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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

LETTER DATED 8 MARCH 1972 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF CHINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF  
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

In connexion with the questions of Hong Kong and Macau, I have the honour to state the following:

As is known to all, the questions of Hong Kong and Macau belong to the category of questions resulting from the series of unequal treaties left over by history, treaties which the imperialists imposed on China. Hong Kong and Macau are part of Chinese territory occupied by the British and Portuguese authorities. The settlement of the questions of Hong Kong and Macau is entirely within China's sovereign right and does not at all fall under the ordinary category of "colonial Territories". Consequently, they should not be included in the list of colonial Territories covered by the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. With regard to the questions of Hong Kong and Macau, the Chinese Government has consistently held that they should be settled in an appropriate way when conditions are ripe. The United Nations has no right to discuss these questions. For the above reasons, the Chinese delegation is opposed to including Hong Kong and Macau in the list of colonial Territories covered by the Declaration and requests that the erroneous wording that Hong Kong and Macau fall under the category of so-called "colonial Territories" be immediately removed from the documents of the Special Committee and all other United Nations documents.

(Signed) HUANG Hua  
Permanent Representative of the  
People's Republic of China to  
the United Nations