the founding of the **United Nations**, especially since the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in 1960, a large number of countries have shaken off the **yoke** of colonialism and have won independence and membership in the United Nations. This is an outstanding accomplishment by people of the world in their struggle for decolonisation, during which the United Nations has played an important role and made tremendous contributions.

2. By its resolution **43/47** adopted on 22 November **1988**, the General Assembly declared the period 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. This resolution gave expression to the determination of the international community to eliminate colonialism. Its adoption by the United Nations will serve as an important catalyst for a speedier decolonisation process, for which China has expressed its active support.

3. The **realization** of Namibian independence represents a major achievement for the cause of decolonisation. It is the result of the protracted struggle of the **Namibian** people, the African States and people throughout the world, and has greatly inspired the entire international community. That Namibia has won independence has not only been a dream come true for the long struggling **Namibian** people but also has had a positive impact on the accelerated realisation of national self-determination by the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories.

4. While the colonial system is crumbling into dust, **there** are some Non-Self-Governing Territories that have yet to achieve national self-determination, and the remnants **of** colonialism of one type or another, are still around. It is China's hope that the administering Powers will discharge to the letter their obligation<sup>6</sup> under the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on decolonisation and help create political and economic conditions necessary for the people of these Territories to speed up the process of self-determination. In the mean time, the United Nations should, in light of the realities in the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, formulate effective and practicable measures to further its efforts in bringing colonialism to an end during **this** Decade.

5. China has always resolutely supported the people of colonies and Non-Self-Governing Territories in their struggle **for** national self-determination and independence, respected their choices and aspirations, and strictly abided by the relevant United Nations resolutions. It stands firmly opposed to all forms of colonialism. China will continue to **make** unremitting efforts to ensure the eradication of colonialism,

ECUADOR

[Original: Spanish]

[14 May 1990]

I have the honour to inform you of Ecuador's position on this question:

1. As a free and sovereign State. Ecuador has always made the unconditional rejection of all manifestations of colonialism a key aspect of its foreign policy.
2. Article 4 **of** the Constitution of Ecuador reads as follows:

"The Ecuadorian State condemns all forms of colonialism, neo-colonialism and racial discrimination or segregation. It recognises the right of peoples to free themselves from these oppressive systems."
3. This constitutional principle has been implemented, fully and consistently, through the constant support which Ecuador has given to all resolutions adopted on this issue within the United Nations system as well as through the unwavering solidarity which Ecuador has extended throughout its history as a republic, to a number of liberation movements which have struggled in various parts of the world for their independence.
4. In keeping with the principles on which its foreign policy is based, the Government of Ecuador believes that the United Nations initiative of designating the period 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism is a major contribution to broaden knowledge and acceptance of this principle by the international community, which will in turn lead the way to the eradication of the shameful system of colonialism from the face of the earth.

INDIA

[Original: English]

[9 July 1990]

1. India believes that the historic Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples has been the primary force which has led to the successes in the history of **decolonization** over the past 30 years. In the context of the struggle for the eradication of colonialism in the remaining **18** Territories on the United Nations agenda, India reaffirms its continuing and firm commitment to the principles enshrined in **the** Declaration, and its conviction that **these** principles continue to remain as valid today as they were 'in 1960 when the Declaration was adopted.
2. Having played a leading role in the struggle against colonialism in all its **forms**, both within the United Nations and in other forums, India fully recognises that although the road ahead is far shorter than that already travelled, these last

steps could turn out to be very difficult. It is in this context that India welcomes the proclamation of the last decade of the twentieth century as the International **Decade** for the Eradication of **Colonialism**.

3. By its resolution **35/118** of 11 December 1980, the General Assembly adopted a Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration. While **some** specific **measures** included in this Plan of Action adopted 10 years ago have, happily, become obsolete with the emergence of the Republic of Namibia, **most** of the others remain fully relevant today. Their reaffirmation and effective application would go a long way in the eradication of the scourge of colonialism within the coming decade.

