RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

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1761 (XVII). The policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa,

Further recalling its resolutions 44 (I) of 8 December 1946, 395 (V) of 2 December 1950, 615 (VII) of 5 December 1952, 1179 (XII) of 26 November 1957, 1302 (XIII) of 10 December 1958, 1460 (XIV) of 10 December 1959, 1597 (XV) of 13 April 1961 and 1662 (XVI) of 28 November 1961, on the question of the treatment of peoples of Indian and Indo-Pakistan origin,

Noting the reports of the Governments of India¹ and Pakistan² on that subject,

Recalling that the Security Council in its resolution of 1 April 1960³ recognized that the situation in South Africa was one that had led to international friction and, if continued, might endanger international peace and security,

Recalling further that the Security Council in its aforesaid resolution called upon the Government of South Africa to initiate measures aimed at bringing about racial harmony based on equality in order to ensure that the present situation does not continue or recur, and to abandon its policies of apartheid and racial discrimination,

Regretting that the actions of some Member States indirectly provide encouragement to the Government of South Africa to perpetuate its policy of racial segregation, which has been rejected by the majority of that country’s population,

1. Deplores the failure of the Government of the Republic of South Africa to comply with the repeated requests and demands of the General Assembly and of the Security Council and its flouting of world public opinion by refusing to abandon its racial policies;

2. Strongly deprecates the continued and total disregard by the Government of South Africa of its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and, furthermore, its determined aggravation of racial issues by enforcing measures of increasing ruthlessness involving violence and bloodshed;

3. Reaffirms that the continuance of those policies seriously endangers international peace and security;

4. Requests Member States to take the following measures, separately or collectively, in conformity with the Charter, to bring about the abandonment of those policies:

(a) Breaking off diplomatic relations with the Government of the Republic of South Africa or refraining from establishing such relations;

(b) Closing their ports to all vessels flying the South African flag;

(c) Enacting legislation prohibiting their ships from entering South African ports;

(d) Boycotting all South African goods and refraining from exporting goods, including all arms and ammunition, to South Africa;

(e) Refusing landing and passage facilities to all aircraft belonging to the Government of South Africa and companies registered under the laws of South Africa;

5. Decides to establish a Special Committee consisting of representatives of Member States nominated by the President of the General Assembly, with the following terms of reference:

² Ibid., document A/5173.
(a) To keep the racial policies of the Government of South Africa under review when the Assembly is not in session;
(b) To report either to the Assembly or to the Security Council or to both, as may be appropriate, from time to time;

6. Requests all Member States:
(a) To do everything in their power to help the Special Committee to accomplish its task;
(b) To refrain from any act likely to delay or hinder the implementation of the present resolution;

7. Invites Member States to inform the General Assembly at its eighteenth session regarding actions taken, separately or collectively, in dissuading the Government of South Africa from pursuing its policies of apartheid;

8. Requests the Security Council to take appropriate measures, including sanctions, to secure South Africa’s compliance with the resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council on this subject and, if necessary, to consider action under Article 6 of the Charter.

1165th plenary meeting, 6 November 1962.

* * *

The President of the General Assembly in pursuance of paragraph 5 of the above resolution, appointed the following members of the Special Committee on the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa: ALGERIA, COSTA RICA, FEDERATION OF MALAYA, GHANA, GUINEA, HAITI, HUNGARY, NEPAL, NIGERIA, PHILIPPINES and SOMALIA.4


The General Assembly,

I

Recalling its resolution 1347 (XIII) of 13 December 1958 and subsequent resolutions relating to the useful work of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation,

Noting with satisfaction the second comprehensive report of the Scientific Committee,5 which was adopted unanimously,

Conscious that advances in scientific knowledge have been made concerning the effects of radiation since the publication of the Scientific Committee’s first comprehensive report,6

Noting with special concern the disquieting conclusions of the report, and in particular that much remains to be learnt about the long-term effects of radiation,

1. Commends the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for its work and for the valuable report it has presented;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the International Atomic Energy Agency, to the specialized agencies, to the international non-governmental and the national scientific organizations and to the individual scientists who have assisted the Scientific Committee in its work;

3. Calls particular attention to the Scientific Committee’s finding that the exposure of mankind to radia-

tion from increasing numbers of artificial sources, including the world-wide contamination of the environment with short- and long-lived radio-nuclides from weapon tests, calls for the closest attention, particularly because the effects of any increase in radiation exposure may not be fully manifested for several decades in the case of somatic disease, and for many generations in the case of genetic damage;

4. Urges all concerned to take note of the suggestions made and the views expressed in the report of the Scientific Committee;

5. Requests the Scientific Committee to continue its assessment of radiation risks as well as its review of those studies and further investigations that should be undertaken in the interests of increasing man’s knowledge of the effects of radiation, and to report to the General Assembly at the sixteenth session on its progress and on its future programme of work;

6. Calls upon the International Atomic Energy Agency, the specialized agencies, the international non-governmental and the national scientific organizations, individual scientists and the Governments of Member States to continue to co-operate fully with the Scientific Committee in carrying out its further important responsibilities;

7. Recommends the Governments of Member States to prepare and carry out according to their means large-scale information programmes on the effects of atomic radiation;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Scientific Committee with the assistance necessary for the conduct of its work;

II

Recalling section II of its resolution 1629 (XVI) of 27 October 1961,

Having considered the report of the World Meteorological Organization7 on the proposal for a scheme of world-wide monitoring and reporting of levels of atmospheric radio-activity,

Noting that the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation will examine this scheme at its twelfth session to be held at Geneva in January 1963,

Encouraged to believe that a feasible scheme for this purpose can be implemented in the near future following final technical consultations between the World Meteorological Organization and the other organizations concerned,

1. Commends the World Meteorological Organization for its prompt and effective response to the invitation addressed to it in resolution 1629 (XVI), and the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable co-operation and assistance they have extended to the World Meteorological Organization in this matter;

2. Invites the World Meteorological Organization to complete its consultations with the Scientific Committee on the development of its draft plan, and to implement this plan, if found feasible, at the earliest possible date;

3. Urges the Governments of Member States and all others concerned to co-operate fully and to take all

4 See A/5400.
6 Ibid., Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/3838).
7 Ibid., Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 30, document A/5253.