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President: Mr. Muhammad ZAFRULLA KHAN
(Pakistan).

AGENDA ITEM 44

Draft Convention and draft Recommendation on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages (concluded)

REPORT OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE (A/5273)
(concluded)

1. Mr. OUEDRAOGO (Upper Volta) (translated from French): When the Draft Convention on Marriage was considered in the Third Committee, my delegation asked that the territorial application clause be deleted. This proposal was supported by a large number of delegations. We shall always maintain the position that it is improper to include colonial clauses in international conventions.

2. Our attitude is in keeping with the terms of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV). We believe, and we shall go on believing, that the General Assembly will refuse to encourage colonialism in any way whatsoever. When we insist that the territorial application clause be deleted from the Convention, we want our attitude to be understood. Our object is not—as some have attempted to convince this Assembly—to deprive the Non-Self-

Governing Territories of the benefits of this Convention. On the contrary, we should like to see all the peoples under colonial domination accede to this very important instrument in full sovereignty and as soon as possible. We believe that these peoples no longer want those who give the impression of defending them here, for reasons that are not voiced to speak on their behalf. We are convinced that these peoples are clamouring with all their strength for the right to take their own decisions in international affairs.

3. I believe that the United Kingdom is increasingly aware that these peoples are no longer prepared to submit to its will. That is why my delegation believes that this colonial Power would gain by removing the obstacles which prevent the peoples under its domination from making a contribution of their own to important international conventions such as this one. We are convinced that such a change in the United Kingdom's colonial policy would give greater force to our conventions. But we must take this opportunity of confessing our surprise that a country which claims, as the United Kingdom does, to be democratic should refuse to accept a majority decision. By a vote of 57 to 27, with 7 abstentions, the Third Committee decided not to include a territorial application clause. The submission of an amendment [A/L.399] by the United Kingdom in the General Assembly is nothing but a political manoeuvre which is prejudicial to the peoples under its domination.

4. By clinging to its colonial privileges, this great Power is denying the value of democratic decisions. That being so, we cannot but feel concerned and conclude that this attitude is an indication of its intention to keep its colonial system in being for an indefinite period. We therefore intend to vote against this amendment, and we hope that the General Assembly will decide, as the Third Committee did, not to include any territorial or colonial application clause in the Convention.

5. It is with this hope that I shall request the President to put to the vote my oral motion that no territorial or colonial clause be included in the text of the Convention. Since this is a motion on a matter of principle, I believe that it should be put to the vote before the United Kingdom's amendment. That is the procedure we adopted in the Third Committee.

6. While I have the floor, I should like to explain on behalf of the representative of Mauritania that in his statement [1166th meeting] he intended to refer to the non-inclusion, and not the deletion, of the proposed article 7, which does not appear in the present draft Convention. The representative of Mauritania, who played a very substantial part in the Third Committee, associates his delegation with my own in submitting this oral motion that the clause in question be not included.

7. Since the results of the discussion on this question in the Third Committee speak for themselves, I believe that it would be to our advantage if we were to close the debate which has been reopened because of this amendment by proceeding to a vote.

8. Mrs. MANTZOULINOS (Greece): As the delegation of Greece was unable to attend the meeting of the Third Committee on Friday, 5 October 1962, when a vote was taken on the deletion of article 7 of the Draft Convention under consideration [see A/5273], may we be permitted at this stage of the discussion before the plenary Assembly to explain the vote which we shall cast in favour of the United Kingdom amendment [A/L.399].

9. The Greek delegation, in sponsoring the draft Convention on consent to marriage in the Commission on the Status of Women, was inspired by the wish to have the benefit of that Convention applied as widely as possible and, in particular, in territories which have not as yet achieved their independence. We are happy to realize that General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), which was carried unanimously and which sought to put an end to colonialism, has brought about an acceleration of the process towards independence so that today so many new nations have joined us within the United Nations family, and we shall be much happier to see the rest of the territories which are on the march towards their independence join us in the very near future.

10. However, from the juridical as well as the realistic aspect of the international situation, so far as areas under foreign administration are concerned, there are areas which are not as yet autonomous, and therefore do not assume responsibility in international relations.

11. In view of the fact that millions of women concerned with the application of this Convention live in such parts of the world, my delegation, consistent with the purposes and objectives which prompted its sponsoring of the draft convention in the Commission on the Status of Women, wishes to have women of territories not yet independent given the benefits of the Convention, so that upon the anticipated independence of their country, their national legislation will have been adapted to the Convention and therefore improved in the field of family law. The only way to this end, we are confident, is to give Governments which assume international responsibility on behalf of non-independent territories the right and the opportunity to extend the application of this Convention to the territories concerned.

12. We shall also vote for the amendment presented by the Congo (Leopoldville), Liberia, Sweden and the United States [A/L.398/and Add.1] because we believe that article 8, as it was voted upon in the Third Committee, serves no effective end to the settlement of disputes over the Convention. If a dispute deriving from the interpretation or the application of the Convention is to be settled upon agreement of all the parties concerned, either through arbitration or through a juridical decision by a court of common agreement, we do not see the use or the help of such a clause. It is understood that common agreement of all parties concerned can lead to any solution without special reference to it in a Convention. Quite to the contrary, we believe that a clause on the settlement of disputes would be effective only in case it provided for the compulsory jurisdiction of a

court at the request of any of the parties concerned. On these grounds, we shall vote for the amendment.

13. May I now address myself to the Convention as a whole. We do not feel very happy about paragraph 2, referring to proxy marriages, which was inserted in article 1 by the Third Committee in the course of the sixteenth session of the General Assembly. Not only is the institution of proxy marriages unknown to my country, but it is quite contrary to the sine qua non legal prerequisites for the existence of the marriage. The presence in the Convention of a reservation clause, as it appeared in the draft, would, through the amendment of Indonesia submitted to the Third Committee admitting reservations to the said paragraph 2, as well as to other non-substantial clauses of the convention, facilitate the position of quite a number of delegations. In the absence of a reservation clause, interpretation makes reservations by contracting parties possible to any point of the Convention, even to its essential clauses, and this minimizes the importance of the Convention and the humanitarian ends at which the Convention aims.

14. In view of this situation, the Greek delegation, which sponsored the draft Convention with great enthusiasm, no longer has that same enthusiasm. However, we shall vote in favour of the Convention as a whole because of the humanitarian principles it embodies.

15. Mr. YASSEEN (Iraq) (translated from French): The problem of the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice is a very familiar one and in our opinion should not, as a general question, be considered in connexion with a particular convention. The arguments for and against it are already well known. Some opponents of compulsory jurisdiction go so far as to connect their attitude in this respect with the present state of international law and of the representation of the different juridical systems in the international courts.

16. What matters now is to recall that the Third Committee did not see fit to accept compulsory jurisdiction in the particular case with which we are concerned, that is to say, in the case of this draft Convention covering certain aspects of marriage.

17. My delegation sees no good reason why the General Assembly should reverse the decision taken by the Third Committee. On that account, my delegation will vote against the amendment [A/L.398 and Add.1] submitted by the delegations of the Congo (Leopoldville), Liberia, Sweden and the United States.

18. With regard to the so-called territorial—or perhaps colonial—clause, I could understand the practical difficulties to which the United Kingdom representative referred this morning [1166th meeting], but I consider that the fair and practical solution is to comply with the resolution [1514 (XV)] adopted by the General Assembly in 1960 and to release these peoples from the colonial yoke, so that they may become parties to these conventions directly.

19. In our opinion, the inclusion of this clause would conflict with the letter, and even the spirit, of the resolutions of the General Assembly condemning colonialism. For this reason, my delegation will also vote against the amendment [A/L.399] submitted by the United Kingdom delegation.

20. Mr. ADEBO (Nigeria): I find myself in some difficulty in speaking on these two amendments

[A/L.398 and Add.1 and A/L.399], because both questions were considered in the Third Committee and were rejected. I would have preferred that whenever questions have been taken up, fully discussed and a decision taken by a Committee, we should not reopen them in the plenary meetings of the General Assembly. Now that the questions have been reopened here, it is a little embarrassing for some of us to keep silent, because we have definite views, some of which have already been expressed in the Third Committee.

21. For instance, this so-called territorial application clause is not a new idea at all. It was fully considered in the Committee, and some of us felt that what we should aim at was not this degree of territoriality, but, in fact, universality of application, and we still think so. Arguments were deployed against opening this convention for signature by countries which were not even Members of the United Nations. I regret that these arguments were deployed, and I regret that we were unable to accept, as a Committee, the principle of universality, but many of us preferred that to this degree of territorial application, and for that reason we felt unable to accept the suggestion made by the United Kingdom Government [A/L.399]. I am afraid that we still cannot.

22. In regard to the amendment submitted by Congo (Leopoldville), Liberia, Sweden and the United States [A/L.398 and Add.1], I want to make it clear that we of the Nigerian delegation believe that we should all endeavour to bring as many matters as possible in this wretched world within the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice. We have no doubt that if the rule of law is to be maintained, then all countries of the world must cease to think too much in terms of their national sovereignty. Some representatives who spoke before me argued that to insert this amendment would infringe upon their own objection to compulsory jurisdiction. I submit that they are in error in thinking this.