4. India would like to take this opportunity to re-emphasize its commitment to the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles enshrined in General Assembly resolution 1514 (**XV**) of 14 December 1960, which, along with other related resolutions, must play a vital role in **the** completion of the decolonization process. It would also like to reiterate its firm conviction that the peoples of each of the world's remaining colonial Territories have an inalienable right to self-determination and to the expression of their political will and desire, with complete knowledge and awareness of the full range of political options available to them regarding their future political status, including independence. The choice of options is not restricted in any way by factors such as territorial size, geographical location, size of population or availability of natural resources. An exercise in self-determination in the colonial Territories **must** be preceded by adequate and unbiased political sensitization and education of the population.

5. Closely associated with the exercise of self-determination in the world's remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories is a sufficient level of economic self-reliance and military and environmental security; these are necessary adjuncts to a free and fair referendum. Thought would need to be given to the formulation of suitable economic safeguards on the part of the United Nations **system** to bolster the post-referendum security of these Territories and to reduce vested military interests which at present inhibit their speedy and unconditional decolonization.

6. If the Decade is to achieve its aim of eradicating the **scourge** of colonialism, the various organs of the United Nations, in co-operation with the States Members of the Organization, will need to play an active role focused specifically towards this aim. In this regard, priority measures should include the issuance of an appeal by the world community to the remaining administering Powers to consider a realistic timetable for each of their respective colonial Territories for the application of the Declaration and the holding of a referendum for self-determination in accordance with the principles and practices of the United Nations. Most of the world's remaining administering Powers have unequivocally stated before the General Assembly that they remain ready to respond positively to the express wishes of the peoples of the Territories concerned on the question of self-determination and independence. The United Nations body **must** now call upon **them** to demonstrate that willingness.

7. The Special Committee itself would need to play a **more** dynamic role in overseeing the process of decolonization in these Territories. **Its** activities

would need to encompass and focus on the present constraints to the exercise of genuine self-determination on a case-by-case basis, taking into account and highlighting factors such as lack of political **awareness**, economic dependence, change in demographic patterns, military interests, **environmental** security and other aspects. The Committee should carry out these activities in a constructive manner and in co-operation with the administering Powers. Intensive and specific efforts need to be made for the dissemination of information on the Committee's findings, the political evolution in the Territories, the views of the administering Powers, etc., **through** all available means of publicity, both in the interests of transparency and of ensuring that the world community is sensitised to the **issues** involved. In this exercise, the co-operation of the States Member6 of the United Nations would be invaluable.

8. In the present environment where there is an easing of East-West tensions, India hopes that the administering Powers and the **Special** Committoo, reflecting the changing political world order, will enjoy each other's fullest co-operation and jointly demonstrate th6 **necessary** political will to permit the twenty-first century to be born free of colonialism. For its part, India subscribes fully to this noble goal and is ready to apply **itself** in **every manner** to its **attainment**,

IRAQ

[Original : Arabic ]

(21 February 1990)

1. There thus **emerges th\*** importance of effective United Nations action to thwart the **new Zionist scheme by endorsing** the popular Palestinian uprising and providing it with additional **support** in order to enable it to endure and to stand *firm* in the face of the barbaric apparatus of Zionist oppresdion and **intimidation**. The United Nations **must** remind the international community that **Israael**, which asserts the right of Jews to emigrate from the countries to which they belong, which is attempting to direct Jewish immigration to Israel itself and which then announces that immigrants **may** be settled in the occupied Palestinian Arab Territory, is the same **Icraael** that refuses not only to permit the Palestine refugees to return to their **occupiee** land in accordance with United Nations resolutions but even to **acknowledge** their right to return, a right that is **laid** down in article 13, paragraph 26, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the same paragraph which **provides** for the right of everyone to leave his country. This **being** so, the United Nations **must** urge the international community and governmental and non-governmental organisations to refrain *from* providing any **facilities or assistance** to Israel in connection with **the** immigration and absorption of Jews as long as it refuses to **recognize** the right6 of **the** Palestine refugees and to permit them to return to their homes. They **must** also make serious efforts to bring about the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian **people**, since that is the only way to ensure that people's right to exercise self-determination **and establish** an independent State on its national soil.

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2. Iraq supported General Assembly resolution **43/47** of 22 November 1988 declaring the period 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, a resolution **that** came into being as a result of the initiative taken and the efforts made by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, and embodied in the final document adopted by the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries held at Nicosia in September **1988**.

