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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE
TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND
THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the President of the Council on consultations held with
the Chairman 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

1. On 2 August 1979, at its second regular session of 1979, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1979/50, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations". In paragraph 11 of that resolution, the Council requested its President to continue consultations on this matter with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to report thereon to the Council.
2. At its 1156th meeting, on 10 August 1979, the Special Committee adopted a resolution on the question, by which it decided to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session. 1/
3. At its thirty-fourth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 34/42, of 21 November 1979, in paragraph 15 of which it requested the Council to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for co-ordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.
4. An account of the consultations held between the President of the Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee is set out below.

* E/1980/100.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/34/23/Rev.1), chap. VII, para. 21.

5. The President of the Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee warmly welcomed the recent accession of Zimbabwe to independence. In acknowledging with appreciation the moral and material support provided to the people concerned by members of the international community and organizations within the United Nations system during the period preceding Zimbabwe's independence, the two presiding officers emphasized that the newly independent nation would urgently require all the assistance it could obtain in consolidating its independence, reconstructing its national economy and expediting its economic development. The Council President informed the Chairman of the Special Committee in that regard that an economic and social survey requested of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) by the Patriotic Front in 1978, funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), had been submitted to the co-leaders of the national liberation movement in February 1980 and that the report had been the subject of consideration at interagency meetings on the economic future of Zimbabwe, held at Harare in May 1980 with the participation of the Government of Zimbabwe. Stressing the urgent need for intensified international assistance to facilitate the speedy recovery of Zimbabwe from the severe effects of the economic sanctions applied to it, the two presiding officers called for well co-ordinated, comprehensive support in that connexion by all the agencies and organizations concerned. They noted that in February 1980 the Governing Council of UNDP had decided to establish an indicative planning figure (IPF) for Zimbabwe for the remainder of the 1977-1981 planning cycle in the amount of \$5.6 million and to maintain the existing IPF for national liberation movements, in order to finance ongoing projects and those approved for the current cycle. They recalled that the Governing Council had approved six new projects in 1979 amounting to \$686,575, in the fields of education, training, health and economic development and planning. They expressed the hope that the UNDP office to be established soon at Harare would play an active role in extending and co-ordinating interagency assistance in the reconstruction and development of the country, within the context of the new international development strategy for the third United Nations development decade.

6. The two presiding officers noted that, in response to the relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies concerned, several agencies and organizations had continued to expand, in varying degrees, the volume and scope of their assistance to the peoples in the remaining colonial Territories, particularly within the framework of programmes of assistance formulated by UNDP. They recalled that UNDP had financed over 40 projects from within the resources made available from the Trust Fund for Assistance to Colonial Countries and Peoples and from the allocations made by the Governing Council under IPF assistance to the national liberation movements concerned. They further noted that, with the assets of the Trust Fund due to be fully expended by the end of 1980, the Governing Council had increased the assistance available to national liberation movements by \$7.5 million to \$20.5 million, and thus the total amount provided had increased to \$24.7 million for activities in education, vocational training, health and public administration.

7. The two presiding officers welcomed a decision taken by the Trade and Development Board on 17 March 1980, by which the Board recommended that the special problems of the peoples under colonial domination or foreign occupation should be integrated into the formulation of the new international development strategy for the third development decade. In so doing, the two officers expressed appreciation

for the initiative taken in that regard by a group of Member States within the framework of UNCTAD, and hoped that the Board's recommendation would be fully taken into account during the forthcoming special session of the General Assembly on development. The two officers stressed how important it was for all Governments to intensify their efforts within the specialized agencies and other organizations in the system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples concerned.

8. The two presiding officers noted with satisfaction that, on the initiative of the United Nations Council for Namibia, assisted by the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia, intensified efforts were being made to prepare various programmes of assistance benefiting the Namibians, in close collaboration with a number of specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system. The programmes included the provision of fellowships, consultants, advisers, supplies and equipment, particularly in relation to the Nationhood Programme and the Institute for Namibia. While commending the increasing level of international co-operation in that regard, the presiding officers nevertheless considered that the assistance extended so far fell far short of the pressing needs of the Namibian people and, accordingly, stated that the international community should enlist whatever resources were available in order to provide Namibia with the assistance required. The presiding officers therefore called for intensified efforts to secure an increased flow of the funds required in the preparation of extended programmes of assistance and, in particular, for the support of the major funding institutions within the United Nations system to that end. They believed that, given the necessary commitment and determination, ways could be found to remove any existing constraints or difficulties - procedural or otherwise - so as to ensure the availability of the added resources required. In the same context, they emphasized that the role to be played by the executive heads of the institutions concerned was of special importance. It was hoped that, in keeping with paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 34/42 and paragraph 9 of Council resolution 1979/50, the executive heads would formulate specific proposals without further delay for consideration by the respective governing and legislative organs. The two presiding officers also agreed that the agencies and organizations that had thus far depended mainly on extrabudgetary sources for the financing of assistance projects, should endeavour to find, in so far as possible, ways and means of including or increasing provision in their regular budgets for initiating and/or expanding projects supported by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the national liberation movements.