23. The Charter of the International Court of Justice does provide that it shall have jurisdiction when any Convention so provides. If, therefore, we all agree that in regard to these questions of marriage it would be a good thing that the International Court of Justice should have automatic jurisdiction as soon as any of the parties so desired, then the Court will have it, and we will have already conferred this jurisdiction voluntarily upon the Court. I see no reason why that conferment should be construed as any infringement upon anybody's national sovereignty.

24. But while we of the Nigerian delegation feel this way, the arguments, pro and con, have already been deployed in the Committee. The Committee voted upon them and took a decision that, in the interest of the objective we all have in mind in trying to reach agreement upon this Convention, it would be better if we made the provision which is contained in the report which is now before us.

25. We of the Nigerian delegation are not prepared to go back upon the decision that has already been reached in the Committee. We feel that once we have put forward arguments in the Committee, one way or the other, and the Committee has reached a decision and a report has been presented to the General Assembly, then it is simply a waste of Assembly's time to reopen the issues. For the reason

I have given, I am afraid that the Nigerian delegation will be unable to support either of the amendments before the Assembly.

26. The PRESIDENT: I recognize the representative of the United Kingdom in exercise of his right of reply.

27. Mr. UNWIN (United Kingdom): I must take up a minute or two of the Assembly's time in order to answer statements made by one or two representatives which have misrepresented, whether through misunderstanding or by design, the aims of the United Kingdom Government in proposing the amendment [A/L.399].

28. Our object is simply to allow the territories concerned each to make its own choice. It is the invariable practice of the United Kingdom Government to consult all the territories for whose international relations it has responsibility, at whatever stage of development their internal self-government may be, about the application to them of a Convention of this kind. In many of them, of course, a very advanced stage of self-government has been reached. Our purpose is to allow the territories to decide for themselves whether the Convention is in accordance with their own local customs and legislation, and to consider what changes might need to be made in order to permit the application of the Convention.

29. It is not our practice or our policy to interfere directly with local customs, and we would not consider ourselves free to impose even a Convention of this kind, intended for application throughout the organized international community, without the full consent of the territories concerned.

30. The PRESIDENT: We shall now proceed to vote on the draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee and contained in the report [A/5273]. I propose to take up first draft resolution A, including the annexed draft Convention, and in this connexion we shall take up the amendments in the order in which they have been submitted. I invite the Assembly to turn its attention to the amendment proposed by Congo (Leopoldville), Liberia, Sweden and the United States of America [A/L.398 and Add.1]. This amendment refers to article 8, concerning the settlement of disputes, and proposes to replace the word "all" in the third line with the words "anyone of". A roll-call vote has been requested on this amendment.

Japan, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tanganyika, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Ceylon, China, Colombia, Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Federation of Malaya, Finland, France, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy.

Against: Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Niger, Nigeria, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian

Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Congo (Brazzaville), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ivory Coast.

Abstaining: Laos, Morocco, Togo, Tunisia, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Burundi, Cambodia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Jamaica.

The amendment was rejected by 46 votes to 45, with 1 abstention.

31. The PRESIDENT: We turn now to the amendment proposed by the United Kingdom [A/L.399]. The representatives of Mauritania and Upper Volta have put their opposition to this amendment in the form of a motion, but it comes to the same thing. I do not think that it would be proper procedure for me to put to the vote the question that the proposed article be not included. Let us assume for the sake of illustration that the proposition that the proposed article be not included is defeated: does that mean that the proposed article shall be included? I shall put the amendment itself to a vote, and those delegations which are of the view that it should not be included will, of course, vote against it. Those who are in favour of its being included or accepted will vote in favour of it.

32. I call on the representative of the United Arab Republic on a point of order.

33. Mr. GHORBAL (United Arab Republic): You have been good enough, Mr. President, to express your opinion concerning the method of voting on the amendment put to us by the representative of the United Kingdom. However, I hope that you have not yet decided on any definite ruling, for in our view, the representative of Upper Volta did suggest that the Convention before us should contain no colonial or territorial clause whatsoever. Therefore, what he requests is a vote or principle, not on the actual text. Perhaps, in his wisdom, the President would wish to have the views of the General Assembly as to whether it does or does not wish to have a territorial or colonial clause included, regardless of the terms of such an article in the Convention. If the Assembly decides to have a territorial clause, then the President could put the second question in order to decide on the actual wording of that article.

34. In the light of my remarks, I hope, Mr. President, that you will be able to see the point which I have tried to make clear.

35. The PRESIDENT: I have no proposal before me—and, therefore, none before the General Assembly—that a colonial clause should be included. The proposal is a concrete one, that this particular article be included. Whether it amounts to a colonial clause or not is not the matter at issue. The proposal of the representative of Upper Volta is that this article be not included—which amounts to opposition to the proposed amendment. As there is no proposal before me that a colonial clause be included, I cannot put to the vote the suggestion that a colonial clause be not included. I shall therefore put the amendment to the vote and that will give all delegations an opportunity to express their views, through their votes, whether they want the amendment to be included in the articles of the convention or not to be included.

36. A request has been made that in the United Kingdom amendment [A/L.399], the opening words of the proposed article 7—that is to say, the following

words: "This Convention shall apply to all Non-Self-Governing, Trust, colonial and other non-metropolitan Territories for the international relations of which any State Party is responsible until their achievement of independence"—shall be voted on separately. If there is no objection to that proposal I shall proceed accordingly.

37. I hear no objection; therefore, it is so decided. I shall put first to the vote the words that I have just read out. Those who are in favour of these words being included in the articles of the convention under article 7 will kindly signify by raising their hands.

38. Mr. ADEBO (Nigeria): Before the Assembly proceeds to the vote on the question just put by the President, I should like to be sure what would be the implications of an affirmative vote—that is, a vote in favour of the application of this convention to Non-Self-Governing, Trust, colonial and other non-metropolitan Territories. These Territories, it seems, do not have the kind of authority that would enable them to ratify the provisions of the Convention. Or is it maintained that they do have such authority? I shall be grateful for an explanation, since that would help us to decide how to vote.

39. Mr. GHORBAL (United Arab Republic): I am extremely grateful to the representative of Nigeria for having raised that question.

40. Our proposal is that the Assembly should take two separate votes on this amendment proposed by the United Kingdom delegation [A/L.399]. I shall explain why. The representative of the United Kingdom told us this morning that if there were no territorial or colonial clause in the Convention it would be hard for the United Kingdom to apply the Convention to Territories still under United Kingdom administration. Hence, we have decided to request a separate vote on the following phrase of the amendment:

"This Convention shall apply to all Non-Self-Governing, Trust, colonial and other non-metropolitan Territories for the international relations of which any State Party is responsible until their achievement of independence".

41. If there is to be a territorial or colonial clause in the Convention, we would prefer to see included the phrase that I have just read out. Any metropolitan country responsible for the affairs of another group of peoples or of Territories would, on becoming a party to the Convention, automatically apply the Convention to all Non-Self-Governing, Trust and colonial Territories under its administration.

42. We shall vote in favour of the phrase of the amendment which I have just read out, and we shall vote against the remainder of the amendment. In that way no loophole will be left under which the colonial or territorial clause could be used for purposes which would not benefit these Territories.

43. Mr. DADZIE (Ghana): My delegation is rather surprised at the proposal now before the Assembly. There can be no doubt that this matter was very exhaustively debated in the Third Committee and the Committee's view was that there should be no colonial clause in this Convention. Now we have a proposal which would include some provisions in this respect and exclude others.

44. What, may I ask, will be the position of these colonial and Trust Territories if only the part of the clause in question is adopted? Will they become States Members of the Assembly? If the part of the clause dealing with the administration is to be left out, what is the value of the part which it is proposed to include?

45. This matter was fully discussed when we dealt with the doctrine of universality. The Third Committee decided that the doctrine of universality should not be applicable in this case. Indeed, even States which are not Members of the United Nations were excluded. How, then could we include a phrase to the effect that the Convention should apply to Non-Self-Governing, Trust and colonial Territories? I should like to ask the representative who has made this proposal to explain to me what capacity these Territories would have under the Convention.

46. The representative of Upper Volta made a proposal which, I fear, seems to have created some confusion. I should like now to make a formal proposal that the Assembly should first decide whether a colonial or territorial clause should be included. The President said that he was not aware that article 7 amounted to such a clause. I state that it does. Article 7 is the same clause as has appeared in Conventions as the colonial or territorial clause; it is a clause which would enable the imperialist and colonialist Powers to apply this Convention on behalf of their colonies and dependencies. The Committee showed beyond any doubt its abhorrence for the inclusion of this clause; there was an absolutely decisive vote: fifty-seven to six. I do not see why we should now start to break this article up into parts in order to arrive at a conclusion which would not even make sense.

