

gramme, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system operating in the Territory, and noting the continued participation of the Territory in the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development, as well as in regional organizations, including in particular the Caribbean Development Bank,

Welcoming also the participation of the Territory as an associate member in the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and its subsidiary body, the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee, as well as in various other international and regional organizations,

Recalling the dispatch in 1976 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the small Territories, and expressing its satisfaction at the willingness of the administering Power to receive visiting missions in the Territories under its administration,

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 British Virgin Islands;¹³

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the British Virgin Islands to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

3. *Reiterates* the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of the Territory of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration, which fully applies to the British Virgin Islands;

4. *Reiterates* that it is the responsibility of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, to create such conditions in the British Virgin Islands as will enable the people of the Territory to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

5. *Reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the British Virgin Islands themselves to determine their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration, and, in that connection, reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

6. *Notes* the continuing commitment of the territorial Government to the goal of economic diversification, particularly in the areas of agriculture, fisheries and small industries, and reiterates its call upon the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to intensify its efforts in this regard;

7. *Urges* the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to safeguard the inalienable right of the people of the British Virgin Islands to the enjoyment of their natural resources by taking effective measures to ensure their right to own and dispose of those

resources and to establish and maintain control of their future development;

8. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territory;

9. *Reiterates* its call upon the administering Power to facilitate the further participation of the British Virgin Islands in various international and regional organizations and in other organizations of the United Nations system;

10. *Considers* that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to the British Virgin Islands at an appropriate time should be kept under review;

11. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session, including the possible dispatch of a visiting mission to the British Virgin Islands at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-first session.

99th plenary meeting
2 December 1985

40/45. Question of the Cayman Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the Cayman 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,¹⁴

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 Cayman Islands, including in particular its resolution 39/35 of 5 December 1984,

Noting the stated position of the administering Power that it will fully respect the wishes of the people of the Cayman Islands in determining the future political status of the Territory,

Conscious of the need to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of the Territory,

Noting that although the main sectors of the economy of the Cayman Islands, specifically tourism, international finance and real estate, continued to sustain some degree of growth during the period under review, they have been negatively affected by the world economic crisis,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of the Cayman Islands, and bearing in mind the necessity of diversifying and strengthening further its economy as a matter of priority in order to promote economic stability,

Noting with appreciation the continued contribution of the United Nations Development Programme to the development of the Territory,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the small Territories, and expressing its satisfaction at the willingness of the administering Power to receive visiting missions in the Territories under its administration,

1. *Approves* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implemen-

¹³ *Ibid.*, chap. XX.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, chaps. II, IV, V and XXI.

tation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the Cayman Islands;¹⁵

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Cayman Islands to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

3. *Reiterates* the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of the Territory of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration, which fully applies to the Cayman Islands;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the participation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, in the work of the Special Committee in regard to the Cayman Islands, thereby enabling it to conduct a more informed and meaningful examination of the situation in the Territory, with a view to accelerating the process of decolonization for the purpose of the full implementation of the Declaration;

5. *Reiterates* that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Cayman Islands as will enable the people of the Territory to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

6. *Reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the Cayman Islands themselves to determine their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration, and, in that connection, reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory, and urges it, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to render continuing support, to the fullest extent possible, to the development of programmes of economic diversification which will benefit the people of the Territory;

8. *Takes note* of the statement of the administering Power to the effect that, despite the poor quality of the soil in the Territory, a study conducted by the territorial Government in 1984 revealed some possibilities in the field of poultry, agricultural and pastoral farming;¹⁶

9. *Urges* the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to safeguard the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to the enjoyment of their natural resources by taking effective measures to ensure their right to own and dispose of those resources and to establish and maintain control of their future development;

10. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Cayman Islands;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the continued contribution of the United Nations Development Programme to the development of the Territory;

12. *Considers* that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to the Cayman Islands at an appropriate time should be kept under review;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session, including the possible dispatch of a visiting mission to the Cayman Islands at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-first session.

99th plenary meeting
2 December 1985

40/46. Question of Montserrat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Montserrat,

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,¹⁷

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 Montserrat, including in particular its resolution 39/36 of 5 December 1984,

Noting the stated position of the administering Power that it will respect the wishes of the people of Montserrat in determining the future political status of the Territory,

Noting the view of the Government of Montserrat that independence was inevitable and desirable and, in that connection, that the territorial Government would prepare programmes of political education by which to increase the people's awareness of the benefits of independence,

Noting with concern that during the period under review the international economic crisis continued to have an adverse effect on the territorial economy and resulted in zero growth in the gross domestic product and a reduction in the rate of growth of employment and incomes,

Welcoming the fact that an increasing number of people from the Territory are being employed in the civil service, particularly at the higher echelon, including the appointment of a national as Chief Medical Officer, and noting the recommendations for salary increases made by the Salaries Commission on public service salaries and conditions,

Welcoming also the contribution to the development of Montserrat by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system operating in the Territory, and noting the continued participation of the Territory in the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development, as well as in regional organizations such as the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions, including the Caribbean Development Bank,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of Montserrat, and bearing in mind the necessity of diversifying and strengthening further its economy as a matter of priority in order to promote economic stability,

Recalling the dispatch in 1975 and 1982 of United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Mindful that visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the small Territories, and expressing its satisfaction at the willingness of

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, chap. XXI.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 9.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 23 (A/40/23), chaps. II, IV, V and XXII.