3. While commending the success achieved by the United Nations in many of its activities relating to the eradication of colonialism, **most** recently in the operation in Namibia, Iraq would also like to point to the dangerous escalation in the **settler** colonialist activity openly engaged in by the **Zionist** entity in occupied **Palestine** and to the intensification of campaigns to promote immigration for purposes of settlement, undertaken with the material and moral support of States Members of the United Nations, which constitute a serious threat to international peace and security, **The United Nations** and all States genuinely concerned about the **eradication** of colonialism are called upon to put an **end to** such infractions and flagrant violations of the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to **exercise** self-determination and establish an independent State in its homeland, Palestine,

#### JAMAICA

[Original! English]

[24 May 1990 ]

1. The successes of the United Nations in the field of decolonization are among **its** most impressive **achievements** over the years. The **most** recent testimony to the outstanding **efforts** of the United Nations in championing and advancing the **cause** of self-determination and independence for colonial peoples is Namibia's attainment of independence on 21 March 1990, bringing to an end a critical phase in the history of the decolonization process.

2. The decolonisation process is, however, far from **complete**. Accordingly, the Government of Jamaica fully supports the proclamation by **the** United Nations of the period 1990-2000 as the **International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in accordance** with Gerreral Assembly resolution **43/47** of 22 November **1988**. Jamaica further endorses the **preparation** of an **action** plan aimed at ushering in, in the **twenty-first** century, a world free from colonialism.

3. It is widely **recognized** that the majority of the remaining dependent **Territories** share the characteristics of island developing countries owing to their smallness, **lack** of abundant natural resources, heavy dependence **on imports**, exposure to natural disasters as well as a host of physical and **structural** constraints on their domestic economies. The widespread devastating effects in 1989 of hurricane Hugo in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean **starkly** revealed the vulnerability of the small Territories and the fragility of their precarious socio-economic structures.

4. Jamaica believes that the centre-piece **of** the proposed plan of **action of the Decade** should be multilateral assistance and support **from** the United Nations and the specialised **agencies** of the United Nations system as well as regional intergovernmental organisations **for** the sustained development of the small Non-Self-Governing Territories.

5. Consequently, it is **recommended** that at the onset of the Decade, the United Nations, in consultation with the administering Powers, should closely monitor and assess the situation in the dependencies **and** lend full support and assistance to efforts under way **for** the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the economies of the affected Territories,

6. At the **same** time, the plan **of** action should take into account the extent to which plans **for** future constitutional and political advancement and progress towards self-determination have been affected by natural disasters, as has been the case in the Caribbean as a result of the devastation of hurricane Hugo. For example, plans for holding a **referendum** in November 1989 in the United States Virgin Islands to decide the territory's future political status have been set aside indefinitely. Similarly, plans for a national referendum to be held in Montserrat to determine the wishes of **the** inhabitants about proceeding to independence have also been postponed.

7. It would be appropriate to undertake an updated evaluation of social, **economic** and political advancement **in** the remaining dependent Territories. In this regard, it may be useful **for** the Secretary-General to provide a compendium as an annex to the proposed **plan of** action, containing a United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories and an assessment of the political and economic status **of** each of the Territories.

8. With a view **to** facilitating the decolonisation process throughout the Decade, **Jamaica believes** that the plan of action being prepared by the Secretary-General should include the **following**:

(a) Review and analysis of the progress and **extent of** the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples)

(b) Impact of the economic and social situation **on** the constitutional and political advancement of Non-Self-Governing Territories!

(c) Increased access by Non-Self-Governing Territories to resources and assistance from international organisations, including the United Nations and its bodies, with more direct participation **in** their programmes and activities, as well as from regional **international** organisations, in order to facilitate the further **development** and economic progress of the Territories. These assistance programmes **should** focus on **medium-** and long-term **efforts to strengthen** the social and economic development of the Territories as well as other measures to enhance their security and **stability**;

(d) Extension, where necessary, to dependent Territories, with the co-operation of the administering Powers, of specific measures being undertaken by

the United Nations in favour of island developing countries, including efforts aimed at targeting the resources of the United Nations Commission on Trade and Development, the World Bank and other United Nations bodies for special developmental assistance and for facilitating cross-reference interchange of information and **experience**;