47. I therefore formally move that the Assembly should first decide the preliminary question whether it wishes to include article 7—otherwise called the territorial or colonial clause—in the Convention at all. If the Assembly decides to exclude the article, then no other question arises. If it decides to include the article, we must have an opportunity of debating the text line by line in order to determine whether this is the best formulation. As I have said, breaking this up into parts will not solve the problem.

48. I therefore make that formal proposal on behalf of my delegation. Once the preliminary question has been decided, we shall know that to do next.

49. The PRESIDENT: The United Arab Republic has withdrawn its proposal for a separate vote on the opening lines of the proposed article 7. Under rule 90 of the rules of procedure, the voting having already started, except with regard to a point of order in connexion with the actual conduct of the voting, no other matter can be raised at this stage. In any case, the disputed point being out of the way, I shall now proceed to take a vote as I had originally proposed, that is to say, whether the amendment proposed by the United Kingdom [A/L.399] shall or shall not be adopted. A roll-call vote has been requested.

A vote was taken by roll-call.

Pakistan, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Pakistan, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America,

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Burma, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway.

Against: Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tanganyika, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria.

Abstaining: Panama, Thailand, Ceylon, China, Federation of Malaya, Jamaica.

The amendment was rejected by 75 votes to 27, with 6 abstentions.

50. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now turn to draft resolution A, recommended by the Third Committee. A separate vote has been requested by Iraq on paragraph 2 of article 1.

Paragraph 2 of article 1 was adopted by 30 votes to 27, with 27 abstentions.

51. The PRESIDENT: I shall now put to the vote draft resolution A as a whole.

Draft resolution A was adopted by 92 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

52. The PRESIDENT: I shall now put to the vote draft resolution B.

Draft resolution B was adopted by 90 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

53. The PRESIDENT: I shall now call on representatives who wish to explain their votes after the voting.

54. Mrs. RANA (Nepal): My delegation appreciates the idea expressed by the representative of the United Kingdom to give the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of this Marriage Convention even to the women residing in those unfortunate territories which are still under a colonial Power. We have deep sympathy for those people, as well as for the Government of the United Kingdom for the technical difficulties they are encountering. We also feel very sorry to see that we have reached the point of excluding some citizens of this world even from this humanitarian cause, as we have already excluded more than 900 million people by article 4 of this Convention.

55. Although we have no intention of excluding a single person in the world from enjoying the benefits of this Convention and although we are always in favour of the principle of universality, we voted against the United Kingdom amendment [A/L.399] for the reason that my Government is, as it will always be, definitely against colonialism. We want to see a complete reappraisal of colonial policies, regardless of the form it takes and the method used.

56. Nevertheless, we have every hope that the Government of the United Kingdom will realize this fact and that those colonies will soon become independent. When this happens, there will be no further technical difficulties for the Government of the United Kingdom, and we will be able to welcome those dependent peoples as citizens of a free and independent State in this Organization, and they will automatically be able to sign the Convention with full authority.

57. Mr. WHITE (Australia): As is well known, Australia was a pioneer in the field of rights for women. For example, ours was one of the first countries in which women were granted the vote. It follows that the principle embodied in this resolution, that is, resolution A, is one which we support. However, as a simple question of practicability, we could not at this stage apply the Convention in the territories for which we are responsible. As a result, we find ourselves in the paradoxical position of having to abstain even though, as I said, we do support the basic principles of this Convention.

58. Mr. UNWIN (United Kingdom): I should like to make a short explanation of the vote of my delegation on the draft Convention as a whole.

59. As the United Kingdom delegation has made clear earlier, the absence of a suitable territorial application article from the draft Convention is, in our view, a serious omission and one which makes it unlikely that the United Kingdom will be able to become a party for some time to come. Nevertheless, we voted in favour of the draft Convention as a whole. We did so because of our wholehearted support for the principle which it embodies. For the same reason, we wish ourselves to become a party to the Convention as soon as practicable, and we hope that as many other States as possible will do likewise.

60. There is one further point which I should like to explain. When the substantive articles of the draft convention were voted on during the Third Committee's consideration of this item at the sixteenth session, my delegation abstained from voting. We wish, therefore, to make clear now is that in voting as we have just done in favour of the Convention as a whole, we did so on the following understandings: first, that the effect of failure in the case of any particular marriage to comply with the requirements of the Convention is a matter for determination by, and in accordance with, the applicable law and that such failure shall not necessarily be regarded as rendering the marriage void; secondly, that any authority which may, in accordance with the relevant law, be required to be present at the solemnization of a marriage may be regarded, for the purpose of article 1 of the Convention, as an authority competent to solemnize the marriage.

61. It would be the intention of the United Kingdom Government to make a similar statement of understanding at the time of its signature of the Convention.

62. Mr. KLUTZNICK (United States of America): The United States delegation has pursued an active role in the formulation of a suitable convention on consent to marriage, minimum age for marriage and registration of marriages. We are singularly proud of the role played by our representative, Mrs. Gladys Tillett, in the Commission on the Status of Women and in the Third Committee in connexion

with this Convention. It is a source of pleasure and gratification that this work has matured successfully.

63. This Convention endeavours to establish the principle of full and free consent of both spouses to marriage. It also requires that parties take legislative action to specify a minimum age for marriage and that marriages be appropriately registered. In my country under our Constitution, marriage traditionally has been a subject within the competence of the respective state governments. Legislation in force in our various state jurisdictions is in conformity within the principles of the Marriage Convention.

64. In view of our constitutional system my Government, in considering ratification of the Convention, will do so with the understanding that ratification by the United States will be regarded as constituting a recognition and not an impairment of the constitutional rights of the respective states of the United States to regulate marriages within their jurisdiction. Furthermore, the United States regretfully will make a reservation to article 8 because it should not be permitted to stand as a precedent for future Conventions.

65. My Government is, I repeat, pleased that these principles are being given formal expression here in the United Nations. We profoundly hope that they will in due course be universally applied.

66. The PRESIDENT: This concludes the consideration of this item.

AGENDA ITEM 87

The policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa (concluded)*

(a) Race conflict in South Africa;

(b) Treatment of people of Indian and Indo-Pakistan origin in the Republic of South Africa

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/5276) (concluded)

67. The PRESIDENT: I now recognize the representative of the Central African Republic who wishes to make a statement.

68. Mr. GALLIN-DOUATHE (Central African Republic) (translated from French): I should like to thank you for having been good enough at this late stage in our work, to give me the floor so that I may make a short statement. It relates not to the votes that have just been taken, but to the voting that took place yesterday [1165th meeting] on the draft resolution submitted by the Special Political Committee, which appears in its report [A/5276] on agenda item 87.

69. The position of my delegation with regard to the policy of apartheid practised in South Africa is well known. Unfortunately, it was prevented by a regrettable mishap from reaffirming its position yesterday by participating, by means of affirmative votes, in the voting that took place following the discussion on agenda item 87.

70. Although for the reasons just stated it was unable in the event to give full and positive support to the draft resolution submitted by the Special

*Resumed from the 1165th meeting.

litical Committee, the delegation of the Central American Republic wishes to state that it associates itself fully with the important decision taken yesterday by a majority of the States Members of our organization.

AGENDA ITEM 25

the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples: report of the Special Committee established under General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI)*

The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now begin consideration of the report of the Special Committee concerning the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples with the exception of chapters II, IX and XI, which deal with Southern Rhodesia, South West Africa and Angola. These are separate items on the agenda of a seventeenth session.

Mr. RIFA'I (Syria), Rapporteur 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: have the honour to present to the General Assembly the report of the Special Committee on its work during the period from 20 February to 19 September 1962 [A/5238].

The Special Committee was established by the General Assembly in resolution 1654 (XVI) adopted on 27 November 1961. In accordance with that resolution, the seventeen members of the Special Committee were nominated by the President of the General Assembly on 23 January 1962.

The task assigned to the Special Committee by the General Assembly was to examine the application of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples embodied in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV). This Declaration stated *inter alia* that:

"Immediate steps shall be taken, in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories or all other territories which have not yet attained independence, to transfer all powers to the peoples of those territories, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, without any distinction as to race, creed or colour, in order to enable them to enjoy complete independence and freedom."

As pointed out in the report, the adoption of this declaration by the General Assembly was regarded as a most constructive achievement and a landmark in the efforts of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and objectives of the Charter. The Declaration itself was a declaration of faith and inspiration to the people who were still under colonial rule and an expression of the universal desire to expedite the process of the liberation of colonial peoples everywhere.

The Special Committee began its work on 20 February 1962, less than one month after its members were nominated by the President. It continued its work until 19 September 1962. During this period the Committee held 117 plenary meetings in addition

to the meetings held by its Sub-Committees and its formal and informal working groups. This in itself is an indication of the importance attached by the members of the Committee to the task entrusted to them and the seriousness with which that task was undertaken. In this connexion I would like to pay tribute to the keen interest taken by the President of the sixteenth session of the General Assembly, who is today the Foreign Minister of Tunisia, Mr. Mongi Slim, as well as by the Acting Secretary-General, in the work of this Committee. This interest was manifested not only in their participation in the opening meeting of the Special Committee but also in their continued contact with the progress of its work.

