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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 Economic and Social 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 and the Chairman of the Special
Committee against Apartheid

I. SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

1. At its second regular session of 1987, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1987/78 on the 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 17 of that resolution, the Council requested its President to continue consultations on those matters 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 the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid and to report thereon to the Council.

2. On 14 August 1987, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples adopted a resolution by which it decided to continue to examine the question and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session. 1/

3. At its forty-second session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 42/75, in paragraph 26 of which it requested the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the

co-ordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of 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 under the terms of the above-mentioned resolutions is given below.

5. The President of the Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee noted with profound concern that the situation in and around Namibia had deteriorated further as a direct consequence of South Africa's illegal occupation of that international Territory. They attributed the cause of regional tension and conflict to, and deeply deprecated, South Africa's ruthless repression and oppression of the Namibian people; its military build-up in the Territory; its repeated armed aggression against neighbouring States; its increased attempts to destabilize the political, economic and social structures of the States in the region; its policy and practice of apartheid and other gross violations of human rights; and its persistent non-compliance with and violation of United Nations resolutions and decisions. The two presiding officers expressed their condemnation of the continuing attempt by the racist régime to perpetuate its colonial domination over Namibia and called upon the international community, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to render increased moral and material assistance to the peoples of Namibia and South Africa and their national liberation movements.

6. The two presiding officers noted that, in response to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Special Committee, several international agencies and organizations had continued to extend assistance in varying degrees within their respective spheres of competence to the peoples of Namibia and other Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories. However, they noted that the assistance extended to date by those organizations had been far from adequate in terms of the critical needs of the peoples concerned, particularly those in southern Africa. The presiding officers considered it imperative that the specialized agencies and other organizations concerned should further intensify their support for and assistance to those peoples, particularly the peoples of Namibia and South Africa, in close co-operation with the national liberation movements concerned.

7. In that regard, the two presiding officers noted with satisfaction that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) had continued to extend assistance to the peoples concerned. In reorienting its development assistance to the priorities identified for the fourth programme cycle, UNDP placed particular emphasis on formal education and other types of training, with a view to preparing those peoples for eventual technical, managerial and administrative responsibilities in their respective countries as well as fostering a degree of self-reliance in the countries of asylum, in such areas as the administration and management of community services, including educational and health services, vocational trades and crafts and agriculture and food production. They noted that the assistance rendered by UNDP to national liberation movements in those fields amounted to \$2,558,200.

8. The two presiding officers observed that of the 23 projects identified in the programme proposal of assistance to national liberation movements, 17 had been approved and were in operation by year's end, draft documents were awaited on four, and consultations were planned on two others. They noted that, except for two ongoing projects, all were new activities or follow-up phases of projects assisted in the previous cycle and that one of the two ongoing projects had been completed during the year. They further observed that the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) was the recipient of seven projects actually under implementation, while the African National Congress (ANC) and Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) each had three. All 17 projects were funded by the indicative planning figure (IPF) for national liberation movements. The two presiding officers noted with regret the closure of the Trust Fund for Assistance to Colonial Countries and Peoples due to lack of residual resources and requested the Administrator of UNDP to take the necessary steps to appeal for general contributions earmarked for that purpose by all concerned in order to enable UNDP to reinstitute the Trust Fund. In so doing, the presiding officers were particularly mindful of the pressing need for external assistance of a number of small dependent Territories for which no IPF had yet been established.

9. The two presiding officers noted that seven projects in the field of education accounted for \$1,259,800, or 49.3 per cent of the total allocated resources. They expressed the hope that a higher level of commitment, comparable at least to the previous year's level of 67 per cent, would be realized in 1988 through expeditious actions by the executing agency in formulating and completing documents for approval. They noted that the second most important sector, with two projects, was health, accounting for \$901,600, or 35.2 per cent of the total financial commitment within the category, and that two further projects were to be formulated in the course of 1988. It was further noted that support activities were represented by three projects with commitments of \$184,900, or 7.2 per cent; development co-ordination and management, with three projects accounting for \$109,400, or 4.3 per cent; and agriculture with two projects for \$102,000, or 4 per cent of the total resources.

10. In respect of joint assistance, the two presiding officers noted that four projects at a total cost of \$758,600 would be executed by the UNDP Office for Projects Services (OPS) benefiting all three national liberation movements jointly. Three of the projects dealt with assistance in the programming, monitoring and evaluation of national liberation movement projects and assistance in the training of national liberation movement health personnel. It was noted that with regard to the latter, which benefited 70 national liberation movement cadres, 15 had successfully completed their courses and another 33 were admitted for training. The two presiding officers expressed their satisfaction at the fact that one delegate from each national liberation movement had attended the thirty-fourth session of the Governing Council in May-June 1987, the cost of which had been covered under the fourth project. The two presiding officers noted that for the first time UNDP had approved assistance for the establishment and development within SWAPO of an aid co-ordination and management unit in order to adopt a co-ordinated approach to the planning and management of assistance projects funded by different donors and to increase efficiency and effectiveness in meeting the needs of the national liberation movements.