(e) **Creation** of conditions to allow Non-Self-Governing **Territories** to determine freely **their own** political, **economic** and social **systems**. In **this regard**, the administering Powers should take the necessary actions to enable dependent peoples **to exercise their** right to self-determination. The dependent **Territories** should be fully aware at all stages of **their** political development of **the options** open to them in the free exercise of their inalienable rights. **This** could be achieved through the establishment of more **direct contacts** between the United Nations and the elected leaders and **peoples** of the Non-Self-Governing Territories **as well as through the** sending of regular United Nations visiting missions **to** the Territories to monitor and assess the situation,

9. The **Government** of Jamaica believes that while the **decolonization** process in the remaining **dependent** Territories will perhaps be more evolutionary in nature and less **dynamic** and spectacular than that of the **1960s**, it is still necessary for **the** international community to continue its efforts during the Decade to **assist** the remaining dependencies further along **the path** of **self-determination and independence**.

10. Finally, the **Government** of **Jamaica** is of **the view that the elaboration** of an **action plan** for the Decade should be guided by the principles **governing decolonization** which are enshrined **in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples** as well as the **subsequent plans of action** adopted by **the General Assembly** to implement the Declaration. **The** proposed plan of action for the Decade **should** therefore reaffirm those principles **and** encourage adherence thereto by all administering Powers.

#### LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

[Original: Arabic]

[29 March 1990]

1. **The** Libyan Arab Jamahiriya has always **been** among those States that have urged **the** necessity of implementing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and reaffirming the **inalienable** right of those **countries** and **peoples** to self-determination and independence. It consequently **supports** the peoples of **colonized** areas in their struggle for their freedom and **independence**. In reaffirming this position, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya **proposes** that the international community take practical measures to eliminate colonialism **from the world** by affording those peoples that have not **yet** attained their freedom an opportunity for self-determination **and** independence. **Despite the** territorial size of **the colonized** area, their geographical location, the **number** of their inhabitants and the limited nature of **their** resources, under no **circumstances** must

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there be any delay in the exercise **by** their **peoples** of their full right to self-determination and independence, **in** accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960. And the cultural property, **art** works, antiquities, **objets d'art**, manuscripts **and** documents plundered during the period of colonialism and transported to museums in the **colonizing** countries must be returned to their countries of origin,

2. Past **and** present colonial Powers **muet** be called upon to provide appropriate **compensation in economic**, social, cultural, humanitarian and other forms for their occupation of the developing countries,

MEXICO

[Original! Spanish1

[4 April 1990]

1. The Permanent Mission of Mexico wishes to state **that the** General Assembly's decision to declare the period 1990-2000 as the International Decade **for** the Eradication **of** Colonialism represents a **reliable** indication, **in** the view of the Government **of** Mexico, of the **interest of most** of the international community in seeing that all peoples achieve their freedom through the full exercise of their inalienable right to self-determination and **independence**, and in ushering in a world free **from** any trace **of colonialism** in **the** twenty-first century.

2. *On* 21 March 1990, the international community watched with profound **satisfaction** as Namibia finally achieved independence. The **Government of** Mexico welcomes this momentous event which was made possible by the tenacity of the **Namibian** people, demonstrated in their struggle to **achieve their** legitimate aspirations under the leadership of the **South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO)**, and by the arduous work **of** the United Nations in bringing about the Territory's decolonisation, in accordance with **Security Council** resolution 435 (1978) of 29 September 1978.

3. The independence of Namibia, **in** addition to being a great achievement for the Organisation, offers grounds **fo.** hope **for** other peoples who still live under colonial oppression and **are being** kept from exercising their **inalienable** right, to self-determination and independence. It ought to give impetus to the **international community's** endeavour to achieve the total elimination of colonialism in all its manifestations before this century draws to a close.

4. The action plan for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism **must** unquestionably take as its point of departure a restatement of the need to observe fully and urgently the principles set forth in the Declaration on the Granting **of** Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, adopted **by** the General Assembly in resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 as well as the principles enshrined in the Charter **of** the United Nations.