76. The General Assembly, in resolution 1654 (XVI), directed the Special Committee:

"... to carry out its task by employment of all means which it will have at its disposal within the framework of the procedures and modalities which it shall adopt for the proper discharge of its functions".

Therefore, the first task of the Special Committee was to reach agreement on its methods of work and procedures. After a very thorough and constructive debate, the Special Committee agreed on the methods and procedures to be followed in carrying out its mandate. A summary of the views expressed by the members of the Committee concerning the organization of its work are contained in paragraphs 15 to 111 of chapter I of the report, and the decisions are contained in paragraph 112 of that chapter. I do not therefore wish to repeat them at this juncture. I would, however, like to point out that, on the basis of its experience, the Special Committee is satisfied that the methods and procedures it has adopted and followed have been found to be most appropriate and effective in the discharge of its functions.

77. With regard to the examination of the implementation of the Declaration in respect to "Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories or all other territories which have not yet attained independence", I would like also to draw the attention of the General Assembly to some of the more important decisions of the Committee. First, the Special Committee agreed that the most effective method of discharging its mandate was to examine the territories individually. Following this, the Special Committee decided that the territories in Africa should be given priority consideration. Accordingly, a list of priorities was agreed upon on the understanding that, if circumstances warranted, subsequent additions or alterations could be made to that list. In this connexion, I would draw attention to paragraphs 124 to 127 of chapter I of the report.

78. General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI) authorized the Special Committee to meet elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters, whenever and wherever such meetings might be required for the effective discharge of its functions, in consultation with the appropriate authorities. Following invitations from the Governments of Morocco, Ethiopia and Tanganyika, the Special Committee decided to hold meetings in these three African countries. Details of the Committee's visit to Africa in the period from 20 May to 8 June 1962 are to be found in paragraphs 134 to 142 of chapter I of the report. As stated in the report, the Committee's visit to Africa was of great value, both in terms of the experience gained

*Resumed from the 1164th meeting.

by the Committee and the psychological effect on dependent as well as independent nations in that continent.

79. I wish to express on behalf of the Special Committee its appreciation and gratitude to the Governments of Morocco, Ethiopia and Tanganyika for their initiative in extending the invitations to the Special Committee and for all the assistance and hospitality extended to it during its stay in Africa.

80. Details of the Committee's consideration of individual territories are contained in chapters II to XI of the report. Each of those chapters contains the following sections: section A, information on the territory; section B, consideration by the Special Committee. Under this section there are three sub-sections, namely, introduction, hearing of petitioners and observations by members. Then there is section C, entitled "Action taken by the Special Committee". This section contains the decisions and recommendations of the Special Committee. Some of the chapters contain also certain additional sections giving information on any relevant action by the General Assembly relating to the territory concerned.

81. The Special Committee decided that, in the case of each territory, the summary of the views of the petitioners who appeared before it, as well as the summary of the views of the members of the Special Committee, should be included in its report. While that has added to the size of the report, it was felt that it would assist the Members of the General Assembly in better understanding the Committee's decisions and recommendations. I am sure that, although the report is rather lengthy for the reason I have just explained, the detailed table of contents given at the beginning will enable Members to use it without difficulty.

82. I shall turn now briefly to each of the twelve territories which are considered in the report.

83. Chapter I, as I have already mentioned deals with organization of work, including the Special Committee's views on future work.

84. Chapter II concerns Southern Rhodesia, the first territory considered by the Special Committee. Members of the General Assembly are already aware of the special and very detailed consideration given by the Committee to the situation in Southern Rhodesia, including the sending of a Sub-committee to London for talks with the United Kingdom Government with a view to finding a solution of this problem consonant with the mandate of the Special Committee as well as with the aspirations of the peoples of Southern Rhodesia.

85. Subsequently a special report on Southern Rhodesia was submitted by the Committee to the resumed sixteenth session of the General Assembly. On the basis of the Special Committee's report the General Assembly, at its resumed session, considered the question of Southern Rhodesia as a matter of urgency and adopted resolution 1747 (XVI). The Special Committee took note of that resolution, and in particular of paragraph 3 thereof, which requested it to continue its constructive efforts towards the earliest implementation of the Declaration with regard to this territory. The Fourth Committee has already considered the question of Southern Rhodesia at the current session, and on the report of that Committee the General Assembly has already adopted two reso-

lutions, resolution 1755 (XVII) of 12 October 1962 and resolution 1760 (XVII) of 31 October 1962.

86. Chapter III deals with Northern Rhodesia. The conclusions and recommendations of the Special Committee concerning this territory are contained in paragraphs 193 to 205 of that chapter of the report. The recommendations include a draft resolution recommended for adoption by the General Assembly. At the request of the Special Committee a copy of these conclusions and recommendations was transmitted by the Acting Secretary-General to the United Kingdom Government on 18 June 1962. Incidentally, I might mention here that elections took place in Northern Rhodesia on 30 October 1962 and that the results may have to be taken into account before any resolution on the territory is adopted.

87. Chapter IV concerns Nyasaland. The Special Committee noted that the situation in Nyasaland was comparatively less difficult since, in the elections held in 1961, the Malawi Congress Party, led by Dr. Hastings Banda, had already won a majority of seats. The conclusions and recommendations of the Special Committee concerning Nyasaland will be found in paragraph 67 and 68 of that chapter of the report. Here again a copy of the Special Committee's conclusions and recommendations was transmitted to the United Kingdom Government by the Acting Secretary-General on 18 June 1962.

88. Chapter V deals with the High Commission Territories, namely, Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland. Because of the geographical location of these territories and the similarity of their problems the Special Committee decided to consider them together. A draft resolution recommended by the Special Committee for consideration by the General Assembly concerning these three territories will be found in paragraph 214 of that chapter of the report.

89. Chapter VI concerns the territory of Zanzibar. Again, here, a draft resolution recommended for consideration of the General Assembly will be found in paragraph 154 of that chapter of the report.

90. Chapter VII concerns British Guiana. In view of the urgency of the situation in British Guiana the Special Committee gave priority consideration to this territory and adopted a resolution on 30 July 1962. That resolution, which requested the United Kingdom Government to take certain immediate steps, was transmitted to that Government on 1 August 1962 by the Acting Secretary-General. The text of the resolution will be found in paragraph 84 of that chapter of the report.

91. Chapter VIII deals with Mozambique. In considering the situation in this territory the Special Committee had before it the report of the Special Committee on Territories under Portuguese Administration. A draft resolution on Mozambique recommended by the Special Committee for consideration by the General Assembly will be found in paragraph 109 of that chapter of the report.

92. Chapter IX deals with South West Africa. In considering the implementation of the Declaration in this territory the Special Committee also had before it the report of the Special Committee on South West Africa. The conclusions and recommendations on South West Africa will be found in paragraphs 120 to 124 of that chapter of the report. Incidentally, I

might point out here an omission, the sub-title "conclusions and recommendations" should appear above paragraph 121.

93. Chapter X deals with Kenya. A draft resolution on Kenya recommended by the Special Committee for consideration by the General Assembly will be found in paragraph 88 of that chapter of the report.

94. Chapter XI deals with Angola. As in the case of Mozambique, the Special Committee had also before it the report of the Special Committee on Territories under Portuguese Administration. A draft resolution on Angola recommended for consideration by the General Assembly will be found in paragraph 44 of that chapter of the report.

95. The last chapter, chapter XII, gives summaries of general petitions and petitions relating to territories other than those dealt with in chapters II to XI.

96. Before concluding this part of my statement, I would like to say a few words about the future work of the Special Committee. This question was the subject of very careful consideration by the Special Committee as well as by a working group appointed for that purpose. The views of the Special Committee on this question will be found in paragraphs 146 to 152 of chapter I of the report.

97. In the course of its work since February 1962, the Special Committee examined the application of the Declaration in twelve territories, eleven of them in Africa. As will be seen from the report, the emphasis placed on Africa at the outset of its work was in keeping with the urgent demand of the problems existing in the African colonies and the need for taking appropriate and urgent measures to avoid greater difficulties in the future. The Special Committee felt that the wisdom of its decision to give priority consideration to territories in Africa has been amply borne out by the political developments in these territories.

98. The Special Committee recognized that it has by no means completed the task entrusted to it by the General Assembly and that there were many more territories concerning which the implementation of the Declaration remained to be considered. In addition, it would also be necessary for the Special Committee to follow up the action already taken, or to be taken, by the General Assembly on the territories which have already been considered by it, but where the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples has not yet been implemented.

99. Another point to which I wish to draw particular attention, in connexion with the future work of the Special Committee, is the question of co-ordination of work between the various United Nations Committees in the colonial field. This is a matter which is referred to by the Acting Secretary-General in the introduction to his annual report [A/5201/Add.1, p. 4]. The Special Committee in paragraph 152 of chapter I of its report has taken note of this and has expressed the hope that the views of the Secretary-General will receive the consideration of the General Assembly.

