

5. *Reiterates* its declaration that the continuation of colonial rule threatens international peace and security and that the practice of apartheid and all forms of racial discrimination constitute a crime against humanity;

6. *Reaffirms* its recognition of the legitimacy of the struggle of the colonial peoples to exercise their right to self-determination and independence and notes with satisfaction the progress made in the colonial Territories by the national liberation movements, both through their struggle and through reconstruction programmes, and urges all States to provide moral and material assistance to them;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the specialized agencies concerned and other international relief organizations for the help they have so far given, and requests them to increase their economic, social and humanitarian assistance to the refugees from Territories under colonial domination;

8. *Requests* all States, directly and through action in the international institutions of which they are members, including the specialized agencies, to withhold assistance of any kind from the Governments of Portugal and South Africa and from the illegal racist minority régime of Southern Rhodesia until they renounce their policy of colonial domination and racial discrimination;

9. *Draws the attention* of all States to the grave consequences of the development in southern Africa of the *entente* between the Governments of South Africa and Portugal and the illegal racist minority régime of Southern Rhodesia, the activities of which run counter to the interests of international peace and security, and calls upon all States, particularly the main trading partners of the *entente*, to withhold any support or assistance to the members of the *entente*;

10. *Requests* the colonial Powers to dismantle their military bases and installations in colonial Territories and to refrain from establishing new ones and from using those that still exist to interfere with the liberation of the peoples in colonial Territories in the exercise of their legitimate rights to freedom and independence;

11. *Once again condemns* the policies, pursued by certain administering Powers in the Territories under their domination, of imposing non-representative régimes and constitutions, strengthening the position of foreign economic and other interests, misleading world public opinion and encouraging the systematic influx of foreign immigrants while displacing, deporting and transferring the indigenous inhabitants to other areas, and calls upon those Powers to desist from such manoeuvres;

12. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to perform its task and to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration in all Territories which have not yet attained independence;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to make concrete suggestions with a view to assisting the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter of the United Nations with regard to developments in colonial Territories which are likely to threaten international peace and security, and recommends the Council to take such suggestions fully into consideration;

14. *Invites* the Special Committee, whenever it considers it proper and appropriate, to recommend a deadline for the accession to independence of each Territory

in accordance with the wishes of the people and the provisions of the Declaration;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee, in the performance of its tasks, to take account of the special activities envisaged in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights and in particular to participate, as it considers appropriate, in the International Conference on Human Rights to be held at Teheran in April 1968;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee to examine the compliance of Member States with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions on the question of decolonization, particularly those relating to the Territories under Portuguese domination, Southern Rhodesia and South West Africa, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session;

17. *Invites* the Special Committee to pay particular attention to the small Territories and to recommend to the General Assembly the most appropriate methods and also the steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise fully their right to self-determination and independence;

18. *Urges* the administering Powers to co-operate with the Special Committee by permitting access to the colonial Territories by visiting missions, in accordance with decisions previously taken by the General Assembly and by the Special Committee;

19. *Requests* the Special Committee to consider and submit recommendations to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session regarding the holding early in 1969 of a special conference of representatives of colonial peoples for the purpose, *inter alia*, of considering the most effective means by which the international community can intensify its assistance to them in their efforts to achieve self-determination, freedom and independence;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take concrete measures through all the media at his disposal, including publications, radio and television, to give effect to the provisions of its resolutions 2105 (XX), 2189 (XXI), 2262 (XXII), 2270 (XXII) and 2288 (XXII) concerning the widespread and continuous publicizing of the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, of the situation in the colonial Territories and of the continuing struggle for liberation being waged by the colonial peoples;

21. *Requests* the administering Powers to co-operate with the Secretary-General in promoting the large-scale dissemination of information on the work of the United Nations in the implementation of the Declaration;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all the financing and facilities necessary for the implementation of the present resolution.

1636th plenary meeting,
16 December 1967.

2345 (XXII). Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space¹⁴

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its resolution 2260 (XXII) of 3 November 1967, which calls upon the Committee on the

¹⁴ In accordance with a decision taken by the General Assembly at its 1640th plenary meeting, on 19 December 1967, the

Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue with a sense of urgency its work on the elaboration of an agreement on liability for damage caused by the launching of objects into outer space and an agreement on assistance to and return of astronauts and space vehicles,

Referring to the addendum to the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,¹⁵

Desiring to give further concrete expression to the rights and obligations contained in the Treaty of Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,¹⁶

1. *Commends* the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Depositary Governments to open the Agreement for signature and ratification at the earliest possible date;

3. *Expresses its hope* for the widest possible adherence to this Agreement;

4. *Calls upon* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to complete urgently the preparation of the draft agreement on liability for damage caused by the launching of objects into outer space and, in any event, not later than the beginning of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, and to submit it to the Assembly at that session.

*1640th plenary meeting,
19 December 1967.*

ANNEX

Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space

The Contracting Parties,

Noting the great importance of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, which calls for the rendering of all possible assistance to astronauts in the event of accident, distress or emergency landing, the prompt and safe return of astronauts, and the return of objects launched into outer space,

Desiring to develop and give further concrete expression to these duties,

Wishing to promote international co-operation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space,

Prompted by sentiments of humanity,

Have agreed on the following:

Article 1

Each Contracting Party which receives information or discovers that the personnel of a spacecraft have suffered accident or are experiencing conditions of distress or have made an emergency or unintended landing in territory under its jurisdiction or on the high seas or in any other place not under the jurisdiction of any State shall immediately:

question dealt with in the addendum to the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space was examined directly in plenary meeting, and the present resolution was adopted without reference to the First Committee. See also, with reference to item 32, resolutions 2260 (XXII) and 2261 (XXII).

