

to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>30</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 3432 (XXX) of 8 December 1975,

*Having heard* the statements of the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland<sup>31</sup> and Guatemala,<sup>32</sup>

*Having also heard* the statement of the representative of Belize,<sup>33</sup>

*Reaffirming* the principles established in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, set out in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, in particular that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

*Noting* that negotiations have taken place between the Government of the United Kingdom, as the administering Power, acting in close consultation with the Government of Belize, and the Government of Guatemala, pursuant to the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 of resolution 3432 (XXX),

*Regretting* that these negotiations have not resulted in the removal of such obstacles as have hitherto prevented the people of Belize from exercising freely and without fear their inalienable right to self-determination and independence,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Belize to self-determination and independence;

2. *Reaffirms* that the inviolability and territorial integrity of Belize must be preserved;

3. *Calls upon* all States to respect the right of the people of Belize to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity, to facilitate the attainment of their goal of a secure and early independence and to refrain from any action that would threaten the territorial integrity of Belize;

4. *Calls also upon* the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, acting in close consultation with the Government of Belize, and the Government of Guatemala to pursue vigorously their negotiations in accordance with the principles of General Assembly resolution 3432 (XXX), in order to reach an early conclusion;

5. *Requests* the two Governments concerned to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session on such agreements as may have been reached in the negotiations referred to above;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue its examination of the question.

*85th plenary meeting  
1 December 1976*

### 31/51. Question of the New Hebrides

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of the New Hebrides,

*Having examined* the relevant chapters of the report 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,<sup>34</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to the Territory, including General Assembly resolutions 3290 (XXIX) of 13 December 1974 and 3433 (XXX) of 8 December 1975,

*Aware* that France, as an administering Power, has not participated in the discussions of the Special Committee relating to the Territory,

*Having heard* the statements of the representatives of France<sup>35</sup> and of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,<sup>36</sup> as the administering Powers, relating to developments in the New Hebrides,

*Noting* the joint communiqué issued by the Governments of France and the United Kingdom on 7 October 1976,<sup>37</sup> in which the administering Powers state that it is their joint policy to promote the democratic evolution of the New Hebrides in accordance with the principle of self-determination,

*Conscious* of the need to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the Declaration with respect to the New Hebrides,

*Bearing in mind* the constructive results achieved as a consequence of previous visiting missions to colonial Territories and reiterating its conviction that the dispatch of such a mission to the New Hebrides is essential for securing adequate and first-hand information in regard to the conditions prevailing in the Territory and to the views, wishes and aspirations of the people therein with respect to their future status,

*Aware* of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of the New Hebrides, and stressing the necessity of diversifying its economy as a matter of priority,

1. *Approves* the chapter of the report 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 relating to the New Hebrides;<sup>38</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration;

3. *Reaffirms its conviction* that questions of territorial size, geographical isolation and limited resources

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/31/23/Rev.1), chaps. III and XVI.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Fourth Committee, 27th meeting, paras. 2-6.

<sup>36</sup> *Ibid.*, 11th meeting, paras. 1-11; and *ibid.*, Fourth Committee, Sessional Fascicle, corrigendum.

<sup>37</sup> A/31/286, annex.

<sup>38</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/31/23/Rev.1), chap. XVI.*

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. XXVI.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Fourth Committee, 15th meeting, paras. 43-49.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, 19th meeting, paras. 12-18, and 26th meeting, paras. 12-22; and *ibid.*, Fourth Committee, Sessional Fascicle, corrigendum.

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*, 15th meeting, paras. 51-57.

should in no way delay the implementation of the Declaration with respect to the New Hebrides;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the establishment of the Representative Assembly of the New Hebrides and the declared intention of the administering Powers to increase progressively the responsibilities enjoyed by that Assembly, in accordance with the wishes of the people of the Territory;

5. *Reiterates* its request that the two administering Powers should continue to take measures to expedite the process of decolonization in the New Hebrides;

6. *Requests* the administering Powers to take all appropriate steps to strengthen the economy of the New Hebrides and to work out concrete programmes of assistance and economic development for the Territory;

7. *Requests* the administering Powers to continue to enlist the assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system in accelerating progress in all sectors of the national life of the Territory;

8. *Requests* the Governments of France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to co-operate with the Special Committee and to consider permitting access by a United Nations visiting mission to the New Hebrides, and to report on this aspect to the Special Committee when it next considers the question of the New Hebrides;

9. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek the best ways and means for the implementation of the Declaration with respect to the New Hebrides, including the possible dispatch of a visiting mission in consultation with the administering Powers, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*85th plenary meeting  
1 December 1976*

### **31/52. Question of Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands,

*Having examined* the relevant chapters of the report 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,<sup>39</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to the Territories listed above, in particular General Assembly resolutions 3425 (XXX) and 3427 (XXX) of 8 December 1975,

*Taking into account* the statement of the administering Power relating to the Territories listed above,<sup>40</sup>

*Noting* the continued readiness of the administering Power to grant independence to the peoples of the Territories under its administration on the basis of their express wishes and aspirations in that regard, and its declared policy of fostering the growth of free and democratic political institutions in those Territories,

*Conscious* of the need to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the Declaration with respect to the Territories concerned,

*Bearing in mind* the constructive results achieved as a consequence of the 1975 United Nations Visiting Mission to Montserrat<sup>41</sup> and reiterating its conviction that the dispatch of such missions to colonial Territories is essential for securing adequate and first-hand information in regard to the political, economic and social conditions in those Territories and to the views, wishes and aspirations of the peoples therein,

*Mindful* that those Territories require the continued attention and assistance of the United Nations in the achievement by their peoples of the objectives embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration,

*Aware* of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of the Territories concerned, and stressing the necessity of diversifying and strengthening further their economies as a matter of priority in order to promote economic stability and to reduce their dependence on fluctuating economic activities,

1. *Approves* the chapters of the report 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 relating to Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands;<sup>42</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of those Territories to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration;

3. *Reaffirms its conviction* that questions of territorial size, geographical isolation and limited resources should in no way delay the implementation of the Declaration with respect to the Territories concerned;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, in consultation with the freely elected representatives of the peoples, to continue to take all the necessary steps to ensure the full and speedy attainment of the goals set forth in the Declaration with respect to the Territories;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to expand its programme of budgetary and development aid and to take all possible steps, in consultation with the local authorities as appropriate, to diversify and strengthen further the economies of the Territories listed above and to work out concrete programmes of assistance and economic development for those Territories;

6. *Urges* the administering Power, with the co-operation of the Governments of the Territories concerned, to safeguard the inalienable right of the peoples of those Territories to the enjoyment of their natural

<sup>39</sup> *Ibid.*, chaps. III, XXVII and XXIX.

<sup>40</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-first Session, Fourth Committee*, 11th meeting, paras. 1-11; and *ibid.*, *Fourth Committee, Sessional Fascicle*, corrigendum.

<sup>41</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/10023/Rev.1)*, chap. XXVIII, annex.

<sup>42</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/31/23/Rev.1)*, chaps. XXVII and XXIX.