5. Furthermore, the administering Powers **must**, without setting conditions, take steps to improve the **socio-economic** situation **of** the peoples under their control

and set up programmes aimed at educating the populations about the various options available to them in the actual exercise of their right to self-determination, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions,

6. It is also essential that the colonial Powers should be required to call an immediate halt to the exploitation of ~~the~~ natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to refrain once and for all from using those Territories for political and strategic purposes and, if need be, to withdraw any military installations that threaten both the security of the colonial peoples and international peace and security,

7. It is a source of grave **concern** to Mexico that, **even as a large majority** of States are focusing their efforts on finding solutions to the serious problems created by the deterioration of the global environment, **some** Non-Self-Governing Territories are experiencing a progressive worsening of their environment. **It** is therefore urgent **that more** be learned about the environmental situation in those Territories and that the administering Powers be urged to take immediate steps to protect and improve **it**, such as putting an end to the dumping of contaminants like toxic and dangerous wastes.

8. Faced with the legitimate demand of peoples for self-determination, it is essential for the United Nations decolonisation bodies, and particularly 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 disseminate information **more** extensively in order to mobilise world opinion in support of the elimination of colonialism. It is likewise essential **that** all States redouble their efforts to bring about the full and immediate implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV).

9. The **Government of Mexico** reiterates its firm commitment to the struggle to ensure that all the peoples of the world will be exercising their inalienable right to self-determination and independence before the twenty-first century is ushered in,

POLAND

(Original; English]

[10 April 1990]

1. The **success** achieved by the United Nations since the adoption of the **Declaration** on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in 1960 is clearly reflected in the emergence of many independent countries in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and the Americas. This is truly one of the greatest achievements of the United Nations and the **who.e** international **community**. The granting of independence to **Namibia** is the latest manifestation **as well as** confirmation of the efficiency of the United Nations in promoting the transition of colonial countries to independence.

2. The Republic of Poland lends its full support to all United Nations efforts to bring a speedy end to colonialism with due regard to the **freely** expressed will of the peoples concerned. It is important to note, however, that **Poland** is of the opinion that with the attainment **of** independence by Namibia, the whole process of decolonisation is quickly approaching its final **end**. Consequently, the action plan aimed **at** ushering in, **in** the twenty-first century, a world free from colonialism, should not be limited solely to **steps** towards the complete eradication of the **last** remnants of colonialism, but should also include measures aimed at strengthening the independence and sovereignty **of** the post-colonial States as well as assisting them in their economic development. The United Nations must keep in view the **numerous** complex problems which trouble these States on their way **to** a **truly** sovereign existence and should be ready to provide them with real economic, technological, educational and financial aid.

3. The problem of **decolonization** is closely related to a much broader **issue** - that of respect for, and realisation of, the right **of** all peoples to determine freely, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development. Poland attaches special importance **to** this question and wishes to suggest that the plan of action **for** the implementation **of** the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism should also include steps to promote the combined efforts of the international community to put an end not only to colonialism, but also to all other forms **of** foreign domination that still exist.

4. Poland consistently stands in favour of solving all international conflicts exclusively through political means - this especially applies to conflicts which **arise from** the aspirations of peoples for independence and freedom. Consequently, we believe that the United Nations, when drawing **up** the action plan, must take special care to include only such steps and measures which will generate a favourable climate for achieving peaceful solutions by way of dialogue and **compromise**.

5. Once again Poland wishes to reaffirm **its** support for the goals of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and express its readiness to participate actively in the implementation **of** the Decade.

#### SOLOMON ISLANDS

[Original, English]

[30 March 1990]

1. **Decolonization** is undeniably one of the success stories of the United Nations. Namibia's **gaining of** independence last March was the conclusion of another chapter of this success story.

2. Much, however, remains to be done for there are still 18 Territories remaining on the list **of** Non-Self-Governing Territories. **New Caledonia** is one such Territory.

3. It is the conviction of the Government of Solomon Islands that a free and genuine act of **self-determination** in New Caledonia must be consistent with the established principles and practices of the United Nations.