¹⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Annexes*, agenda item 32, document A/6804/Add.1.

¹⁶ General Assembly resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

(a) Notify the launching authority or, if it cannot identify and immediately communicate with the launching authority, immediately make a public announcement by all appropriate means of communication at its disposal;

(b) Notify the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who should disseminate the information without delay by all appropriate means of communication at his disposal.

Article 2

If, owing to accident, distress, emergency or unintended landing, the personnel of a spacecraft land in territory under the jurisdiction of a Contracting Party, it shall immediately take all possible steps to rescue them and render them all necessary assistance. It shall inform the launching authority and also the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the steps it is taking and of their progress. If assistance by the launching authority would help to effect a prompt rescue or would contribute substantially to the effectiveness of search and rescue operations, the launching authority shall co-operate with the Contracting Party with a view to the effective conduct of search and rescue operations. Such operations shall be subject to the direction and control of the Contracting Party, which shall act in close and continuing consultation with the launching authority.

Article 3

If information is received or it is discovered that the personnel of a spacecraft have alighted on the high seas or in any other place not under the jurisdiction of any State, those Contracting Parties which are in a position to do so shall, if necessary, extend assistance in search and rescue operations for such personnel to assure their speedy rescue. They shall inform the launching authority and the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the steps they are taking and of their progress.

Article 4

If, owing to accident, distress, emergency or unintended landing, the personnel of a spacecraft land in territory under the jurisdiction of a Contracting Party or have been found on the high seas or in any other place not under the jurisdiction of any State, they shall be safely and promptly returned to representatives of the launching authority.

Article 5

1. Each Contracting Party which receives information or discovers that a space object or its component parts has returned to Earth in territory under its jurisdiction or on the high seas or in any other place not under the jurisdiction of any State, shall notify the launching authority and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

2. Each Contracting Party having jurisdiction over the territory on which a space object or its component parts has been discovered shall, upon the request of the launching authority and with assistance from that authority if requested, take such steps as it finds practicable to recover the object or component parts.

3. Upon request of the launching authority, objects launched into outer space or their component parts found beyond the territorial limits of the launching authority shall be returned to or held at the disposal of representatives of the launching authority, which shall, upon request, furnish identifying data prior to their return.

4. Notwithstanding paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article, a Contracting Party which has reason to believe that a space object or its component parts discovered in territory under its jurisdiction, or recovered by it elsewhere, is of a hazardous or deleterious nature may so notify the launching authority, which shall immediately take effective steps, under the direction and control of the said Contracting Party, to eliminate possible danger of harm.

5. Expenses incurred in fulfilling obligations to recover and return a space object or its component parts under paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article shall be borne by the launching authority.

Article 6

For the purposes of this Agreement, the term "launching authority" shall refer to the State responsible for launching, or, where an international intergovernmental organization is responsible for launching, that organization, provided that that organization declares its acceptance of the rights and obligations provided for in this Agreement and a majority of the States members of that organization are Contracting Parties to this Agreement and to the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and other Celestial Bodies.

Article 7

1. This Agreement shall be open to all States for signature. Any State which does not sign this Agreement before its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may accede to it at any time.

2. This Agreement shall be subject to ratification by signatory States. Instruments of ratification and instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, which are hereby designated the Depositary Governments.

3. This Agreement shall enter into force upon the deposit of instruments of ratification by five Governments including the Governments designated as Depositary Governments under this Agreement.

4. For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited subsequent to the entry into force of this Agreement, it shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession.

5. The Depositary Governments shall promptly inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each signature, the date of deposit of each instrument of ratification of and accession to this Agreement, the date of its entry into force and other notices.

6. This Agreement shall be registered by the Depositary Governments pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 8

Any State Party to the Agreement may propose amendments to this Agreement. Amendments shall enter into force for each State Party to the Agreement accepting the amendments upon their acceptance by a majority of the States Parties to the Agreement and thereafter for each remaining State Party to the Agreement on the date of acceptance by it.

Article 9

Any State Party to the Agreement may give notice of its withdrawal from the Agreement one year after its entry into force by written notification to the Depositary Governments. Such withdrawal shall take effect one year from the date of receipt of this notification.

Article 10

This Agreement, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the Depositary Governments. Duly certified copies of this Agreement shall be transmitted by the Depositary Governments to the Governments of the signatory and acceding States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorized, have signed this Agreement.

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Other decisions

**Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of
the Charter of the United Nations
(Item 7)**

At its 1564th plenary meeting, on 23 September 1967, the General Assembly took note of the communication dated 18 September 1967 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly.¹⁷

**Adoption of the agenda
(Item 8)**

At its 1629th plenary meeting, on 13 December 1967, the General Assembly took note of paragraph 3 of the fifth report of the General Committee,¹⁸ concerning a correction to the French text of rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

**Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization
(Item 10)**

At its 1642nd plenary meeting, on 19 December 1967, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization.¹⁹

¹⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Annexes, agenda item 7, document A/6819.*

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, agenda item 8, document A/6840/Add.4.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, *Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/6701 and Corr.1) and *Supplement No. 1A* (A/6701/Add.1).