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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 12th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 17 July 2000, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. DONIGI (Papua New Guinea)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.35 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. The agenda was adopted.

ECONOMIC AND OTHER ACTIVITIES WHICH AFFECT THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLES OF THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (A/AC.109/2000/13, 14, 17 and 18; A/AC.109/2000/L.12)

2. The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of the members of the Special Committee to the working papers prepared by the Secretariat, which dealt with the agenda item under consideration as well as with the following agenda items, and to the draft resolution on economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/AC.109/2000/L.12).

3. He suggested that draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.12 should be adopted without a vote.

4. It was so decided.

MILITARY ACTIVITIES AND ARRANGEMENTS BY COLONIAL POWERS IN TERRITORIES UNDER THEIR ADMINISTRATION (A/AC.109/2000/6, 13 and 17; A/AC.109/2000/L.13)

5. Mr. LEDENEV (Russian Federation) said that his delegation would not request a vote on the draft resolution on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (A/AC.109/2000/L.14) or on the draft decision on military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in territories under their administration (A/AC.109/2000/L.13) on the understanding that, when they were put to a vote in the General Assembly, the Russian Federation, as in previous years, would abstain from voting on the former and would vote against the latter.

6. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Special Committee should adopt draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.13 without a vote.

7. It was so decided.

DRAFT REPORT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL SEMINAR (A/AC.109/2000/CRP.1)

8. The CHAIRMAN invited the Special Committee to decide on the procedure for discussing the report of the Pacific Regional Seminar.

9. Mr. TANOI-BOUTCHOÉ (Côte d'Ivoire) said that the first three sections of the report provided factual information which, in his view, did not need to be discussed. He proposed that consideration should be restricted to the conclusions and recommendations contained in section IV.

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10. Mr. DAUSA-CÉSPEDES (Cuba) agreed with the representative of Côte d'Ivoire and proposed that the conclusions and recommendations of the Pacific Regional Seminar should be considered paragraph by paragraph.

11. The CHAIRMAN invited the members of the Special Committee to comment on specific paragraphs of the conclusions and recommendations.

12. Mr. YOUSEFI (Islamic Republic of Iran), referring to paragraph 35 of the conclusions and recommendations, pointed out that, in previous years, the corresponding formulation had included the stipulation that the specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations should assist the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, bearing in the mind the specific mandates of each of those agencies and institutions.

13. Mr. NAIDU (Fiji) said that his delegation questioned the appropriateness of referring in paragraph 35 to the medium-term plan for the period 2002 to 2005 before the General Assembly took a decision to extend the mandate of the Special Committee and requested further clarification on the matter.

14. The CHAIRMAN said that the reference in paragraph 35 to the medium-term plan was connected with the technical process whereby the Secretariat drafted the budget. The decision to extend the time-frame for the implementation of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism was a political one on which the Special Committee would adopt a separate resolution. With respect to the matter raised by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, he said that the appropriate formulation had been included in paragraph 36 of the conclusions and recommendations, and he did not consider it necessary to repeat it in paragraph 35.

15. Mr. YOUSEFI (Islamic Republic of Iran) agreed with the Chairman.

16. The CHAIRMAN suggested that, in accordance with the practice established in previous years, the Special Committee should adopt the draft report of the Pacific Regional Seminar, which would be annexed to the report of the Committee for submission to the General Assembly.

17. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 11.05 a.m.