4. On the action plan aimed at freeing the world from colonialism by the year 2000, Solomon Islands suggests the following measures:

(a) Reaffirm that Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 have laid down the fundamental principles governing decolonization and that they should constitute the nucleus of any action plan aimed at ushering in, in the twenty-first century, a world free from colonialism;

(b) Reaffirm that any act of self-determination must be consistent with the established principles and practices of the United Nations;

(c) Appeal to the administering Powers to facilitate the dispatch of United Nations visiting missions to, and provide up-to-date information on, these Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(d) Want material, technical and financial assistance to the colonized peoples in the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations;

(e) Set up a public awareness programme by means of seminars, radio broadcasts, etc. on the goals and purposes of the Decade;

(f) Reaffirm that the question of location, limited resources, population and territorial size are irrelevant when it comes to the right to self-determination.

5. General Assembly resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1960 proclaiming 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, is indeed timely and Solomon Islands welcomes the role of the Secretary-General in the preparation of an action plan to end colonialism.

SUDAN

[Original! English]

[20 February 1990]

1. The Sudan has supported all General Assembly resolutions on the importance of granting independence to colonial countries and peoples.

2. Furthermore, the Sudan was among the first States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Organization of African Unity to formulate resolutions on the right of peoples to self-determination and full political independence.

3. The achievement of **the international community in the** elimination of **colonialism** up to the present time is a **cause** for satisfaction and for optimism that the 1990s will witness the **end of** colonialism in its old form, as represented by the occupation of alien Territories and the foreign **domination** of the political aspirations of a number of peoples **and** countries still **suffering under** the colonial yoke.

4. The Sudan is deeply concerned, however, about the various recent **forms** of colonialism **and foreign** domination,

5. In that connection, it is incumbent upon the United **Nations**, in the context **Of** the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, to concern itself with the elimination of all forms of colonialism **and** to **ensure** that all peoples of the world **can regain** their full freedom and **throw off** all forms of foreign domination in the political, economic and social *fields*.

6. The Sudan, which respects **and** believes in the struggle of peoples and liberation movements seeking to implement **the** national will and bring **about the** withdrawal **of** the invader, **considers** that the **best way** to eliminate colonialism is by **peaceful** means and through dialogue and negotiations.

7. In that endeavour, the United Nations has a fundamental, guiding role to **play**. That role will not be crowned with **success** until there is total commitment by Member States, both large and small, to respect **and** comply fully with United Nations resolutions on the elimination of colonialism in all **its forms**.

#### VANUATU

[Original: English]

[8 December 1989]

1. The Republic of Vanuatu believes that the decolonization process **must** continue to be a high **international priority** until **the** people of every Non-Self-Governing Territory have been permitted to exercise freely their right to self-determination and independence. Vanuatu is firmly committed to **the** decolonization process, and will **continue** to support **actively** the principles of decolonization set forth in the Charter **of** the United Nations and subsequently codified in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, the historic Declaration on the Granting **of** Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

2. The successes achieved to date in the area of decolonization rank **among** the **most** notable accomplishments of the United Nations. The **mosaic** of humanity reflected in the current membership **of** the United Nations is living evidence of the accomplishments of the decolonization process.

3. It is the view of the Government of Vanuatu, however, that our past **successes** **must** not distract the international **community** from what remains to be achieved in the area **of** **decolonization**. On the **occasion** of the thirtieth anniversary of the

historic Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, **we must** celebrate what has been achieved thus **far** and reiterate **our** firm conviction that mankind will enter the **twenty-first century** without a single remaining Non-Self-Governing Territory.

4. Vanuatu appreciates the broad international consensus that has evolved in **the course** of the **decolonization** process. Through the efforts of many Governments, the Secretariat of the United Nations, the **specialized agencies**, non-governmental organizations and eminent personalities, a new jurisprudence has developed which clearly establishes that no nation and no people shall be **forced** to endure the pain and humiliation **of** political colonialism.

