

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;

9. *Reiterates* the view that one obstacle to economic development, particularly in the agricultural sector, stems from the fact that large tracts of land are held by the federal authorities and calls upon the administering Power, in co-operation with the local authorities, to continue the transfer of land to the people of the Territory;

10. *Reiterates its call* upon the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take measures aimed at removing constraints to growth in the areas of commercial fishing, agriculture and the transportation industry and to ensure their development to the fullest extent;

11. *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;

12. *Takes note* of the steps taken by the administering Power to develop and promote the language and culture of the Chamorro people, who are the indigenous population of the Territory, and reaffirms the importance of further efforts in that field;

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

14. *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 Guam at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fortieth session.

*87th plenary meeting  
5 December 1984*

### 39/33. 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>12</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, including in particular its resolution 38/43 of 7 December 1983,

*Taking into account* the statement of the representative of the administering Power relating to the Territory,<sup>13</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,

*Welcoming* the continued co-operation 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, and aware of the presence of military bases and installations of the administering Power and other countries in Bermuda,

*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,

*Noting also* that Bermuda has been somewhat isolated from its Caribbean neighbours,

*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, acquiring first-hand information on the situation prevailing in those Territories and ascertaining the views of the peoples concerning their future political status,

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>14</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 United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as 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;

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, chaps. IV, V, VI and XX.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-ninth Session, Fourth Committee, 16th meeting, paras. 45-50.*

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/39/23), chap. XX.*

7. *Reaffirms its strong conviction* that the presence of military bases and installations in the Territory could constitute a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration and that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to ensure that the existence of such bases and installations does not hinder the population of the Territory from exercising its right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

8. *Urges* the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures not to involve the Territory in any offensive acts or interference directed against other States and to comply fully with the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Declaration and the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly relating to military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration;

9. *Welcomes* the recent exchanges and visits undertaken by the territorial Government with its Caribbean neighbours and recommends that further regional contacts be pursued;

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, fisheries and the manufacturing sector, which will benefit 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 managerial, executive and professional positions of the public service and the private sector;

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 fortieth session.

*87th plenary meeting  
5 December 1984*

### **39/34. 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>15</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 the British Virgin Islands, including in particular its resolution 38/44 of 7 December 1983,

*Taking into account* the statement of the representative of the administering Power relating to the Territory,<sup>13</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, particularly in the real estate, construction, tourist and banking industries, although at a slower pace, due to the world recession,

*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>16</sup> that the administering Power should facilitate the participation of the Territory as an associate member in various organizations of the United Nations system as part of the overall strategy of accelerating the decolonization process,

*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>17</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 exercise by the people of the Territory of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, chaps. IV and XXI.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/31/23/Rev.1)*, vol. IV, chap. XXVIII, annex, para. 162.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/39/23)*, chap. XXI.