

Noting with satisfaction the progress towards national independence and freedom made by the national liberation movements in the colonial Territories of southern Africa and in Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde both through their struggle and through reconstruction programmes,

Conscious of the need of the peoples and the national liberation movements of those Territories for assistance and support in their struggle to achieve freedom and independence,

1. *Appeals* to the Governments and the peoples of the world to hold annually a Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa and Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Equal Rights and proposes that the Week should begin on 25 May, Africa Liberation Day;

2. *Recommends* that, on the occasion of the Week, meetings should be held, appropriate materials should be published in the press and broadcast on radio and television and public campaigns should be conducted with a view to obtaining contributions to the Assistance Fund for the Struggle against Colonialism and *Apartheid* established by the Organization of African Unity.

2078th plenary meeting
2 November 1972

2925 (XXVII). Strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of co-operation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of co-operation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States",

Aware that the United Nations is duty bound to act persistently for the observance in relations between all States of the principles of refraining from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means, non-interference in domestic affairs, the sovereign equality of all States, the equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and co-operation between States,

Convinced of the need to bring about further improvements in the activities of the United Nations and its organs, taking into account the new realities of the world, thus making the United Nations an efficient forum of the international community as a whole, capable of ensuring the participation of all States in the solution of the problems facing mankind,

1. *Recognizes* that it is imperative that the Organization should become a more effective instrument in safeguarding and strengthening the independence and sovereignty of all States, as well as the inalienable right of every people to decide its own fate without any outside interference, and that it should take firm action, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, for the prevention and suppression of acts of aggression or any other acts which may jeopardize international peace and security;

2. *Expresses the conviction* that it is necessary to strengthen the role of the United Nations so that it may bring an increased contribution to the settlement of international issues in the interest of all peoples and of general peace and security;

3. *Urges* all Member States to fulfil their obligations under the Charter and, in accordance with its provisions, to implement the resolutions of United Nations organs;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Member States to take full advantage of the framework and means provided by the United Nations for the solution of international issues of common interest and to contribute to the identification of ways and means of bringing about the strengthening of the capacity for action and an increase in the effectiveness of the Organization for the attainment of the ideals of peace, freedom and progress of peoples;

5. *Invites* Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General, not later than 30 June 1973, their views and suggestions on the ways and means of contributing to the strengthening of the role of the United Nations in international life, including proposals for enhancing the effectiveness of the decisions and resolutions adopted by United Nations organs;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the basis of the views and suggestions received under paragraph 5 above, and of the debates on this item, and to submit that report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its twenty-eighth session the item entitled "Strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of co-operation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States".

2090th plenary meeting
27 November 1972

2936 (XXVII). Non-use of force in international relations and permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Noting that renunciation of the use or threat of force as proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations and reaffirmed in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, contained in General Assembly resolution 2734 (XXV) of 16 December 1970, and the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, is an obligation that all States should respect,

Noting with concern that the use of force in various forms is still occurring in violation of the Charter,

Bearing in mind that the threat of the use of nuclear weapons continues to exist,

Guided by the desire of all peoples to eliminate war and above all to prevent a nuclear disaster,

Reaffirming, in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter, the inalienable right of States to self-defence against armed attack,

Mindful of the principle of the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force and the inherent right of States to recover such territories by all the means at their disposal,

Reaffirming its recognition of the legitimacy of the struggle of colonial peoples for their freedom by all appropriate means at their disposal,

Recalling the Declaration on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear and Thermonuclear Weapons, contained in General Assembly resolution 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961,

Recalling further its resolution 2160 (XXI) of 30 November 1966 on the strict observance of the prohibition of the threat or use of force in international relations, and of the right of peoples to self-determination,

Believing that renunciation of the use or threat of force and prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons should be fully observed as a law of international life,

1. *Solemnly declares*, on behalf of the States Members of the Organization, their renunciation of the use or threat of force in all its forms and manifestations in international relations, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and the permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Recommends* that the Security Council should take, as soon as possible, appropriate measures for the full implementation of the present declaration of the General Assembly.

2093rd plenary meeting
29 November 1972

2937 (XXVII). Resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its 2093rd plenary meeting⁵

The General Assembly,

Having noted the application of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for admission to membership in the United Nations,⁶

Having also noted the special report of the Security Council in this regard,⁷

Reaffirming the principle of universality of membership of the United Nations in accordance with the Charter,

Considering that the People's Republic of Bangladesh is eligible for membership in the United Nations,

Expresses the desire that the People's Republic of Bangladesh will be admitted to membership in the United Nations at an early date.

2093rd plenary meeting
29 November 1972

⁵ Resolutions 2937 (XXVII) and 2938 (XXVII) were adopted simultaneously by the General Assembly without debate and without a vote following a statement by the President of the Assembly which appears in the verbatim record of the 2093rd plenary meeting (see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Plenary Meetings, 2093rd meeting, paras. 153-157*).

⁶ A/8754. For the printed text of this document, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Twenty-seventh Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1972, document S/10759*.

⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Annexes, agenda item 23, document A/8776*.

2938 (XXVII). Resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its 2093rd plenary meeting⁵

The General Assembly,

Having in mind the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and Security Council resolution 307 (1971) of 21 December 1971,

Having noted with satisfaction the steps taken so far to facilitate the restoration of conditions of normalcy in the South Asian subcontinent, notably the Simla Agreement,

Mindful of the fact that the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949⁸ require the release and repatriation of prisoners of war without delay after the cessation of active hostilities,

Considering that the solution of all outstanding problems, including the return of military and civilian personnel to their respective countries, is important for the establishment of a climate of peace and tranquillity in the area,

Expressing the hope that all parties will refrain from any act which could jeopardize the prospects of settlement and render more difficult eventual reconciliation,

Expresses the desire that the parties concerned make all possible efforts, in a spirit of co-operation and mutual respect, to reach a fair settlement of the issues that are still pending, and calls for the return of the prisoners of war in accordance with the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the relevant provisions of Security Council resolution 307 (1971).

2093rd plenary meeting
29 November 1972

2948 (XXVII). Credentials of representatives to the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee,⁹ except with regard to the credentials of the representatives of South Africa.

2104th plenary meeting
8 December 1972

2949 (XXVII). The situation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Having received the report of the Secretary-General of 15 September 1972 on the activities of his Special Representative to the Middle East,¹⁰

⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

⁹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Annexes, agenda item 3, document A/8921*.

¹⁰ A/8815. For the printed text of this document, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Twenty-seventh Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1972, document S/10792*.