5. In order to ensure further **success** in the decolonisation process and the successful completion of the International **Decade for** the Eradication of Colonialism, the Government of Vanuatu proposes that

(a) A visit be made to **each of** the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories by the **Secretary-General** of the United Nations, or a specially designated representative of the Secretary-General, as close as practical to the onset **of** the Decade;

(b) An extensive study of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories be undertaken by the United Nations and widely distributed to every Government and all interested non-governmental **organizations, news** media, schools and universities, religious **institutions** and cultural organisations and the general **public;**

(c) Film, radio and print materials *on* the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories be prepared by the Department of Public Information **of** the Secretariat for world-wide distribution;

(d) An appeal be issued, urging those still administering Non-Self-Governing Territories to establish the **necessary** conditions, as soon as possible, to enable the peoples of those Territories to **gain** their political and economic independence **prior** to 31 December 1999, in accordance with the principles **and** practices **of** the United Nations

(e) An appeal **be** issued urging the remaining administering Powers to transmit information, in **accordance** with Article 73 **g** of the Charter, and to **take** necessary **measures** to promote the political, **economic**, social and educational advancement of the peoples of the remaining Non-Self-Governing **Territories;**

(f) All States be requested to consider the adoption **of** national legislation discouraging commercial **enterprises** from continuing or initiating activities **that** are prejudicial to the exercise of the right to self-determination and independence by the peoples of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(g) All States be requested to consider the adoption **of** national legislation to **promote** the **human** rights of **peoples** living **under** foreign domination, and facilitating their **recourse** to judicial proceedings in order to gain economic and social restitution;

(h) The effectiveness and stature of United Nations bodies and specialised agencies concerned with **decolonization** be strengthened

(i) Resources available for the dissemination of information to the general international public on the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories be increased;

(j) The number of available scholarships and training facilities, particularly in the area of the acquisition of technical skills, for peoples of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories be increased.

6. The Government of Vanuatu believes that the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories present special difficulties and require very careful thought and analysis. It is the Government's hope that the Decade will be characterised by a co-operative spirit, the strengthening of international democracy and increased respect for the equality of all countries, all peoples and all cultures.

#### YUGOSLAVIA

(Original; English)

[27 March 1990]

1. **The** United Nations will soon mark the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which represents one of the most important accomplishments in the history of the United Nations. Although most colonial countries have gained independence through the successful implementation of the **decolonization** process and have joined the world Organization, this process is not yet **complete**. Unfortunately, even today, at the end of the twentieth century, 16 Territories have not as yet realized their right to self-government and **independence**. **The** United Nations therefore deemed it necessary to declare the period from 1990 to 2000 as the International Decade for **the** Eradication of Colonialism so that the *world* in **the** twenty-first century may be free from colonialism.

2. The **world** Organization should continue to contribute resolutely, as it has done since its foundation, to the completion of this process. All Member States are expected to intensify their efforts and bring about the attainment of this goal without delay.

3. **As** a result of the long-standing, persistent efforts of the States Members of the United Nations and of the members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the United Nations plan for Namibia has been implemented, thus making possible the **accession** to independence of this last major Territory under colonial rule. Namibia's independence represents a victory of the principles the United Nations has stood for since it was founded, as well as a great success for the United Nations and an excellent example of the co-operation of the **entire** international community.

4. **The** process of decolonisation would **have**, no doubt, been completed long ago if the will of peoples under colonial domination **had been** respected in all instances. Therefore, contentions **that most of the remaining** Non-Self-Governing Territories are unable to survive as independent **entities in** international relations, or that their present status reflects the will of the indigenous population, ought to be verified very carefully. In this context, Yugoslavia wishes to stress, on this **occasion as well**, the importance **of** and the need for full, consistent **and** universal application of the Declaration on the **Granting** of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to all remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, regardless of their size, geographical location, number of inhabitants or limited natural resources.

5. **Yugoslavia** hopes that the current positive changes *in* international relations will also have an impact on the acceleration of the process of final elimination of the vestiges of colonialism.

6. At the Ninth **Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries** held at Belgrade in September 1989, the **Heads of State or Government, inter alia**, demanded the immediate **and** complete implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and, in that context, welcomed the **adoption of General Assembly resolution 43/47** of 22 November 1988, which declared the period 1990-2000 as the International **Decade** for the Eradication of Colonialism. **Accordingly**, the non-aligned countries will actively work for the adoption and carrying out of the United Nations Plan of Action for the implementation of **the Decade**.