100. Finally, with the permission of the President, I would like to say a few words with regard to some procedural problems. The consideration of this report has been allocated to the plenary meetings of the General Assembly. Taking into account the back-

ground of the historic Declaration and the subsequent decision to establish this Special Committee, it is only right and proper that the report should be considered by the General Assembly in plenary meetings. However, there are a few practical problems which the Assembly may wish to clarify before it takes up the various draft resolutions contained in the report of the Special Committee. I shall take, in the first instance, the question of Southern Rhodesia, which is dealt with in chapter II of the report. As the Assembly is aware, this was inscribed as a separate item on the agenda of the current session and the General Assembly has already adopted two draft resolutions, to which I have already made reference. Therefore, pending the receipt of the report of the Secretary-General called for in operative paragraph 4 of resolution 1760 (XVII) of 31 October, it would perhaps be unnecessary to go into detailed consideration of this territory at this stage. Obviously this is a matter which must be left to the judgement and discretion of the Members of this Assembly.

101. Next is the question of South West Africa, dealt with in chapter IX of the report. On the basis of the report of the Special Committee on South West Africa, this question is now being discussed in the Fourth Committee. Therefore, the Fourth Committee could refer to chapter IX of this report also in considering that question. In that way, we could avoid specific proposals on this territory being initiated in two places.

102. The third question is that of Mozambique, which is dealt with in chapter VIII of the report. Mozambique will come up for consideration in the Fourth Committee as part of the report of the Special Committee on Territories under Portuguese Administration. As I have already pointed out, chapter VIII contains a draft resolution on Mozambique for the consideration of the General Assembly. It will therefore be necessary to make appropriate working arrangements between the plenary and the Fourth Committee to avoid specific recommendations or draft resolutions originating in two places.

103. The fourth and last problem relates to Angola, which is dealt with in chapter XI. Here again there is a draft resolution recommended for consideration by the General Assembly. In addition, there is the report of the Sub-Committee on Angola [A/5286], which is allocated to the plenary for consideration. The question of Angola will also be before the Fourth Committee as part of the report of the Special Committee on Territories under Portuguese Administration [A/5160 and Corr.1]. As in the case of Mozambique, it will therefore be advisable to find ways and means of avoiding duplication of recommendations or draft resolutions.

104. I am sure that we can find working arrangements by which the debate can be conducted in an effective manner and decisions arrived at without procedural difficulties.

105. To conclude, I have the honour on behalf of the Special Committee to submit this report to the General Assembly in the hope that it will be of great assistance in its efforts to bring about the end of colonialism.

106. The PRESIDENT: I recognize the representative of Guinea on a point of order.

107. Mr. DIALLO Telli (Guinea) (translated from French): I have asked for permission to speak on a point of order, in order to make a very short statement and a specific proposal regarding the General Assembly's method of work in dealing with the important report that we have just been invited to consider [A/5238].

108. Before adjourning the 1165th meeting, the President suggested—and there was not the slightest objection—that the three territories of Southern Rhodesia, South West Africa and Angola be excluded from the Assembly's debates in connexion with the report of the Committee of Seventeen. The Rapporteur of the Committee has just added Mozambique to the list, as that territory will also be considered by the Fourth Committee in connexion with the report of the Special Committee on Territories under Portuguese Administration [A/5160].

109. From the report of the Committee of Seventeen and the brilliant introductory statement just made by its Rapporteur, it appears that aside from the three territories about which a decision was taken yesterday—Southern Rhodesia, South West Africa and Angola—nine other territories, eight of which are under United Kingdom administration, were each the subject of special study and of a decision by the Committee of Seventeen.

110. The problem now before us—and this is where Guinea's specific proposal comes in—is whether we should embark here on a detailed consideration of each of these territories. Guinea's proposal is that the discussion of these nine territories should be referred to the Fourth Committee. It is based on the following reasons.

111. Resolution 1654 (XVI) gave the Committee of Seventeen a well-defined task, namely, the application of resolution 1514 (XV). The latter contained a solemn proclamation and a certain number of provisions. Everyone will recall what the solemn proclamation was. On 14 December 1960, the General Assembly solemnly proclaimed "the necessity of bringing to a speedy and unconditional end colonialism in all its forms and manifestations". The provisions, of which there are a number, may be said to be summed up in paragraph 5 of the resolution, which runs as follows:

"Immediate steps shall be taken, in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories or all other territories which have not yet attained independence, to transfer all powers to the peoples of those territories, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, without any distinction as to race, creed or colour, in order to enable them to enjoy complete independence and freedom."

112. Thus the General Assembly took the historic decision to proclaim the need for the independence of all colonial countries and peoples. Last year, twelve months later, faced with the fact that this resolution had not been carried out—a fact which was extremely discouraging for us—the General Assembly made a second important decision: after solemnly reiterating and reaffirming the essential purposes and principles of the 1960 Declaration,^{1/} it called

upon the States concerned (that is to say the colonial Power) to take action without further delay with a view to the faithful application and implementation of the Declaration. This resolution established a special Committee of seventeen members, which it requested to concern itself with the effective implementation of the Declaration and to report to the General Assembly at its seventeenth session.

113. We now have the report of the Committee of Seventeen before us. We believe most sincerely that on grounds both of efficiency and of logic, it would be very difficult for us to enter into a detailed discussion and to take decisions on each of the territories here in plenary meeting. What is expected of us, in fact, and what was intended in resolution 1654 (XVI), is the logical and normal sequel to, and, we should hope, the conclusion of, the work embodied in the two preceding resolutions, resolution 1514 (XV) and resolution 1654 (XVI). And our decision must necessarily apply to all the territories that have not yet achieved independence, regardless of their status, whether they are Trust Territories, Non-Self-Governing Territories or territories with an international status, such as South West Africa, which has been usurped by the Government of the Republic of South Africa. What we need, therefore, is necessarily a decision of principle which will cover all of those territories. I am convinced that the Assembly will see to it that our work culminates in such a decision.

114. For this reason, and although the study relating to the various territories (Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Swaziland, Zanzibar, British Guiana, Mozambique and Kenya) is an extremely useful one, we believe that the General Assembly should make an analysis of the study as a whole and on the basis of that analysis determine what final decision it will call on the colonial Powers to make in order to put an end to colonization, this time for good. On the basis of the directives thus provided, the Fourth Committee, which is already considering the question as a whole, would take a specific and final decision in respect of each of the territories.

115. It should be noted that Mozambique, to which the Rapporteur of the Committee of Seventeen referred just now, is, as is natural, included in the report of the Special Committee on Territories under Portuguese Administration [A/5160]. The other eight territories, all of which are under United Kingdom administration, are dealt with in the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories [A/5215]. These territories—I think that it is worth repeating this—are under United Kingdom administration. Now for some time past the United Kingdom colonial administration has consented to furnish not only the information required under Chapter XI of the Charter, but also information of a political and constitutional character concerning these territories.

116. In any event, in order to avoid any difficulties, we believe that on the basis of the precise directives and of the analysis that will have been worked out here, the General Assembly could specifically authorize the Fourth Committee to take as a basis for discussion not only the reports of the other special committees, but also the report of the Committee of Seventeen, so that it may get rid of this question of colonization once and for all.

^{1/} Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1960 [resolution 1514 (XV)].

117. That is the proposal on methods of work that the delegation of Guinea wished to make.

118. The PRESIDENT: Would the representative of Guinea be prepared to put to the Assembly, in the concrete form of a proposal, the concluding part of his statement, so that the views of the Assembly can be ascertained?

119. Mr. DIALLO Telli (Guinea) (translated from French): In order not to disturb the tranquillity of this extremely important debate on the report of the Committee of Seventeen, the delegation of Guinea felt that it should not make a formal proposal, hoping that its suggestion would be acceptable to everyone. If there are any objections, the delegation of Guinea is prepared to make a concrete proposal. As the method of work it has suggested is straightforward and necessary, the delegation of Guinea did not feel it necessary to make a concrete proposal. It will make such a proposal only if it is obliged to do so.

120. Mr. AGUIRRE (Uruguay) (translated from Spanish): The delegation of Uruguay has no substantive objection to the proposal made by the representative of Guinea. I would even say that the delegation of Uruguay would have deemed it more practical to have the report of the Committee of Seventeen referred directly to the Fourth Committee in order that the latter might submit resolutions on each of the items to the Assembly. However, now that we have arrived at the present situation, in which the Fourth Committee has already drawn up its programme of work, and since we have decided that the report of the Committee of Seventeen should come directly to the plenary, the delegation of Uruguay considers it preferable, for reasons of efficiency and in view of the need for us to perform our work in a more speedy and practical manner, to follow the method outlined by the Rapporteur of the Committee of Seventeen, namely, to refer to the Fourth Committee the questions contained in the report of the Committee of Seventeen which are also included in the agenda of the Fourth Committee.

121. The remaining questions should be considered directly in plenary meetings. If, at this stage of our work, we refer to the Fourth Committee the new questions dealt with in the report of the Committee of Seventeen, and if the lengthy debates which took place on each one of them in that Committee are repeated, we cannot see how the work can be done that we all desire to see done to further the objectives of the resolution which established that Committee.

