



# General Assembly

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## Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

### Summary record of the 2nd meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 28 March 2002, at 10.50 a.m.

*Chairman:* Mr. Huntley. . . . . (Saint Lucia)

## Contents

- Adoption of the agenda
- Pacific Regional Seminar
- Other matters

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*The meeting was called to order at 10.50 a.m.*

### **Adoption of the agenda**

1. *The agenda was adopted.*

### **Pacific Regional Seminar (A/AC.109/2002/1)**

2. **The Chairman** said that the Committee, at its organizational meeting on 12 February 2002, had accepted the invitation of the Government of Fiji to host the Pacific Regional Seminar in Nadi, Fiji, from 14 to 16 May 2002. As in the past, the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories would be celebrated at the Seminar. He took it that the Committee wished to accept the invitation to hold its Regional Seminar in Nadi from 14 to 16 May 2002 and celebrate the Week of Solidarity at the Regional Seminar.

3. *It was so decided.*

4. **Mr. Mekdad** (Syrian Arab Republic), supported by **Mr. Ovia** (Papua New Guinea), expressed gratitude to the Government of Fiji for offering once again to host a seminar of the Special Committee. That reflected the unwavering commitment of the Government and people of Fiji to the process of decolonization.

5. **The Chairman** said that, at the recommendation of the Chairman, the members of the Special Committee had agreed informally that the following members would represent the Committee at the Pacific Regional Seminar to be held from 14 to 16 May 2002 in Nadi, Fiji: Saint Lucia would serve as Chairman; Côte d'Ivoire and Tunisia would represent the Group of African States; China and the Syrian Arab Republic would represent the Group of Asian States; Chile, Cuba and Grenada would represent the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and, in accordance with the understanding reached at the 2000 substantive session of the Committee, the Russian Federation would attend the seminar as the representative of the Group of Eastern European States. The United Nations would bear the cost of travel of the official members of the delegation.

6. He took it that the Special Committee wished to approve the above-mentioned composition of its official delegation to the Seminar and authorized the Secretariat to make the necessary arrangements for its travel.

7. *It was so decided.*

8. **The Chairman** drew the attention of the Special Committee to the list of funded and non-funded experts and non-governmental organizations that had been circulated. The list had been approved informally by the Committee at its recent informal meeting, as had the funding of five experts from the region and five non-governmental organizations from the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Committee had also authorized the Chairman and the Bureau to make the necessary adjustments to the list, if so required.

9. He took it that the Committee wished to approve the list of funded and non-funded experts and non-governmental organizations and to authorize the Chairman and the Bureau to make the necessary adjustments to the list if so required and to request the Secretariat to make the necessary travel arrangements for those on the list.

10. *It was so decided.*

11. **The Chairman** said that, in accordance with the decision of the Committee, invitations would also be extended to other Member States, administering Powers, specialized agencies within the United Nations, as well as to some regional organizations. As had been the practice, all elected and appointed officials of the Non-Self-Governing Territories would also be invited to participate in the Seminar. However, the travel costs of other Member States, administering Powers and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations would not be borne by the United Nations.

12. He drew attention to the guidelines and rules of procedure of the Seminar as well as its draft agenda. The text of the guidelines, rules of procedure and agenda of the Seminar had been informally approved at the informal meeting of the Committee.

13. He took it that the Committee wished to approve the guidelines and rules of procedure and agenda of the Seminar.

14. *It was so decided.*

### **Other matters**

#### *Draft resolution A/AC.109/2002/L.3*

15. **The Chairman** drew attention to draft resolution A/AC.109/2002/L.3 on the question of East Timor, a

purely procedural draft resolution, which had been informally approved earlier at the informal meeting of the Committee.

16. He suggested that the Committee should adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

17. *Draft resolution A/AC.109/2002/L.3 was adopted by consensus.*

18. **The Chairman** suggested that, in accordance with the practice established in previous years, the Special Committee should authorize its Rapporteur to prepare the report of the Committee on the subject and submit it to the General Assembly for its consideration.

19. *It was so decided.*

20. **Mr. Lewis** (Antigua and Barbuda) recalled that concern had been expressed at the Havana Seminar over the need to ensure that the letters of invitation sent to the British Non-Self-Governing Territories were actually transmitted by the governors to the nominal heads of the respective colonial governments. Some concern had also been expressed about the need to add new experts to the list. In future, the Permanent Missions should be given sufficient advanced notice so that they could suggest the names of additional experts.

21. **The Chairman** said that he had taken steps to ensure that the elected representatives of the British Non-Self-Governing Territories were invited directly. In its selection of experts, the Committee had endeavoured to bring in new people with new ideas.

*The meeting rose at 11.05 a.m.*