7. It is very important that the international community, in particular the United Nations, should exert influence on the administering **Powers to take** joint action aimed at **creating the** political, economic, social, educational, cultural and **other** conditions necessary for the autonomous and independent development of the populations of Non-Self-Governing Territories. This concerns particularly the upgrading of the political **culture** of the populations of Non-Self-Governing Territories in **order to** enable them **to** exercise, freely **and** without outside pressure, their legitimate right to self-determination in **a** form reflecting their authentic interests and aspirations, with the United Nations playing an appropriate **role in** accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 1514 (**XV**) of 14 December 1960.

8. Consequently, it is necessary **for** the administering Powers to comply fully with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and to co-operate with the United Nations with a view to eliminating colonialism.

9. To this end, a more active engagement of the United Nations in the dissemination of information on the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories **through special** publications on decolonisation, public film projections, photo shows, **seminars**, etc., is of great importance.

10. The **very** active engagement **of** the United Nations and the international community in the past imposes on them the obligation to continue to follow the

development of the countries which have gained independence, so as to be able to render these countries the necessary assistance,

11. As Chairman of the Movement of **Non-Aligned Countries** and as a member 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**, Yugoslavia stands ready to make its full contribution towards **finding** durable solutions for all remaining **Non-Self-Governing Territories**, on the basis of full **respect for**, and the fulfilment of, the authentic **interests** and aspirations of the peoples of **these** Territories.

12. The assertions that the **process of decolonization** has generally been completed will be **justified** only when the people of the very last Non-Self-Governing Territory is **afforded the opportunity to decide freely** and independently on its **future** development. That is an **imperative** not only for the United Nations, which will thus be **brought even closer to complete universality**, but also for a new, more humane society and **relations** in the **international** community in the **twenty-first century**.

### III. REPLYES RECEIVED FROM ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONSSYSTEM

#### INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO)

[Original: English]

[5 April 1990]

1. The Declaration of **Philadelphia**, which forms part of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), affirms that the principles that it contains are applicable to all peoples everywhere, and calls for the progressive application of these principles to peoples who are still dependent. ILO has therefore consistently provided assistance to *enable* such peoples to be self-reliant upon attaining their **independence** and has, in particular, assisted in the development of free and independent **organizations** of employers and workers. Its assistance includes **research** and dissemination of information, technical co-operation activities, monitoring of **measures carried out against apartheid** by ILO's tripartite members, and other forms of action by the International Labour **Conference** and the ILO Governing Body. The areas covered include, in particular, the development of labour **administration** and labour legislation, workers' **education** and assistance to **employers'** organisations, as well as vocational training, vocational rehabilitation, employment planning and promotion, rural development, small enterprise development and the protection of migrant **workers**.

2. It is through the continuation of such action promoting self-reliance that ILO **intends** to support the objectives of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

TV, REPLIES RECEIVED FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)

[Original! Spanish]

[1a November 1989)

PARTICIPATION OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES  
IN THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF  
COLONIALISM AND THE STATUS OF COLONIAL TERRITORIES  
IN THE AMERICAN HEMISPHERE

(Draft resolution approved at the sixth session of the  
General Committee, held on 17 November 1989)

WHEREAS I

Resolution AG/RES. 741 (XIV-O/84) of the General Assembly of the Organisation of American States declares that the question of granting independence to colonial countries and peoples is one of the innumerable principles that the Organisation of American States and the United Nations closely share;

In resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988, the United Nations General Assembly declared the period 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

In resolution AG/RES. 107 (III-O/73) the General Assembly stated that "the evolution of the situation in the Americas, particularly with regard to the process of eliminating colonialism, is of interest to the Organisation of American States"; and

The similarity of objectives between the United Nations and the Organisation of American States with regard to the eradication of all forms of colonialism calls for the active and resolute solidarity of the inter-American system in the cause of decolonization.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES I

1. To associate fully in the activities conducted by the United Nations during the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

2. To request the General Secretariat to co-ordinate for that purpose with the appropriate bodies of the United Nations, any activities and actions that the Organisation of American States might carry out to contribute to the process of world-wide decolonization in general and that of the American hemisphere in particular, in view of the right of all peoples to self-determination.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to **prepare a study on these topics** and to **present** it to the **General Assembly** at its twentieth regular *session*,

4. To instruct the General **Secretariat** to transmit the text *of* this resolution to the **Secretary-General** of **the United Nations** and, through him, to the General **Assembly** of that **Organization**.

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