

ing its right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and urges the administering Power to take all necessary measures to comply fully with the relevant resolutions;

6. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power, under the Charter, for the economic and social development of Guam and calls upon the administering Power to take all necessary steps to strengthen and diversify the economy of the Territory, with a view to reducing the Territory's economic dependence on the administering Power;

7. *Reiterates its call* upon the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to remove the constraints which limit growth in the economic development of the Territory, particularly with regard to commercial fishing, agriculture and the transportation industry;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Power, in co-operation with the local authorities, to accelerate the transfer of land to the people of the Territory;

9. *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 and requests the administering Power to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the people of the Territory;

10. *Takes note* of the steps taken by the administering Power to strengthen its efforts to develop and promote the language and culture of the Chamorro people, who comprise more than half of the population of the Territory, and reaffirms the importance of further efforts in that field;

11. *Considers* that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to Guam at an appropriate time should be kept under review;

12. *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-ninth session.

*86th plenary meeting  
7 December 1983*

### 38/43. Question of Bermuda

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of Bermuda,

*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,<sup>9</sup>

*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 Bermuda,

*Taking into account* the statement of the representative of the administering Power relating to the Territory,<sup>10</sup> in which he said that his Government would fully respect the wishes of the people of Bermuda in determining the future constitutional status of the Territory,

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

*Noting with appreciation* the continued active participation of the administering Power in the work of the Special Committee in regard to Bermuda, which contributes to informed consideration of conditions in the Territory, with a view to accelerating the process of decolonization for the purpose of the full implementation of the Declaration,

*Recalling* all relevant resolutions of the United Nations relating to military bases and installations in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Noting* that the economy of the Territory continues to be based on revenue generated from tourism and the registration of foreign companies, which creates a heavy dependence on those activities,

*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,

*Mindful* that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the small Territories,

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 Bermuda;<sup>11</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Bermuda to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

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 contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), which fully applies to Bermuda;

4. *Urges* the administering Power, taking into account the freely expressed will and desire of the people of Bermuda, to continue to take all necessary steps to ensure the full and speedy implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

5. *Reiterates* that it is the obligation of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of Bermuda to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and, in that connection, reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of Bermuda of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of that right;

6. *Reaffirms* that, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), it is ultimately for the people of Bermuda themselves to decide on their future political status;

7. *Notes* that general elections were held in the Territory in February 1983 and also notes with interest that the Government of the Territory has expressed its intention to revive discussion of the 1979 White Paper on Indepen-

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, chaps. III-V and XIX.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-eighth Session, Fourth Committee, 11th meeting*, paras. 9-16.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/38/23)*, chap. XIX.

dence and to promote public debate on Bermuda's future status;

8. *Reaffirms* the importance of the need to foster national unity and a national identity and takes note of the steps taken by the local authorities in that regard, such as the establishment of an institution with a view to preventing discrimination among the people of the Territory on racial, religious, social or political grounds;

9. *Reaffirms its strong conviction* that the administering Power must ensure that military bases and installations do not hinder the people of the Territory from exercising their right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and urges the administering Power to take all necessary measures to comply fully with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations relating to military bases and installations in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories;

10. *Urges once again* the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to continue to take all effective measures to guarantee the right of the people of Bermuda to own and dispose of their natural resources and to establish and maintain control of their future development;

11. *Strongly urges* the administering Power, in consultation with the Government of Bermuda, to make every effort to diversify the economy of Bermuda, including increased efforts to promote agriculture and fisheries and the manufacturing sector for the benefit of the people of the Territory;

12. *Welcomes* the role being played in the Territory by the United Nations Development Programme in providing assistance in the fields of agriculture, forestry and fisheries and urges the specialized agencies and all other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to pay special attention to the development needs of Bermuda;

13. *Reiterates its call* upon the administering Power, in co-operation with the local authorities, to continue to expedite the process of "bermudianization" in the Territory and, in that connection, urges that particular attention be paid to greater localization of the public service;

14. *Calls upon* the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to receive a visiting mission in the Territory at an appropriate time;

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

*86th plenary meeting  
7 December 1983*

### 38/44. Question of the British Virgin Islands

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of the British Virgin 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,<sup>12</sup>

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

pendence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to the British Virgin Islands.

*Taking into account* the statement of the representative of the administering Power relating to the Territory,<sup>10</sup> in which he said that his Government would fully respect the wishes of the people of the British Virgin Islands in determining the future political status of the Territory.

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

*Noting with appreciation* the continued active participation of the administering Power in the work of the Special Committee in regard to the British Virgin Islands, thereby enabling it to conduct a more informed and meaningful examination of the situation in the Territory, with a view to accelerating the process of decolonization for the purpose of the full implementation of the Declaration.

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of the administering Power for the economic and social development of the Territory,

*Taking note* of the fact that the economy of the Territory has continued to grow during the period under review, particularly in the fields of real estate and construction industries, tourism and banking,

*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,

*Recalling* the recommendation of the United Nations visiting mission dispatched to the British Virgin Islands in 1976<sup>13</sup> that the administering Power should facilitate the participation of the Territory as an associate member in various organizations within the United Nations system as part of the overall strategy of accelerating the decolonization process, and the continuing assistance provided by the United Nations Development Programme in the development of the Territory.

*Mindful* that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the small Territories and expressing its satisfaction at the willingness of the administering Power to receive visiting missions in the Territories under its administration,

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;<sup>14</sup>

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, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

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 implementation of the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), which fully applies to the British Virgin Islands;

4. *Reiterates* that it is the responsibility of 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

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, chaps. III and XX.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/31/23/Rev.1)*, vol. IV, chap. XXVIII, annex, para. 16.2.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/38/23)*, chap. XX.