

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 Territories listed above,

Taking into account the statement of the administering Power relating to the Territories listed above,⁴⁸

Noting that the administering Power has expressed its willingness to respect the wishes of the peoples of the Territories under its administration regarding their future constitutional status and reiterating that it is the obligation of the administering Power to create such conditions in those Territories as will enable the peoples thereof to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) as well as other relevant resolutions of the Assembly,

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

Bearing in mind that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, acquiring adequate first-hand information on the situation prevailing in those Territories and ascertaining the views of the peoples concerning their future political status,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of the Territories concerned and bearing in mind the necessity of diversifying and strengthening further their economies as a matter of priority in order to promote economic stability,

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, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands;⁴⁹

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, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy 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 of the Territories concerned, to continue to take all the necessary steps to ensure the full and speedy attainment of the goals set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration in respect of the Territories;

5. Recognizes that the presence of military bases and other installations could constitute an impediment to the implementation of the Declaration and reaffirms its conviction that the presence of foreign military bases and installations in Bermuda and the Turks and Caicos Islands should not prevent the peoples of those Territories from exercising their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration and the purposes and principles of the Charter;

6. Calls upon the administering Power, in consultation with the freely elected representatives of the peoples of the

Territories concerned, to take all possible steps to diversify and strengthen further the economies of those Territories and to work out concrete programmes of assistance and economic development;

7. Further calls upon the administering Power, in co-operation with the freely elected 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 ensure the right of the peoples to own and dispose of those resources and to establish and maintain control over their future development;

8. Requests the administering Power to continue to enlist the assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in accelerating progress in all sectors of the social and economic life of the Territories concerned;

9. Welcomes the positive attitude of the administering Power with regard 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 dispatching such missions, as appropriate;

10. Requests the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session, including the possible dispatch of visiting missions in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

73rd plenary meeting
25 November 1981

36/63. Question of Guam

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Guam,

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,⁵⁰

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 Guam,

Noting that the administering Power continues to maintain military installations in the Territory,

Considering that the policy of maintaining military bases and installations in Non-Self-Governing Territories which inhibit the right of self-determination of peoples is incompatible with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations,

Having heard the statement of the administering Power,⁵¹

Welcoming the active participation of the administering Power in the work of the Special Committee and expressing the hope that this co-operation will be strengthened further so as to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the Declaration in respect of Guam,

Bearing in mind the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of Guam and the necessity of diversifying the economy of the Territory as a matter of priority,

1. Approves the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implemen-

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, Thirty-sixth Session, Fourth Committee, 15th meeting, paras. 28-31; and *ibid.*, Fourth Committee, Sessional Fascicle, corrigendum.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/36/23/Rev.1), chaps. XVIII-XXII.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, chaps. III, IV and XVI.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*, Thirty-sixth Session, Fourth Committee, 14th meeting, paras. 1-8.

tation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to Guam;⁵²

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Guam 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, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the implementation of the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in respect of the Territory;

4. *Recalls* that the United States of America, as the administering Power, has the responsibility to ensure that the people of the Territory are kept fully informed of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the Declaration;

5. *Reiterates* that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of Guam to exercise freely and without any interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

6. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take all necessary steps, taking into account the freely expressed wishes of the people of Guam, to expedite the process of decolonization of the Territory in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration and other appropriate resolutions of the General Assembly;

7. *Recalls* its relevant resolutions concerning military bases in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, recognizes that the presence of military bases could constitute a factor impeding the implementation of the Declaration and

reaffirms its strong conviction that the presence of military bases in Guam should not prevent the people of the Territory from exercising their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration and the purposes and principles of the Charter;

8. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power, under the Charter, for the economic and social development of Guam, including the adoption of all possible measures to strengthen and diversify the economy of the Territory;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government and bearing in mind that an obstacle to economic development has been the uncertainty concerning land held by the federal authorities, to facilitate the transfer of land to the people of the Territory and to protect their property rights;

10. *Urges* the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to continue to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the right of the people of Guam to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over their future development;

11. *Urges* the administering Power to continue its efforts to develop and promote the language and culture of the Chamorro people;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take the necessary action to enable the people of Guam to regain possession of unutilized land held at present by the federal authorities and by the military;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the consideration of this question at its next session, including the possible dispatch of a further visiting mission to Guam at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

⁵² *Ibid.*, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/36/23/Rev.1), chap. XVI.