9. The two presiding officers noted with satisfaction that close contacts and liaison established by the organizations within the United Nations system with the national liberation movements, OAU and the United Nations Council for Namibia had been maintained during the period under review. They also welcomed the participation of representatives of the national liberation movements in the relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations, contributing to the effective consideration by the organizations concerned of measures in support of colonial peoples. They also noted that, in conformity with paragraph 6 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2015 (LXI), several agencies defrayed the cost of travel and other related expenses of representatives of national liberation movements invited to attend such meetings. Further, they noted that the

United Nations Council for Namibia had been admitted to membership in certain agencies and had represented the Namibian people at a number of important conferences and meetings held during the year by the organizations concerned.

10. The two presiding officers expressed confidence that these closer contacts would facilitate further increases in the volume and scope of the assistance provided by the specialized agencies and organizations within the United Nations system and would enhance the ability of agencies to respond more quickly and with greater flexibility to needs as they were identified. In that connexion, the two presiding officers hoped that, in order to make maximum use of the available resources, the agencies and organizations would take further steps to strengthen the existing measures of co-ordination, for it was essential to ensure that the assistance projects undertaken or proposed by various agencies were not left unrelated or unco-ordinated. The presiding officers recalled the positive results of the working meetings held on a regular basis by UNDP during the past few years with the national liberation movements, the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system and the secretariat of the Organization of African Unity. Having noted that the meeting scheduled for the end of 1979 had not taken place, in deference to a provision in General Assembly resolution 34/21, of 9 November 1979, they felt that contacts and consultations at the working level should nevertheless be continued under the auspices of UNDP. As regards the meeting envisaged under resolution 34/21, they noted that the necessary arrangements had been completed for holding it in mid June 1980.

11. The two presiding officers noted that assistance to refugees from Zimbabwe and Namibia had been increased during the period under review through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in close co-operation with OAU and a number of organizations within the United Nations. They noted that the number of Zimbabwean refugees assisted totalled 213,000 by the end of 1979 and that the number of Namibians assisted increased to some 50,000 by the end of the year. For those refugees, over \$15 million in cash and \$2.4 million in kind had been expended through UNHCR. The presiding officers also noted that the current programmes of assistance by the World Food Programme had amounted to some \$31 million in food aid to the peoples concerned. They expressed the hope that the agencies and organizations within the United Nations system would continue to do everything possible to assist the Governments concerned in providing emergency and other aid to the growing number of refugees. In the same context, the two presiding officers hoped that Member States and the organizations concerned would respond positively to the recent appeal made by UNHCR for \$22 million for the repatriation to, and reception in, Zimbabwe of refugees living at the time of their meeting in Mozambique, Zambia and Botswana.

12. The two presiding officers noted that measures adopted by a number of agencies to withhold all assistance from the Government of South Africa continued to be in force. In particular, they noted with satisfaction a resolution adopted on 18 September 1979 by the eighteenth Universal Postal Congress, by which the Congress decided to expel South Africa from membership in the Universal Postal Union. They agreed that the United Nations system of organizations should strengthen such measures so as to bring about the maximum isolation of that régime, in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies concerned.

13. The Chairman of the Special Committee informed the President of the Council that, in pursuance of paragraph 10 of Council resolution 1979/50, the Special Committee's attention had been drawn to that resolution as well as to the discussions leading up to it during the Council's second regular session of 1979 (E/1979/C.3/SR.1-3 and 5; E/1979/SR.39). He also informed the President of the Council that the Committee, at the beginning of its current session, had asked its Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance to continue to follow the implementation by the specialized agencies and the institutions associated with the United Nations of the Declaration and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including in particular General Assembly resolution 34/42. Guided by the positive results of the contacts established in 1979 with representatives of a number of specialized agencies, the Special Committee, through the Sub-Committee, had continued similar consultations at its current session. During its examination of the question in August 1980, the Special Committee would take into account the results of those consultations as well as the outcome of the Council's consideration of the item at its second regular session of 1980.

14. Bearing in mind that the matters raised in the present report would require continuous review by the Economic and Social Council and the Special Committee, the two presiding officers agreed that, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give at its thirty-fifth session and in conformity with such decisions as might be taken by the Council and the Special Committee, they should maintain close contact with each other on the question.