11. The two presiding officers observed that two projects were being executed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for SWAPO with the objective of strengthening the Namibian Education Centres established by SWAPO in Angola and Zambia. It was noted that those Centres served as primary and secondary schools for 3,260 young Namibians: 1,490 in Angola and 1,770 in Zambia. They observed that assistance had also been given to strengthening the SWAPO Women's Council. It was further noted that the Office for Project Services was responsible for the execution of three projects relating to the administration of health services in the settlements in Angola and Zambia; agricultural production at the United Nations Vocational Training Centre for Namibians in Angola; and a preparatory mission relating to the establishment of an aid co-ordination and management unit. The total commitment by UNDP of those projects, it was noted, amounted to \$818,400.

12. The two presiding officers noted that the three projects of assistance to ANC were all in the education sector executed by UNESCO, by which 27 ANC students were provided university, technical and professional education, 700 pupils primary and secondary education in the United Republic of Tanzania and another 70 ANC youths in established primary and secondary schools in countries of asylum, at a total cost of \$622,500 for the year. The support extended to PAC through three projects, they observed, included assistance in agriculture, post-secondary education and professional training (20 students) and primary and secondary education (150 pupils). The agricultural project was executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) while, at PAC's own request, the other projects were executed by the Office for Project Services. It was noted that the three projects accounted for a resource allocation of \$358,700.

13. The presiding officers noted that under its Second Country Programme, UNDP had allocated \$1,013,000 to Tokelau from its IPF resources for 1987-1991 in order to assist the Territory in accelerating its economic and social progress. It was noted that, from its Special Programme Resources (SPR), UNDP had made available \$195,000 to Tokelau for rehabilitation and reconstruction purposes in the aftermath of tidal waves which swept over the three low-lying atoll islands in February/March 1987; two projects had been approved, one aimed at restoring the telecommunications network and the other for the rehabilitation of communities and the reconstruction of major structures for education and development purposes. The presiding officers further noted that a proposal was under review by UNESCO establishing an FM-radio station in the atolls to assist the free flow of information and in the education process.

14. The two presiding officers noted that assistance had also been rendered to other dependent Territories in the Caribbean: under the UNESCO Participation Programme, the British Virgin Islands, an Associate Member since 1983, was the beneficiary of two projects, with a total allocation of \$32,000; the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands had joined a multi-island programme of co-operation, under the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), that focused mainly on early childhood education, with support also provided in areas of health, nutrition, women, water and sanitation; and, in Anguilla, UNDP was administering a programme for the establishment of a Central Statistical Unit at the cost of \$100,000. Deeply conscious of the fragile economies of the small

colonial Territories and the continuing critical needs of their people, the presiding officers, while noting with appreciation the assistance being rendered to those Territories, appealed to the specialized agencies and other organizations concerned to expand and increase their assistance programmes to all dependent Territories.

15. The two presiding officers noted with satisfaction that, under the leadership of the United Nations Council for Namibia, various programmes of assistance were being undertaken benefiting the Namibians, in close collaboration with UNDP and a number of specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system. They noted that the total cost of the 40 projects currently under way for the Nationhood Programme amounted to \$20.1 million. In addition, 38 projects totalling \$6.7 million had already been completed during the period 1979-1987. They also noted that of the total costs of the projects, more than \$18.1 million, or 67.8 per cent, was covered by the Fund for Namibia; about \$7.4 million, or 27.8 per cent, by UNDP; and approximately \$1.2 million, or 4.4 per cent, by the executing agencies. It was noted that an increase of \$300,000 in the allocation for the Individual Scholarship Programme under the General Account had been approved, for a total of \$1.5 million for 1988. During the period under review, a total of 1,087 Namibians had benefited from the various training activities under the assistance programmes of the Council for Namibia.

16. They further noted that, for the programme cycle 1987-1991, UNDP IPF for Namibia had been established at \$9,395,000. Taking into consideration a small carry-over from the previous cycle, a total of \$9,752,000 was available for programming in the context of the assistance activities of the Council for Namibia. It was noted that agreement had been reached to allocate some \$4.6 million for the United Nations Institute for Namibia, located in Zambia, and for the balance to go to the United Nations Vocational Training Centre for Namibia in Angola.

17. Deeply conscious of the continuing critical needs of the Namibian people, the presiding officers, while noting with appreciation the intensified level of international co-operation in assistance programmes, appealed to the organizations concerned to enlist whatever resources were available in order to provide Namibia with the assistance required. To that end - and taking into account that Namibia continued to be a unique responsibility of the United Nations - the two officers called for renewed efforts to secure an increased flow of funds required for the preparation of the extended programmes of assistance and, in particular, for the support of the major funding institutions within the United Nations system. They strongly urged that those institutions, bearing in mind the need for maximum flexibility, should take steps to remove any existing constraints or difficulties so as to ensure the availability of the added resources required. They emphasized that the role of the executive heads of the institutions concerned was of special importance. They hoped that, in keeping with paragraph 24 of General Assembly resolution 42/75 and paragraph 15 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/78, the executive heads would formulate concrete proposals for consideration by the respective governing and legislative organs.

