

Recalling its resolution 1573 (XV) of 19 December 1960, by which it recognized its responsibility to contribute towards a just solution of the Algerian question,

Recalling further its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, which emphasized in paragraph 4:

"All armed action or repressive measures of all kinds directed against dependent peoples shall cease in order to enable them to exercise peacefully and freely their right to complete independence . . .",

Appeals to the Government of France, in accordance with established international practice and humanitarian principles, to redress the legitimate grievances of the Algerian prisoners in recognizing their status as political prisoners with a view to making possible the immediate termination of the hunger strike.

1055th plenary meeting,
15 November 1961.

1651 (XVI). Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Takes note of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the General Assembly for the year 1960-1961.⁸

1062nd plenary meeting,
23 November 1961.

1654 (XVI). The situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of that Declaration,

Recalling in particular paragraph 5 of the Declaration providing that:

"Immediate steps shall be taken, in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories or all other territories which have not yet attained independence, to transfer all powers to the peoples of those territories, 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",

Noting with regret that, with a few exceptions, the provisions contained in the aforementioned paragraph of the Declaration have not been carried out,

Noting that, contrary to the provisions of paragraph 4 of the Declaration, armed action and repressive measures continue to be taken in certain areas with increasing ruthlessness against dependent peoples, depriving them of their prerogative to exercise peacefully and freely their right to complete independence,

Deeply concerned that, contrary to the provisions of paragraph 6 of the Declaration, acts aimed at the partial

⁸ Annual report of the Board of Governors to the General Conference, 1 July 1960-30 June 1961, Vienna, July 1961, and supplementary report (A/4883 and Add.1).

or total disruption of national unity and territorial integrity are still being carried out in certain countries in the process of decolonization,

Convinced that further delay in the application of the Declaration is a continuing source of international conflict and disharmony, seriously impedes international co-operation, and is creating an increasingly dangerous situation in many parts of the world which may threaten international peace and security,

Emphasizing that inadequacy of political, economic, social or educational preparedness should never serve as a pretext for delaying independence,

1. Solemnly reiterates and reaffirms the objectives and principles enshrined in the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960;

2. Calls upon States concerned to take action without further delay with a view to the faithful application and implementation of the Declaration;

3. Decides to establish a Special Committee of seventeen members to be nominated by the President of the General Assembly at the present session;

4. Requests the Special Committee to examine the application of the Declaration, to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration, and to report to the General Assembly at its seventeenth session;

5. Directs the Special Committee to carry out its task by employment of all means which it will have at its disposal within the framework of the procedures and modalities which it shall adopt for the proper discharge of its functions;

6. Authorizes the Special Committee to meet elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters, whenever and wherever such meetings may be required for the effective discharge of its functions, in consultation with the appropriate authorities;

7. Invites the authorities concerned to afford the Special Committee their fullest co-operation in carrying out its tasks;

8. Requests the Trusteeship Council, the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and the specialized agencies concerned to assist the Special Committee in its work within their respective fields;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with all the facilities and the personnel necessary for the implementation of the present resolution.

1066th plenary meeting,
27 November 1961.

* * *

The President of the General Assembly, in pursuance of the above resolution, appointed the members of the Special Committee established under paragraph 3 of that resolution. At its 1094th plenary meeting, on 23 January 1962, the General Assembly took note of that appointment.

The Special Committee is composed as follows: AUSTRALIA, CAMBODIA, ETHIOPIA, INDIA, ITALY, MADAGASCAR, MALI, POLAND, SYRIA, TANGANYIKA, TUNISIA, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA and YUGOSLAVIA.