

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE

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1593 (XV). Appeal to Member States which have particularly close and continuous relations with the Government of the Union of South Africa, with respect to the situation in the Territory of South West Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the many resolutions adopted, since its first session, on the question of South West Africa, and especially resolution 1568 (XV) of 18 December 1960,

Noting with concern that up to the present time the Government of the Union of South Africa has ignored those resolutions and has, instead, adopted an attitude contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting with special concern the refusal of the Mandatory Power to implement resolution 1568 (XV),

Likewise noting with concern the continued acts whereby, since 1950, the Government of the Union of South Africa has attempted to bring about the assimilation of the Territory of South West Africa, and in particular the so-called referendum of 5 October 1960 in which only the "European" inhabitants of the Territory were permitted to take part,

Considering that the conduct of the Government of the Union of South Africa constitutes a challenge to the authority of the United Nations,

Considering that attempts at the assimilation of the Mandated Territory of South West Africa, culminating in the so-called referendum of 5 October 1960, are totally unacceptable as having no moral or legal basis and being repugnant to the letter and spirit of the Mandate,

Appeals to those Members of the United Nations which have particularly close and continuous relations with the Government of the Union of South Africa to bring, as a matter of urgency, all their influence to bear on that Government with a view to ensuring that it shall adjust its conduct to its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and shall give effect to the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly.

*963rd plenary meeting,
16 March 1961.*

1596 (XV). Question of South West Africa

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the General Assembly's Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples,¹ which declares that immediate steps shall be taken to transfer all powers to such peoples, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, without any distinction as to race, creed or colour, in order to enable them to enjoy complete independence and freedom,

Recalling its resolution 1568 (XV) of 18 December 1960 inviting the Committee on South West Africa to go to South West Africa immediately, *inter alia*, to investigate the situation prevailing in the Territory,

Noting with deep regret, from the preliminary report of the Committee on South West Africa² called for under the said resolution, that the Government of the Union of South Africa refuses to co-operate with the

¹ See resolution 1514 (XV).

² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 43, document A/4705.

United Nations by facilitating the mission of the Committee on South West Africa,

Convinced that it is both the right and the duty of the United Nations to discharge fully and effectively its obligations with respect to the proper implementation, under its supervision, of the Mandate for South West Africa conferred upon His Britannic Majesty, to be exercised on his behalf by the Government of the Union of South Africa,

Noting with grave concern the continuing deterioration in the situation in South West Africa resulting from the continued application, in violation of the letter and spirit of the Mandate, of tyrannical policies and practices, such as *apartheid*, of the administration of the Union of South Africa in South West Africa,

Reiterating its concern that this situation constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security,

1. *Recognizes and supports* the passionate yearning of the people of South West Africa for freedom and the exercise of national independence and sovereignty;

2. *Rejects* the position taken by the Government of the Union of South Africa in refusing to co-operate with the United Nations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1568 (XV) as well as other resolutions concerning South West Africa;

3. *Deplores* the attempts at the assimilation of the Mandated Territory of South West Africa, culminating in the so-called referendum held on 5 October 1960, as totally unacceptable, having no moral or legal basis and being repugnant to the letter and spirit of the Mandate;

4. *Considers* that the full and effective discharge of the tasks assigned to the Committee on South West Africa in paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 1568 (XV) is essential to the protection of the lives and property of the inhabitants of South West Africa, to the amelioration of the prevailing conditions in South West Africa, the continuance of which is likely to endanger international peace and security, and to the exercise of the right of self-determination by the people of South West Africa in complete freedom and of their right of accession to national sovereignty and independence with the least delay;

5. *Requests* the Committee on South West Africa, therefore, immediately to proceed to discharge the special and urgent tasks entrusted to it in resolution 1568 (XV) as fully and expeditiously as possible with the co-operation of the Government of the Union of South Africa if such co-operation is available, and without it if necessary;

6. *Requests* the States Members of the United Nations to extend to the Committee on South West Africa such assistance as it may require in the discharge of these tasks;

7. *Decides* to call the attention of the Security Council to the situation in respect of South West Africa which, if allowed to continue, will in the General Assembly's view endanger international peace and security, and to the present resolution, the full implementation of which is necessary to bring that situation to a speedy end;

8. *Takes note with grave concern* of reports of the terrorization of, and armed action against, the indigenous inhabitants, and calls upon the Government of the Union of South Africa to desist from such acts;

9. *Requests* the Committee on South West Africa to submit to the General Assembly at its sixteenth session a report on the implementation of resolution 1568 (XV) as well as the present resolution.

*979th plenary meeting,
7 April 1961.*

1605 (XV). Question of the future of Ruanda-Urundi

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the General Assembly's Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples,¹

Recalling its resolutions 1579 (XV) and 1580 (XV) of 20 December 1960 concerning the future of the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi,

Having received the interim report of the United Nations Commission for Ruanda-Urundi² appointed under resolution 1579 (XV),

Regretting the failure of the Administering Authority to implement fully and effectively the terms of resolution 1579 (XV), the resistance to such implementation by the local representatives of the Administering Authority in Ruanda-Urundi and their failure to co-operate fully and effectively with the United Nations Commission for Ruanda-Urundi,

Regretting the de facto recognition by the Administering Authority of governmental bodies in Ruanda which were established by irregular and unlawful means and which cannot be regarded as fully representative of all segments of the population in the absence of free and fair elections on the basis of direct universal adult suffrage, as envisaged in resolution 1579 (XV),

Regretting also the setting up of governmental bodies in Urundi on the basis of communal elections, contrary to the assurances given by the Administering Authority that communal elections were purely administrative and had no political character,

Noting the several statements of the representatives of the Administering Authority conveying assurances that it will co-operate fully with the United Nations in Ruanda-Urundi,

Having heard the views of the petitioners from Ruanda-Urundi,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the members of the United Nations Commission for Ruanda-Urundi for their conscientious discharge of the duties entrusted to them under General Assembly resolutions 1579 (XV) and 1580 (XV);

2. *Calls upon* the Government of Belgium as the Administering Authority to ensure that the provisions of resolution 1579 (XV) are fully implemented by its representatives in Ruanda-Urundi before the legislative elections;

3. *Recognizes* that the Government of Belgium is alone responsible for the administration of the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi and accountable to the United Nations, and that its responsibilities as Administering Authority cannot in any way be abdicated to local political bodies and leaders until after appropriate democratic institutions have been set up and the Trus-

¹ *Ibid.*, agenda item 45, addendum, documents A/4706 and Add.1.