

Noting that, while the service sectors of the economy of the British Virgin Islands are growing, agriculture and manufacturing have remained relatively static, and noting in that connection the continuing commitment of the territorial Government to attaining economic diversification, particularly in the areas of agriculture, fisheries and small industries, and the constraints which the Territory faces in that regard,

Welcoming the contribution to the development of the British Virgin Islands by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that operate in the Territory, as well as that of regional organizations, including the Caribbean Development Bank, and noting the further allocation of funds by the United Nations Development Programme,

Welcoming also the continued participation of the Territory in the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development, sponsored by the World Bank, and in other regional and international organizations, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and its subsidiary bodies, and noting the admission of the Territory in April 1985 to membership in the Caribbean Centre for Development Administration,

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;²⁴

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 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 British Virgin Islands as will enable the people of the Territory 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 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 territorial Government, to intensify its efforts to broaden the base of the economy of the Territory;

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

8. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system 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, noting that nearly two fifths of the employed labour force consists of expatriates, to facilitate, in co-operation with the territorial Government, the adoption of a manpower training programme by further upgrading the educational system, in order to expand the participation of the local population in the decision-making process in all sectors and to fill managerial and technical positions with local persons;

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-second session.

52nd plenary meeting
31 October 1986

41/20. Question of the Cayman Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the Cayman 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,²⁶

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 Cayman Islands, including in particular its resolution 40/45 of 2 December 1985,

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,

Noting with appreciation the continued contribution of the United Nations Development Programme to the development of the Territory,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 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 Cayman 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 Cayman Islands;²⁴

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Cayman 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 with the Declaration, which fully applies to the Cayman 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 Cayman Islands as will enable the people of the Territory 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 Cayman Islands themselves to determine 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 and independence;

6. *Reaffirms the responsibility* of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory and recommends that priority must continue to be given to the diversification of the Territory's economy in order to provide the foundations for sound social and economic development;

7. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territory;

8. *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 Cayman Islands at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-second session.

*52nd plenary meeting
31 October 1986*

41/21. Question of Montserrat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Montserrat,

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,²⁶

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 Montserrat, including in particular its resolution 40/46 of 2 December 1985,

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,

Noting that during the period under review the Government of Montserrat reiterated the view that independence was both inevitable and desirable, provided it was preceded by Montserrat's achievement of a level of economic and financial viability sufficient to sustain it as an independent State, and reaffirmed its intention to enlist such assistance from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and from other sources as would enable it to achieve such viability and not to seek independence without the support of the majority of the people of the Territory,

Noting with concern that during the period under review the world recession has continued to affect the territorial economy adversely,

Noting that the territorial Government has taken a series of measures with a view to upgrading the efficiency of its civil service and to that end has continued to accord high priority to the training of cadres and that, in that connection, it has continued to seek financial assistance from international funding agencies to facilitate both long-term and short-term training,

Welcoming the continued participation of the Territory in the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development, as well as in regional organizations such as the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions, including the Caribbean Development Bank,

Welcoming also the contribution to the development of the Territory by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and other specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system operating in Montserrat,

Noting with concern that Montserrat became ineligible for assistance from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as a result of the change in its membership which it had shared with former eastern Caribbean Territories and noting, in that connection, that the Territory would be eligible for readmission as an associate member under the sponsorship of the administering Power, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which withdrew from the organization in December 1985,

Recalling the dispatch in 1975 and 1982 of 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 Montserrat 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 Montserrat;²⁴

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Montserrat to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Inde-