

States and other developing States and fighting against the national liberation movements of peoples struggling for the exercise of their right to self-determination;

3. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing and training are offences of grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Denounces* any State that persists in, permits or tolerates the recruitment of mercenaries and provides facilities to them for launching armed aggression against other States;

5. *Urges* all States to take the necessary steps and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to ensure, by both administrative and legislative measures, that their territory and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries or for the planning of activities designed to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State and to fight the national liberation movements struggling against racism, apartheid, colonial domination and foreign intervention or occupation;

6. *Calls upon* all States to extend humanitarian assistance to victims of situations resulting from the use of mercenaries, as well as from colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation;

7. *Reaffirms* that to use channels of humanitarian and other assistance to finance, train and arm mercenaries is inadmissible;

8. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider taking early action to sign or to ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;

9. *Requests* the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to organize, within the framework of its existing resources, working meetings to analyse the philosophical, political and legal aspects of this question, in the light of the recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur;

10. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the use of mercenaries, especially in view of the additional elements highlighted in his report.

*85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993*

48/93. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,¹⁹ as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of an increasing number of sovereign peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-sixth,²⁰ thirty-seventh,²¹ thirty-eighth,²² thirty-ninth,²³ fortieth,²⁴ forty-first,²⁵ forty-second,²⁶ forty-third,²⁷ forty-fourth,²⁸ forty-fifth,²⁹ forty-sixth,³⁰ forty-seventh,³¹ forty-eighth³² and forty-ninth³³ sessions,

Reaffirming its resolutions 35/35 B of 14 November 1980, 36/10 of 28 October 1981, 37/42 of 3 December 1982, 38/16 of 22 November 1983, 39/18 of 23 November 1984, 40/24 of 29 November 1985, 41/100 of 4 December 1986, 42/94 of 7 December 1987, 43/105 of 8 December 1988, 44/80 of 8 December 1989, 45/131 of 14 December 1990, 46/88 of 16 December 1991 and 47/83 of 16 December 1992,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,³⁴

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, particularly the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of the millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

*85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993*

48/94. Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its faith in the importance of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Reaffirming the importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, national sovereignty and territorial integrity and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples as imperatives for the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Reaffirming also the obligation of all Member States to comply with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions of the United Nations regarding the exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial and foreign domination,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action⁶ adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights,

Considering the urgent need of Namibia for assistance in its efforts to reconstruct and strengthen its fledgling economic and social structures,

Recalling the Abuja Declaration on South Africa, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its twenty-seventh ordinary session, held at Abuja in June 1991,³⁵ and the statement on developments in South Africa adopted by the Ad Hoc Committee on Southern Africa of the Organization of African Unity at its extraordinary session of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, held in New York on 29 September 1993,³⁶

Affirming the need to exercise vigilance with respect to developments in South Africa to ensure that the common objective of the international community and the peoples of South Africa is achieved by the establishment of a united, democratic and non-racial South Africa without deviation or obstruction,

Recalling the signing of the General Peace Agreement for Mozambique³⁷ at Rome on 4 October 1992, which provides for the termination of the armed conflict in that country,

Reaffirming the national unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros,

Deeply concerned by Israel's continuing occupation of parts of southern Lebanon and its frequent attacks against Lebanese

territory and people, as well as its refusal to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978,

Bearing in mind United Nations resolutions related to the question of Palestine,

Taking note of the recent positive evolution in the Middle East peace process, in particular the signing on 13 September 1993 of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements³⁸ by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization,

1. *Calls upon* all States to implement fully and faithfully all the relevant resolutions of the United Nations regarding the exercise of the right to self-determination and independence by peoples under colonial and foreign domination;

2. *Reaffirms* the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples for independence, territorial integrity, national unity and liberation from colonial domination, apartheid and foreign occupation, in all its forms and by all available means;

3. *Reaffirms also* the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and all peoples under foreign occupation and colonial domination to self-determination, independence and sovereignty;

4. *Calls upon* those Governments which do not recognize the right to self-determination and independence of all peoples still under colonial domination, alien subjugation and foreign occupation to do so;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to refrain from violation of the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people and from denial of its right to self-determination;

6. *Urges* all States, the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, as well as other international organizations, to extend their support to the Palestinian people through its sole and legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization, in its struggle to regain its right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations to render assistance to Namibia in order to enhance its efforts to promote democracy and economic development;

8. *Strongly urges* the Government of South Africa to take additional steps to implement fully the provisions of the statement on developments in South Africa adopted on 29 September 1993 by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Organization of African Unity on Southern Africa, in order to achieve the objectives of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa;¹⁵

9. *Calls upon* all parties to refrain immediately from acts of violence, and calls upon the Government of South Africa to exercise its responsibility to end the ongoing violence through, *inter alia*, strict adherence to the National Peace Accord signed on 14 September 1991;³⁹

10. *Calls upon* all signatories to the National Peace Accord to manifest their commitment to peace by fully implementing