18. The two presiding officers agreed that the agencies and organizations that had in large measure depended on extrabudgetary sources for the financing of assistance projects should continue to endeavour to find ways and means of including or increasing provision in their regular budgets for initiating and for expanding projects supported by the Council for Namibia, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and national liberation movements. In that regard they drew particular attention to paragraph 10 (c) of General Assembly resolution 42/14 E, in which the Assembly called upon the organizations to continue to allocate funds from their own financial resources for the implementation of the Nationhood Programme projects approved by the United Nations Council for Namibia. They noted with satisfaction, in that connection, that most agencies had agreed to eliminate or significantly reduce their overhead charges for support activities and urged other agencies and organizations to do likewise.

19. The two presiding officers noted that close liaison established by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system with the national liberation movements, OAU and the United Nations Council for Namibia had greatly enhanced their efforts to render effective assistance to the peoples concerned. They noted with satisfaction that the national liberation movements had continued to be represented at the relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations contributing to the positive 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) of 3 August 1976, a number of agencies continued to defray the cost of travel and other related expenses of representatives of national liberation movements invited to attend such meetings. They further noted with satisfaction the inclusion of Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia, in the membership of various agencies and organizations. In recalling General Assembly resolutions 42/75 and 42/14 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/78, they urged those agencies and organizations that had not yet granted full membership to the United Nations Council for Namibia to do so without delay.

20. The two presiding officers agreed that those close contacts facilitated further increases in the volume and scope of the assistance provided by the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and enhanced the ability of agencies to respond more quickly and with greater flexibility to needs as they were identified. 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 committed to or proposed by various agencies were not left unrelated or unco-ordinated.

21. The two presiding officers noted that the assistance to refugees from Namibia had continued to increase during 1987, through the efforts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in close co-operation with OAU and a number of organizations within the United Nations system. They noted with appreciation that UNHCR programme expenditure for the year 1987 for the assistance to the Namibian and South African refugees in the neighbouring countries had amounted to \$5 million and allocation for 1988, to \$6 million. They noted with

concern that the Namibian refugee population had increased to 69,000 in Angola, and to 7,500 in Zambia. They also noted with concern the rise of a South African refugee population in neighbouring countries, including 10,000 in Angola, 6,500 in Swaziland, 6,000 in the United Republic of Tanzania, 3,000 in Zambia, 3,000 in Lesotho and 211 in Zimbabwe. In addition, it was noted that there were 5,200 refugees of all nationalities in Botswana, 200 South African and Namibian refugees in Mozambique, and 12 Namibians in Zimbabwe. The two presiding officers called for general contributions by all concerned to UNHCR to enable it to meet the needs of those peoples effectively and adequately.

22. The two presiding officers noted that measures adopted by a number of agencies and other organizations to withhold all assistance from the Government of South Africa continued to be in force. They agreed that the agencies and other organizations associated with the United Nations system should strengthen such measures so as to bring about maximum isolation of that régime, in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies concerned, including, in particular, General Assembly resolution 42/75. They expressed profound concern at the financial and other collaboration between the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and South Africa. Such collaboration, they considered, was tantamount to recognition of, or support for, the legitimacy of the repressive policy being pursued in Namibia by the racist régime of South Africa and its blatant aggression against its neighbours.

23. The two presiding officers noted with appreciation the comprehensive information provided by a number of specialized agencies and organizations within the United Nations system, as contained in the related report of the Secretary-General (A/43/355) concerning their respective activities in support of the peoples of colonial Territories. The report indeed indicated that an increasing number of those organizations had extended or formulated programmes of assistance from within their own budgetary resources, in addition to their intensified collaboration with UNDP as an executing agency. They also noted with satisfaction that many of the organizations had co-operated closely with front-line States and newly independent countries in meeting the related need of the Governments of those countries. The presiding officers expressed the hope that, in response to the appeals repeatedly made by the United Nations organs concerned, organizations of the United Nations system would continue to intensify their efforts in the extension of the necessary assistance to those countries.

24. The Chairman of the Special Committee informed the President of the Council that, in pursuance of paragraph 16 of Council resolution 1987/78, the Special Committee's attention had been drawn to that resolution as well as to the discussions leading up to it during the second regular session of 1987 of the Council. He also informed the President that the Special Committee's Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance continued to follow the implementation by the specialized agencies and the institutions associated with the United Nations of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including, in particular, General Assembly resolution 42/75. The Chairman also indicated that, during its examination of the question in August 1988, the Special Committee would take into account the results of the consultations being held by the Sub-Committee at its

current session, as well as the outcome of the Council's consideration of the item at its second regular session of 1988.

25. Bearing in mind that the matter raised in their 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 forty-third 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.

Notes

1/ "Report of the Special Committee on the Situation ..." (A/42/23)
(Part IV), chap. VI, para. 23. The complete report is to be issued as Official
Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/42/23).
