

4. *Requests* the Government of the United States of America, as the administering Power, to continue to take all necessary measures, in consultation with the freely elected authorities and representatives of the people of the United States Virgin Islands, to enable the people of the Territory to exercise fully their right to self-determination in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to encourage further and meaningful discussion regarding the political and constitutional status of the Territory and to take such additional measures as would ensure preservation of the identity and cultural heritage of the people of the United States Virgin Islands;

6. *Urges* the administering Power, in consultation with the freely elected authorities and representatives of the people of the United States Virgin Islands, to safeguard the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to the enjoyment of their natural resources by taking effective measures which guarantee the right of the people to own and dispose of those natural resources and to establish and maintain control of their future development;

7. *Expresses the view* that measures to promote the economic development of the United States Virgin Islands are an important element in the process of self-determination and, to this end, calls upon the administering Power, together with the freely elected authorities and representatives of the people of the United States Virgin Islands, to take all measures necessary to achieve a viable and stable economy in the Territory;

8. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to enlist the assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system in the development and strengthening of the economy of the United States Virgin Islands;

9. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session, including the possible dispatch of a further visiting mission to the United States Virgin Islands at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session.

*81st plenary meeting
13 December 1978*

33/35. Question of Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands,

Having examined the relevant chapters of the report 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,²⁹

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting

²⁹ *Ibid.*, vol. I, chaps. III-V, and vol. III, chaps. XXI-XXV.

of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to the Territories listed above, in particular General Assembly resolutions 32/29 and 32/30 of 28 November 1977,

Taking into account the statement of the administering Power relating to the Territories listed above,³⁰

Noting the continued readiness of the administering Power to grant independence to the peoples of the Territories under its administration on the basis of their express wishes and aspirations in that regard, and its declared policy of fostering the growth of free and democratic political institutions in those Territories,

Conscious of the need to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the Declaration with respect to the Territories concerned,

Bearing in mind the constructive results that can be achieved as a consequence of United Nations visiting missions to colonial Territories, which provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories visited, and reiterating its conviction that the dispatch of such missions is essential for securing adequate and first-hand information in regard to the political, economic and social conditions in those Territories and to the views, wishes and aspirations of the peoples therein,

Mindful that those Territories require the continued attention and assistance of the United Nations in the achievement by their peoples of the objectives embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of the Territories concerned, and stressing the necessity of diversifying and strengthening further their economies as a matter of priority in order to promote economic stability and reduce their dependence on fluctuating economic activities,

1. *Approves* the chapters of the report 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 relating to Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands;³¹

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of those Territories to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. *Reaffirms* its conviction that questions of territorial size, geographical location and limited resources should in no way delay the implementation of the Declaration with respect to the Territories concerned;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, in consultation with the freely elected representatives of the peoples, to continue to take all the necessary steps to ensure the full and speedy attainment of the goals set forth in the Declaration with respect to the Territories;

³⁰ *Ibid.*, Thirty-third Session, Fourth Committee, 24th meeting, paras. 23-30.

³¹ *Ibid.*, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/33/23/Rev.1), vol. III, chaps. XXI-XXV.

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to expand its programme of budgetary aid and to take all possible steps, in consultation with the local authorities, as appropriate, to diversify and strengthen further the economies of the Territories listed above and to work out concrete programmes of assistance and economic development for those Territories;

6. *Urges* the administering Power, with the co-operation of the freely elected authorities and representatives of the peoples of the Territories concerned, to safeguard the inalienable right of the peoples of those Territories to the enjoyment of their natural resources by taking effective measures which guarantee the rights of the peoples to own and dispose of those natural resources and to establish and maintain control of their future development;

7. *Requests* the administering Power, in consultation with the freely elected authorities and representatives of the peoples of the Territories concerned, to pay particular attention to the training of qualified local personnel;

8. *Welcomes* the positive attitude of the administering Power with respect to the receiving of United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under its administration and requests the Chairman of the Special Committee to continue his consultations with a view to the dispatch of such missions, as appropriate;

9. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to enlist the assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system in accelerating progress in all sectors of the national life of those Territories;

10. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek the best ways and means for the implementation of the Declaration with respect to Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands, including the possible dispatch of visiting missions in consultation with the administering Power, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*81st plenary meeting
13 December 1978*

33/36. Question of Belize

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Belize,

Having examined the relevant chapters of the report 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,³²

Recalling its resolutions 3432 (XXX) of 8 December 1975, 31/50 of 1 December 1976 and 32/32 of 28 November 1977,

Having heard the statements of the representatives of Guatemala³³ and of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,³⁴

Having heard the statement of the representative of Belize,³⁵

Having also heard the statements of the petitioners,³⁶

Reaffirming the principles established in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, set out in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, in particular that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

Recalling that, in the Bogotá Declaration of 6 August 1977, it was agreed that "a solution of the Belize question should be found by the peaceful methods consecrated in the charters of the Organization of American States and the United Nations, and in accordance with respect for its territorial integrity and with the principle of the free self-determination of peoples",

Bearing in mind the relevant parts of the Declaration of the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 25 to 30 July 1978,³⁷

Reiterating its conviction that the people of Belize should be assisted in a practical manner to exercise freely and without fear their inalienable right to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity,

Deeply regretting the continued failure of the parties concerned to conclude an agreement in conformity with the principles established in General Assembly resolutions 3432 (XXX), 31/50 and 32/32, and the resultant delay in the speedy achievement of the secure independence of Belize,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Belize to self-determination and independence;

2. *Reaffirms* that the inviolability and territorial integrity of Belize must be preserved;

3. *Urges* the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, acting in close consultation with the Government of Belize, and the Government of Guatemala to pursue vigorously their negotiations with a view to settling their differences over Belize, without prejudice to the right of the people of Belize to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity, and furthering the peace and stability of the region, and in this connexion to consult as appropriate with other especially interested States in the area;

4. *Requests* the Governments concerned to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session on the outcome of the negotiations referred to above;

5. *Calls upon* the parties involved to refrain from any threats or use of force against the people of Belize or their territory;

6. *Recognizes* that it is the responsibility of the United Kingdom, as the administering Power, to take all necessary steps to enable the people of Belize to exercise freely and without fear their right to self-determination and to a firm and early independence;

³² *Ibid.*, vol. I, chap. V, and vol. IV, chap. XXIX.

³³ *Ibid.*, Thirty-third Session, Fourth Committee, 26th meeting, paras. 45-48, and 30th meeting, paras. 25-28.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, 27th meeting, paras. 13-22, and 30th meeting, paras. 50-54; and *ibid.*, Fourth Committee, Sessional Fascicle, corrigendum.

³⁵ *Ibid.*, 29th meeting, paras. 42-57.

³⁶ *Ibid.*, 23rd meeting, paras. 46-52, 56-60 and 62-68. For the full text, see A/C.4/33/L.26, L.27 and L.28.

³⁷ A/33/206, annex I, paras. 120 to 123.