

VII. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE<sup>1</sup>

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**40/41. Question of American Samoa**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of American Samoa,

*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>2</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 American Samoa, including in particular its resolution 39/31 of 5 December 1984,

*Taking into account* the statement of the representative of the administering Power relating to American Samoa,<sup>3</sup>

*Conscious* of the need to promote progress towards the full implementation of the Declaration in respect of American Samoa,

*Noting with appreciation* the continued participation of the administering Power in the work of the Special Committee in regard to American Samoa, thereby enabling it to conduct a more informed and meaningful examination of the situation in the Territory,

*Noting* that the first five-year economic development plan for the Territory, implemented by the Development Planning Office of the Government of American Samoa, expired at the end of 1984,

*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 dispatch in 1981 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 expressing its satisfaction at the

<sup>1</sup> For the decisions adopted on the reports of the Fourth Committee, see sect. X.B.6.

<sup>2</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/40/23)*, chaps. II, IV and XVI.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, *Fortieth Session, Fourth Committee, 17th meeting, para. 53.*

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 American Samoa;<sup>4</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of American Samoa 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 American Samoa;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the United States of America, as the administering Power, to take all necessary steps, taking into account the rights, interests and wishes of the people of American Samoa as expressed freely in conditions leading to real self-determination, 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 reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of American Samoa of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence;

5. *Takes note* of the elections held on 6 November 1984 and of the fact that the newly elected Governor has stated his intention to recommend legislation establishing clearly the powers and duties of the various government departments in order to avoid conflicts of authority and to ensure sufficient budgetary control;<sup>5</sup>

6. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power, under the Charter, to promote the economic and social development of American Samoa, and calls upon the administering Power to intensify its efforts to strengthen and diversify the economy of the Territory and to make it more viable in order to reduce its heavy economic and financial dependence on the United States and to create employment opportunities for the people of the Territory;

7. *Expresses the hope* that the development planning process initiated by the first five-year development plan will be continued, and urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to strengthen and extend the responsibilities of the Development Planning Office;

8. *Urges* the administering Power to continue to facilitate close relations and co-operation between the peoples of the Territory and the neighbouring island communities and between the territorial Government and the regional institutions in order to enhance further the economic and social welfare of the people of American Samoa;

9. *Urges* the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to safeguard the inalienable right of the people of American Samoa 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 with a view to creating conditions for a balanced and viable economy;

10. *Considers* that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to American Samoa should be kept under review;

11. *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 American Samoa, in consultation with the administering Power, taking into account, in particular, the wishes of the people of the Territory, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-first session.

99th plenary meeting  
2 December 1985

#### 40/42. 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,<sup>6</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 Guam, including in particular its resolution 39/32 of 5 December 1984,

*Having heard* the statement of the representative of the administering Power relating to Guam,<sup>7</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the continued active participation of the administering Power in the work of the Special Committee in regard to Guam, 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 towards the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration,

*Recalling* that a Guam Commission on Self-Determination was appointed in February 1984 to deal with the status question in a manner acceptable to the people of the Territory,

*Taking note* of the statement by the representative of the administering Power that the Department of Defense had authorized the release of some 2,000 hectares of land previously under its control,

*Noting* the great potential offered for diversifying and developing the economy of the Territory, for example, commercial fishing and agriculture,

*Taking note* of the steps taken by the territorial Government, with the support of the administering Power, to develop and promote the language and culture of the Chamorro people, who are the indigenous people of the Territory,

*Aware* of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of Guam, 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 dispatch in 1979 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 expressing its satisfaction at the willingness of the administering Power to receive visiting missions in the Territories under its administration,

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/40/23), chap. XVI.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 9.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 23 (A/40/23), chaps. II, IV, VI and XVII.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, Fortieth Session, Fourth Committee, 17th meeting, paras. 55-57.