

Conscious of the need to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of the Territory,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of the Territory and bearing in mind the necessity of diversifying and strengthening further its economy as a matter of priority in order to promote economic stability,

Reaffirming that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory,

Noting that, while tourism increased during the year under review, the contribution of other sectors to the Territory's gross domestic product declined, and noting the expressed commitment of the Government of the British Virgin Islands to achieve sound fiscal management and economic diversification, as well as to establish a national development strategy,

Welcoming the contributions to the development of the Territory by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, as well as by regional organizations, including the Caribbean Development Bank,

Emphasizing the importance of the continued participation of the Territory in the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development and in all other regional and international organizations concerned, and noting that the Territory was host to the Eleventh Meeting of Heads of Government of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States,

Noting the critical need for the training of nationals in technical, vocational, managerial and professional fields, and taking note, in a related context, of the expressed intention of the Governor to accord priority to the creation of an institution for post-secondary education,

Recalling the dispatch in 1976 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the small Territories and considering that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to the British Virgin Islands at an appropriate time should be kept under review,

1. *Approves* the chapter 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 the British Virgin Islands;²⁸

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the British Virgin Islands to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. *Reiterates the view* that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of the Territory of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration, which fully applies to the British Virgin Islands;

4. *Reiterates* that it is the responsibility of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of the British Virgin Islands to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with resolution 1514 (XV) and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly

5. *Reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the British Virgin Islands themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration and, in that connection, reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Power, in co-operation with the Government of the British Virgin Islands, to intensify its efforts to broaden the base of the economy of the Territory,

7. *Urges* the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to safeguard the inalienable right of the people of the British Virgin Islands to the enjoyment of their natural resources by taking effective measures to ensure their right to own and dispose of those natural resources and to establish and maintain control of their future development;

8. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as the regional organizations concerned, to intensify measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic development of the Territory;

9. *Reiterates its call* upon the administering Power to continue to facilitate the participation of the British Virgin Islands in various international and regional organizations and in other organizations of the United Nations system;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take all necessary measures to expand systematically the participation of the local population in the decision-making process in all sectors, as well as to appoint local persons to managerial and technical positions;

11. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session, including the possible dispatch of a visiting mission to the British Virgin Islands at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-third session.

92nd plenary meeting
4 December 1987

42/83. Question of the Turks and Caicos Islands

The General Assembly.

Having considered the question of the 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,³⁴

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to the Turks and Caicos Islands, in particular General Assembly resolution 41/22 of 31 October 1986,

Conscious of the need to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of the Territory,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of the Turks and Caicos Islands and bearing in mind the necessity of diversifying and strengthening further its economy as a matter of pri-

ority in order to promote economic stability and develop a wider economic base for the Territory.

Noting that a constitutional commission was appointed in 1986 to review the 1976 Constitution and make recommendations for the future administration of the Territory.

Noting the continuing contribution of the United Nations Development Programme to the development of the Territory and welcoming the intention of the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands, in conjunction with the United Nations Development Programme, to improve the primary and secondary education system in the Territory.

Recalling the dispatch in 1980 of two United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the small Territories and considering that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands at an appropriate time should be kept under review,

1. *Approves* the chapter 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 the Turks and Caicos Islands;²⁸

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. *Reiterates the view* that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of the Territory of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration, which fully applies to the Turks and Caicos Islands;

4. *Reiterates* that it is the obligation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with resolution 1514 (XV) and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

5. *Urges* the administering Power to continue its efforts to resolve the situation that led to the appointment of a constitutional commission in 1986;

6. *Reaffirms* that it is the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter of the United Nations to develop its dependent Territories economically and socially and urges the administering Power, in consultation with the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands, to take the necessary measures to promote the economic and social development of the Territory and, in particular, to intensify and expand its programme of assistance in order to accelerate the development of the economic and social infrastructure of the Territory;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to accelerate the diversification of the economy in order to develop a wider economic base for the Territory and welcomes the proposal of the territorial Government to include, in its National Development Plan, provisions for the improvement of the regulatory practice governing the fisheries sector;

8. *Recalls* that it is the responsibility of the administering Power, in accordance with the wishes of the people, to safeguard, guarantee and ensure the inalienable right of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to the enjoyment of their natural resources, including their territorial

waters, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources;

9. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as the regional institutions concerned, to continue to pay special attention to the development needs of the Turks and Caicos Islands;

10. *Urges* the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to provide the necessary assistance for the localization of the civil service at all levels and for the training of qualified local personnel in the skills essential to the development of various sectors of the economy and the society of the Territory;

11. *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 Turks and Caicos Islands at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-third session.

92nd plenary meeting
4 December 1987

42/84. Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

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,³⁵

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Tokelau, in particular General Assembly resolution 41/26 of 31 October 1986,

Having heard the statement of the representative of New Zealand, the administering Power,³⁶

Welcoming the participation of the Chairman of the General Fono (Council) of Tokelau in the work of the Special Committee relating to the Territory,

Noting the continuing development of the General Fono as the highest political body of Tokelau and taking note of the view of the General Fono that such development of the indigenous political institutions of the Territory must proceed in full recognition of the distinct and valued cultural heritage and traditions of Tokelau and that further economic development is a prerequisite for continued devolution of political authority in Tokelau,

Noting with satisfaction the continued progress being made towards the drafting of a legal code to conform with the traditional laws and cultural values of Tokelau,

Expressing its sympathy to the people of Tokelau for the losses incurred in natural disasters in 1987,

Taking note of the decision of the General Fono to include Tokelau in the Multilateral Fisheries Treaty between the United States of America and States members of the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency,

Welcoming the appointment of a Tokelauan as head of the Tokelau Public Service,

Taking note of the strong opposition in Tokelau to nuclear testing in the Pacific area as it constitutes a grave

³⁶ *Ibid.*, Forty-second Session, Fourth Committee, 17th meeting, and corrigendum.