122. My delegation therefore wishes to urge that we follow the method of work suggested by the Rapporteur, that we refer to the Fourth Committee the questions which are already on its agenda and retain in plenary the remaining questions in the report of the Committee of Seventeen, taking due account, also, of the fact that the Committee has already put forward for adoption by the General Assembly a draft resolution on each of those questions. Thus, without too much waste of time and with the advice of the Committee of Seventeen—in which we should have confidence—the General Assembly can already proceed to take action on each of these questions.

123. Mr. QUAISON-SACKY (Ghana): We had hoped that the suggestion made by the representative of

Guinea would not evoke any objections from the Assembly, because, as he stated in his intervention, the Fourth Committee actually has taken up all the items covered by the report of the Special Committee. The delegation of Ghana attaches great importance to this report. As was decided by the Assembly last year, the Special Committee was to examine the application of the Declaration made in 1960, make suggestions and recommendations on the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration, and report to the General Assembly at its seventeenth session. It did not at that time state that this should be in the plenary.

124. We think that the suggestion made by the representative of Guinea is very practical, in the sense that all the items covered by the report are also to be considered in detail by the Fourth Committee. In fact, the representative of Uruguay may possibly have missed the point that the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories [A/5215] would be dealing with all the territories which are covered by the present report. Our view is therefore that the Fourth Committee should go into detail and consider the kind of resolutions which the General Assembly should adopt. Then, when that has been done, the plenary can discuss this report constructively. We think the item should stand in the plenary; but the time should not be now, the time should be when the Fourth Committee has gone into detail on the various territories which are already covered in the report. Otherwise, the situation would be that the Fourth Committee would be discussing, say Basutoland or South West Africa, and then the plenary of the General Assembly would also discuss the same territory. There thus would be a duplication of effort which I am sure all of us would like to avoid.

125. I also do not wish to make a formal proposal, in the hope that the representative of Uruguay is not making his objection formally. I think that, with the explanation I have made, the Assembly will see the necessity of not objecting to the suggestion made by the representative of Guinea.

126. Mr. DIALLO Telli (Guinea) (translated from French): For the benefit of the representative of Uruguay, I should like very briefly to explain once again—and I thank the representative of Ghana for having made it clear—that there is absolutely no question of in any way skipping the discussion on the report of the Committee of Seventeen, to which we attach the highest importance. We want this report as a whole to be discussed here. But the point on which we think it important to make a decision at the outset is that, when we complete our debate here in the plenary, we must produce the natural and logical sequel to resolution 1514 (XV) and resolution 1654 (XVI), by which the Committee of Seventeen was established last year. In other words, we must take a general decision which will apply to all the territories that have not yet become independent. This general decision, these conclusions derived from our study of the report of the Committee of Seventeen, will of course serve as a guide for the Fourth Committee when it comes to take its decision, on the basis of all the documents before it, on any given territory.

127. To explain the situation once more, then, we are saying that in our view the General Assembly should debate the report as a whole, and then take

a decision applicable to all the territories which have not yet become independent. After that, on the basis of that decision of principle—which we hope will be the end, once and for all, of the problem of decolonization—the Fourth Committee, bearing in mind all the factors—that is, bearing in mind the report of the Committee of Seventeen itself [A/5238], as it relates to specific points, bearing in mind the report of the Special Committee on Territories under Portuguese Administration [A/5160], bearing in mind the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories [A/5215], bearing in mind the report of the Special Committee for South West Africa [A/5212 and Add.1-3], and bearing in mind also, perhaps, the report of the Sub-Committee on the Situation in Angola [A/5286] will take individual decisions for each territory.

128. Needless to say, in the final decision we shall take here, which in our view, will of necessity be a general decision, many other related questions will be considered, particularly the future of the Committee of Seventeen or any other body that the General Assembly might establish to implement whatever decision is taken this year.

129. I hope that the representative of Uruguay will be satisfied with these clarifications and that he will not press his point, so that the Assembly may proceed with its work.

130. Mr. BOZOVIC (Yugoslavia): Having heard the explanation just now given by the representative of Guinea, the Yugoslav delegation considers his suggestion—which, as he has told us, might be put as a formal proposal, if necessary—a very practical one, with regard to the examination of the report of the Committee of Seventeen, particularly those chapters dealing with separate territories.

131. With regard to the remarks of the representative of Uruguay, I have no documents at hand at the moment, but I do recall that the Chairman of the Fourth Committee has received a number of requests from representatives of political parties in some African territories, asking to be heard by the Fourth Committee when the question of non-self-governing territories comes under examination. Some of those requests have come from territories which have been discussed by the Committee of Seventeen.

132. From a practical point of view, if we decide to discuss all territories with the exception of those which you, Sir, mentioned yesterday, and with the addition of Mozambique, and decide upon recommendations which have been made by the Committee of Seventeen, we shall be faced with a situation later on in which, when discussing the non-self-governing territories, we shall have to hear the petitioners from some of those territories and reopen the question, and possibly come before the General Assembly with a new proposal or with additions to the proposal or with additions to the proposal already adopted.

133. Bearing that in mind, and also the possibility of more requests for oral hearings from different territories, I believe that the proposal made by the representative of Guinea is a practical one which would save us some time and might avoid duplication of work. Then we should be able to discuss here in plenary matters of principle, while the cases which have been dealt with in the report could be taken up in the Fourth Committee, in the light of any new

information which we might receive from the petitioners who have already asked to be heard or who might ask to be heard.

134. Miss BROOKS (Liberia): I think that the representatives of Guinea and Yugoslavia have said what I had intended to say, but I should like to explain further to the representative of Uruguay that while the item on the agenda concerns information from non-self-governing territories, it will be seen from the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories [A/5215] that these very territories listed in the report of the Committee of Seventeen are also listed in the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories. Therefore, concerning his suggestion to accept the request of the Rapporteur of the Committee of Seventeen to delegate such territories as are covered by the Fourth Committee to the Fourth Committee, it will be found that every territory which is non-self-governing is on the list of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

135. I will support the representative of Guinea to the effect that, when the question is finally discussed in the Fourth Committee, it does not detract from the general aspect of the meaning of the Declaration on decolonization. That has its own aspect, but in plenary we have the opportunity to make an evaluation on the basis of the reports given by the Special Committee on Territories under Portuguese Administration [A/5160] and the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories. If the Fourth Committee would examine the report that has been submitted by the committee of Seventeen, at this stage it would be in a better position to make an effective evaluation in plenary meeting of the over-all situation as intended by the draft resolution.

136. The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of Syria.

137. Mr. RIFA'I (Syria): Thank you for recognizing me as the representative of Syria, Mr. President, because I indeed come to speak as representative of Syria and not as Rapporteur.

138. I should like, in the first instance, to counsel Members of the General Assembly against taking a stand which might be considered rash at this stage. I have not come here to take issue with the representative of Guinea. I respect his views and I am sure that all of us here are very much concerned about the duplication of work and unnecessary conflict in recommendations. It seems to me that this is a point which must be borne in mind. In the course of the presentation of the report to the Assembly I have already alluded to this point and I have made certain practical suggestions for the purpose of avoiding any duplication in resolutions and recommendations or any conflict in that regard.

139. I know that the representative of Guinea is motivated by a noble purpose, as are the representative of Ghana and those others who have spoken in support of the course he has suggested. It seems to me that the best course at this juncture would be to postpone any decision on the motion which the representative of Guinea has just made and to defer the decision until tomorrow. In my view, we are precipitating a rash decision which may cause remorse in the future. My purpose in speaking is not

to say that the best procedure is to continue consideration of this report in all its aspects, but certainly I believe that, in view of the importance of the report and the fact that it was allocated originally to the General Assembly by the General Committee and by the Assembly itself, we should not now rashly reverse a decision already taken.

140. For this reason I would appeal to the representatives, particularly the representative of Guinea, not to disagree with the postponement of a decision on the procedural point which he has raised until we have had sufficient time to consider this problem which is of such great importance to us all. I am sure he will agree with me that we are all motivated by the same desire, and for that reason I renew my appeal to him to agree to the postponement of a decision at this time.

141. Mr. MONGUNO (Nigeria): My delegation had not intended to intervene, but after hearing the proposal made by the representative of Guinea, I should like to say that, in our opinion, it would be a duplication of effort in every respect to take up the question both at the plenary level and also in the Fourth Committee. Looking at the matter from a practical point of view, it is even going to be difficult for the plenary—if it is true that there has been a request for a hearing made by the petitioners to the Chairman of the Fourth Committee—to arrange to hear the petitioners. This would, I think, necessitate a reconstruction of the Assembly Hall. I hope that those who have expressed some objection to the suggestion of the representative of Guinea will agree that it is more practical and time-saving to refer the whole issue to the Fourth Committee, since almost every item will have to come before that Committee. I hope that other delegations here will also agree to this.

142. Mr. GEBRE-EGZY (Ethiopia): There seems to be some confusion about what the proposal of the delegation of Guinea really is. If I have understood correctly, the proposal is that the territories enumerated by the representative of Guinea should be dealt with in the Fourth Committee, because, first, it is more practical to listen to petitioners in Committee; secondly, in some instances the territories are already being considered by other Committees; and, thirdly, the discussion of the territories would be expedited in this way. But the proposal of the delegation of Guinea—and I think that this has not been well understood—is also that the principle of the implementation of the Declaration should be discussed by the Assembly in plenary meetings. In other words, the proposal is that the details of the report should be discussed in the Fourth Committee, but that the broad question of the implementation of the Declaration should be discussed in plenary.

143. It so happens that, in the Committee of Seventeen, we made almost the same proposal. Unfortunately, the idea died there—first, because there was not much time; and, secondly, because at that stage there seemed to be some sort of silent agreement that all the work on this subject should be done in plenary.

144. The point I want to make is this: the proposal of the delegation of Guinea does not mean that the item will be discussed both in plenary and in the Fourth Committee. What it does mean is that the

question of whether or not resolution 1515 (XV) has been properly implemented will be discussed in plenary, but that a number of territories, which in one way or another are already being discussed in Committees, should be discussed in the Fourth Committee, both from the point of view of hearing the petitioners and from the point of view of expediting matters.

145. I asked to speak in order to make that point clear and to support the proposal of the delegation of Guinea. I do not think that this question is so difficult that we need postpone the debate. I would therefore appeal to the representatives of Uruguay and Syria not to insist on their suggestions, so that the Assembly may proceed to decide this point.

146. The PRESIDENT: The representative of Guinea has asked to speak—no doubt in order to explain further any points that may not be quite clear either to representatives who have spoken since he last took the floor or to other representatives. Before calling on him, however, I should like to know whether any other representative wishes to express any views on this matter so that, if he agrees, the representative of Guinea may reply to all the questions at once.

147. It appears that no other representative does wish to speak at this time, and I therefore call on the representative of Guinea.

148. Mr. DIALLO Telli (Guinea) (translated from French): I am in some difficulty, because two appeals have been made to me. I had asked for the floor, before the representative of Ethiopia came to the rostrum, with the intention of accepting the Syrian representative's appeal. However, as the President has indirectly invited me to do so, I should like to explain a little further.

149. I am glad that the representative of Ethiopia has fully understood Guinea's argument, except on one point. My idea is not that a number of territories covered by the Committee of Seventeen should be dealt with in committee, but that all the individual territories covered by the report of the Committee of Seventeen should be dealt with in that way, and on that point the representative of Liberia has exactly expressed my idea. All these territories, being mentioned in the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories [A/5215], are on the agenda of the Fourth Committee.

150. A further clarification is absolutely essential. I wish to state once more that, in our view, the report of the Committee of Seventeen as a whole should be debated here and should be the subject of a decision by the General Assembly. The question I am raising, however—or the question to which I should like some thought to be given, if it were decided to adjourn the meeting until tomorrow—is this: how many resolutions would we wish to see adopted at the end of our debate on the report of the Committee of Seventeen? The answer to this question, in my delegation's view, is very simple.

151. It would be desirable to have one resolution, and only one, which would be the natural sequel, the logical sequel to our debates. I should hope that it would be the conclusion of the whole discussion on decolonization. On the basis of such clear and precise directives by the General Assembly, the Fourth Committee, in the light of the specific information contained in the report of the Committee

of Seventeen [A/5238], in the light, also, of the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories [A/5215], the report of the Special Committee for South West Africa [A/5212 and Add.1-3] and the reports of the other *ad hoc* committees would, within the context of those very precise directives, take a final decision on each territory.

152. Now, as to the position of Guinea with regard to the Syrian representative's appeal; I must say that, having no desire to force anything, I see no objection, if that is the wish of the Assembly, to an adjournment of the debate to allow more thorough consideration. I would add that I regret that the Rapporteur of the Committee of Seventeen, the representative of Syria, was not present at an important meeting this afternoon; for our proposal is in no way precipitate. It has been made after consultations with a number of delegations which have worked together throughout. I am extremely sorry that the representative of Syria did not know about this and did not take part in those important meetings. In any event, my conclusion is that I have no objection to the deferment of my proposal in order to allow for further consultations.

153. Mr. PACHACHI (Iraq): I think that it would help very much if the issues before the Assembly could be clarified.

154. As I understood the representative of Guinea, what he is proposing, in concrete and specific terms, is that a general debate on the entire report of the Committee of Seventeen should be held by the Assembly in plenary meetings and that, at the end of that general debate, the Assembly should adopt a resolution containing general principles. Then, and only then, would the Fourth Committee take up the various chapters of the report of the Committee of Seventeen dealing with individual territories. The Fourth Committee would, at the end of its discussion of these territories, recommend certain resolutions to the Assembly in the light of the resolution on general principles which had been adopted by the Assembly. That is my understanding of the proposal of the representative of Guinea. However, if the Assembly should adopt the proposal of the representative of Guinea, I think that a question would arise about the method of work—

155. The PRESIDENT: This is, of course, provided that the meaning of the proposal of the representative of Guinea is the meaning given to it by the representative of Iraq.

156. Mr. PACHACHI (Iraq): Yes, my remarks are based on the assumption that I have understood the exact meaning of the proposal of the representative of Guinea. That, of course, would mean that the Fourth Committee would not be in a position to continue its work while the Assembly is engaged in the general discussion of the report of the Committee of Seventeen; and since the results of the discussion of the report of the Committee of Seventeen will go to the Fourth Committee, then I think it is natural that the two bodies could not meet simultaneously, because any decisions that the Fourth Committee might take would perhaps be premature and might be overtaken by the resolution of general principles adopted by the General Assembly.

157. Therefore, there is this difficulty and I would like to take this opportunity to make one observation.

I think the representative of Guinea said that the Fourth Committee considers the affairs of the various territories within Chapter XI, as far as the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories is concerned, or also the Special Committee on Territories under Portuguese Administration. But I am sure that he would agree with me when I tell him that the context within which the Fourth Committee discusses the non-self-governing territories under Chapter XI, and even the Portuguese territories under the resolution [1699 (XVI)] establishing the Special Committee on Portuguese Territories is quite different from the context of the resolution passed in 1960 and last year, which established the Special Committee of Seventeen.

158. For all these reasons I still seek some clarification about this issue. If we are going to adopt the proposal of the representative of Guinea, as I understood it, is there really any use for the Fourth Committee to continue its work, since it is quite conceivable that all its work will be nullified or at least drastically changed in the light of any resolution adopted by the General Assembly on the general principles regarding the implementation of resolution 1514 (XV).

159. Miss BROOKS (Liberia): It is true that I have heard the expression that 104 or 105 nations can give 104 or 105 and now 110 interpretations of the Charter. Actually, I did not understand the representative of Guinea to make a proposal to postpone the work of the Fourth Committee until after the general debate on this report in the plenary. I think it is just the other way around. I think that the Fourth Committee should first have the opportunity to examine the question in detail, to hear the petitioners, and then, I think, the plenary, examining the report of the Committee of Seventeen should take into consideration the detailed discussions in the Fourth Committee and then make a general policy, including the concept of the meaning of the resolution on decolonization. That is what I had in mind. But if it is going to be changed so that we will have a debate and set a general principle by which the Fourth Committee must abide in doing its work, I think it will come in a different context; and I think I will have to reconsider the position which I have taken.

160. In that light I think it would be more feasible for us to suspend the consideration of the question at this particular moment until we have been able to meet in groups and to explain clearly to each other what really is the intention of the motion. Perhaps at a later stage we will be in a better position to take a decision or to vote on the question.

161. Mr. DIALLO Telli (Guinea) (translated from French): The representative of Iraq raised two important questions which warrant some clarification. He referred first to the legal basis of the work carried on in the Fourth Committee within the context of the provisions of Chapter XI of the Charter. I do not think there is any doubt, and I am sure that the representative of Iraq will agree with me, that since resolution 1514 (XV) was adopted in December 1960, it is within the context of the general provisions of that resolution that the Fourth Committee has prepared its draft resolutions on Non-Self-Governing Territories.

162. In any event, and to dispel any doubt, I see no reason—quite the contrary—why the Fourth Committee should not be given special terms of reference by the General Assembly with respect to the individual items on territories specifically mentioned in the report of the Committee of Seventeen.

163. The second question raised by the representative of Iraq is whether the work of the Fourth Committee and the General Assembly would proceed consecutively or simultaneously. On this point, we are informed by the friends who represent us in the Fourth Committee that that body is at present considering the report of the Special Committee for South West Africa [A/5212 and Add.1-3]; after that, according to the agenda it has already adopted, it will take up the report of the Special Committee on Territories under Portuguese Administration [A/5160], and only after completing its consideration of that document will the Fourth Committee deal with the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories [A/5215].

164. I believe, therefore, that by the time the Fourth Committee begins consideration of the individual territories mentioned in the report of the Committee of Seventeen, the General Assembly will have completed its work. However, I wish to be very clear and very precise, particularly after the statement just made by the representative of Liberia. I think that it would be better if a decision of principle, which would be a general decision, were taken here on the report of the Committee of Seventeen, and if the Fourth Committee, when it came to the specific consideration of each territory, decided what action to take in the light of the principles thus established and the objectives thus determined.

165. I may add, for the sake of clarity and precision, that I do not believe that our consideration of the report of the Committee of Seventeen as a whole will hold up the work of the Fourth Committee. Nevertheless, in order to avoid any ambiguity, I believe it is important that, at the end of our debate here we should give special terms of reference to the Fourth Committee so that, on the basis of those terms of reference and in the light of the principles and objectives established, it can take specific and practical decisions on each territory.

166. Mr. PACHACHI (Iraq): If I understood the representative of Guinea correctly, he does not envisage the Fourth Committee taking any decision regarding any of the territories before the resolution of general principles is adopted by the General Assembly after the general debate on the entire report of the Committee of Seventeen. I think that is what I heard him say. But if he does not envisage that, it means then that he does not see any contradiction between the decisions taken by the Fourth Committee regarding individual territories before a resolution of general principles is adopted here. Because I do foresee, if I understand what is the motive behind having a resolution of general principles, that there could be some complications if the resolutions adopted by the Fourth Committee are not completely or entirely consistent with the resolution of general principles that may be adopted by this Assembly and which, so to speak, would be the fountainhead of all action to be taken by the Fourth Committee on individual territories.

167. This is the difficulty I find myself in. Again, I am not quite clear as to how the Fourth Commit-

tee can proceed with the study, discussion and decision on individual territories, knowing all the time that the General Assembly may send to it a resolution of general principles which may, or may not be, consistent with what it has already decided.

168. Mr. DIALLO Telli (Guinea) (translated from French): I should like to explain once again that the Fourth Committee is at present discussing South West Africa, a territory which is not now included in the list of territories under discussion, for the simple reason that yesterday, at the close of the 1165th meeting, the President asked us to exclude that territory from the debate. As there was no objection, it seems to me that a decision was taken on that point.

169. In any event, I have not asked—and I did not think for a moment that it was necessary to do so—that the work of the Fourth Committee should be halted, since to my mind the Committee neither can nor should stop work, for the simple reason, as I have already said, that since 1960 it has adopted all its draft resolutions within the context of the provisions of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV). It goes without saying that the resolution we shall adopt here will be a normal and logical sequel, and indeed the natural conclusion, to the debates which led to the adoption of resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1654 (XVI).

170. I entirely fail to see—and I am not proposing anything of the kind—why the Fourth Committee should cease work on South West Africa and the Portuguese colonies. What I mean is that, with regard to the other territories, which are the subject of the debate and of my proposal and which are not self-governing, the General Assembly will certainly have adopted a general resolution by the time the Fourth Committee begins to consider them.

171. That was what I meant to say. I hope that these explanations will have satisfied the representative of Iraq.

172. Mr. BAYONA (Colombia) (translated from Spanish): The pertinent comments made by the representative of Iraq and the concern voiced by the representative of Liberia are the main points which my delegation has had in mind during this brief procedural debate.

173. We are pressed for time. We need a procedure which will shorten our work and enable us to reach a satisfactory conclusion. The representative of Guinea has proposed first that we should have a general debate; second, that we should refer the report of the Special Committee of Seventeen to the Fourth Committee; and, third, and that it be taken up once again by the General Assembly in plenary session. We would be thus doing the work, not twice, but three times.

174. My delegation feels that the comments made originally by the representative of Syria and then ably supported by the representative of Iraq were very wise. On the assumption that we are seeking a procedure that will facilitate our work of putting an end to colonialism, my delegation supports the proposal of the representative of Iraq.

175. Mr. AGUIRRE (URUGUAY) (translated from Spanish): My delegation greatly regrets having again to take up the time of the Assembly. We do so in

connexion with a statement made, in a friendly spirit, we are sure, by the representative of Guinea, in which he asked us to allow the Assembly to continue its consideration of the question.

176. My delegation always seeks not to set up obstacles, but rather to help to organize the work of the Assembly, to speed it up and to make it more efficient. For that very reason, my delegation does not now wish to press its objection. Bearing in mind the proposal made by the representative of Syria and the views which have been expressed in opposition to the substance and scope of the proposal of the representative of Guinea, my delegation wishes to request that the meeting be adjourned in order to allow time for reflection on this point and for reconciliation of the various views expressed from this rostrum, as we believe that this will enable us to adopt the best procedure for our further work.

177. However, my delegation wishes to make one further comment regarding the observation by several representatives that the questions dealt with in the report of the Special Committee of Seventeen are in fact included in the agenda of the Fourth Committee under the item "Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories". If that were the case, there would have been no reason for separating these eight questions from the item as a whole. By including this item, we would have included every aspect of the great struggle to put an end to colonialism, in which we are all engaged. There was a basic reason of principle for excluding other matters from this item and for treating it in the manner in which it was always treated by the General Assembly long before the establishment of the Special Committee of Seventeen and the adoption of the resolution which created it.

178. In conclusion, I wish to press my proposal for the immediate adjournment of the meeting.

179. Mr. DIALLO Telli (Guinea) (translated from French): I apologize for having asked for the floor but, wishing as I do not remain within the rules of procedure, I should like to support the proposal to adjourn made by the representative of Uruguay and, still in accordance with the rules of procedure, the appeal made by the representative of Syria. Before leaving the rostrum, however, I should like to summarize Guinea's proposal as briefly as possible by telling the Members of the Assembly once more that what Guinea would like is a debate on the report of the Committee of Seventeen as a whole and the adoption of a single resolution setting a seal on that debate. I believe that this exactly sums up Guinea's idea.

180. We should like, in that final resolution, to give the Fourth Committee terms of reference with respect to the territories specifically mentioned in the report.

181. In conclusion, in order to permit more useful negotiations and consultations, I support the motion for adjournment submitted by the representatives of Uruguay and Syria.

Organization of work

182. The PRESIDENT: If I may say so, this has been not only a very useful but also a very necessary discussion on account of the situation in which we find ourselves, that interrelated items have been

allocated to the Fourth Committee and to the plenary. We have the comprehensive item of the report of the Committee of Seventeen allocated to the plenary which comprises all colonial areas. Then we have specifically allocated, to the plenary also, the item on Angola which is the very next item, item 25 in the list allocated to the plenary.

183. We have, on the other hand, Southern Rhodesia and South West Africa, and I presume the remaining Portuguese territories allocated to the Fourth Committee. Therefore, it was very necessary that, before we embark upon the consideration of the report of the Committee of Seventeen, we should be quite clear in our minds what method and what procedure we should follow so as to avoid unnecessary duplication. I am very glad that this matter was raised before we had entered upon the discussion of the report so that we should be clear in our minds what is the procedure that we should follow in dealing with it.

184. If the Assembly has no objection, this is what I propose to do. We shall meet again in plenary on Friday morning 9 November 1962. This will give us the whole of tomorrow to the delegations to consider this question as well as their approach to the Committee's report. It will give me time to consider all that has been said this afternoon, and it is possible that I might be able to place before the Assembly, when we meet on Friday morning, some proposal, which might meet with the wishes and the points of view which have been generally expressed this afternoon. If we can then agree upon something, either on what I have proposed or anything else that might emerge—but I hope that we shall not take too much time over the debating of the question of procedure after it has been so thoroughly debated this afternoon—we can then continue on a clear understanding of what we are aiming at and by what stages.

185. There are two other matters that I might mention. One is that I understand, from the discussion today, that the separate item of Angola, which is the next item on our list, would then in a sense be considered, at this stage at any rate, as part of the whole discussion of the report, whatever procedure we adopt. Naturally, it will have to be considered separately also. It will be for the Assembly to decide, after it has decided how to proceed with regard to the report of the Committee of Seventeen, in what manner it wants to deal with the matter of Angola, whether we wish to deal with it here or whether the Assembly would wish to reallocate it to the Fourth Committee.

186. Secondly, one question that the Assembly should keep in mind and consider in the matter of procedure is—assuming that what appeals to the Assembly is a general discussion of the report of the Committee of Seventeen—the adoption of one comprehensive resolution, indicating its views on the implementation of the parent resolution which the Committee of Seventeen was to report on, which would then be taken advantage of by the Fourth Committee in the consideration of the specific items before it. In that view what would be the further stage? Will the Assembly have finished with the report of the Committee of Seventeen, and then see to what extent it can be applied to the resolutions that come up before it from the Fourth Committee on the specific items of the Fourth Committee, subject always to the

question of how Angola is to be dealt with? Or does it contemplate that once the Fourth Committee has sent up those resolutions, we again take up the report of the Committee of Seventeen? That is a matter on which I have not quite clearly grasped the intention of the representatives who have spoken, but I do not want a debate to be started on that point again.

I am sure they will direct their minds toward that also so that when we meet on Friday we will be clearer on these matters. We will meet again on Friday at 10.30 a.m.

The meeting rose at 6.5 p.m.