SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Fourth Committee

The General Assembly Fourth Committee,

Recognizing resolution 1514, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples which characterized foreign rule as a violation of human rights, affirmed the right to self-determination, and called for an end to colonial rule,

Bearing in mind the United Nations Charter chapter eleven’s definition of Non-Self Governing Territories (NSGTs) as “territories whose people have not yet attained a full measure of self-government,”,

Drawing inspiration from the structure and work of the Trusteeship Council, which is designed to “promote the political, economic, social, and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the trust territories, and their progressive development towards self-government or independence,”,

Stressing the importance of proper procedure when transitioning from NSGTs to a fully independent state, and the consequences that come with failing to do so,

Remaining fully aware that many former colonized countries share the common experience of financial, political, and general structural instability and decay,

Noting that the transition from an NSGT to an independent state is a long and arduous process,

Acknowledging the responsibility of promoting sovereignty, peace, and self-sufficiency that administering powers possess,

1. Calls for a peaceful transition of power from NSGT to independent state in all cases of due independence;
2. Notes that the involvement of the United Nations is necessary to facilitate a dialogue on independence of NSGTs and advocates for the creation of a working group to oversee this dialogue;
3. Recommends that the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence of Colonial Countries and Peoples (C-24) adopt an infrastructure for the purposes of facilitating dialogue and actions on the transition to independence of NSGTs:
   (a) Suggests C-24 membership be expanded to consist of representatives from all willing NSGTs, Administering Powers and third-party arbitrators;
   (b) Invites NSGTs and Administering Powers to use C-24 as a forum to voice concerns and actions to be taken surrounding their independence including:
      (i) Calling witnesses and experts for NSGTs and Administering Powers;
      (ii) Making a determination on the status of NSGTs;
      (iii) Referring to the Security Council and the International Court of Justice about the status of NSGTs;
      (iv) Seeking a compact of free association with their Administering Power, at the full, democratic agreement of the people;
   (c) Calls for the C-24 to work towards independence for NSGTs when the C-24 has reached a mutual decision that it is in their best interest;
   (d) Reiterates to United Nations Member States that if a mutual solution is not possible, other United Nations bodies may need to intervene on the basis of promoting international peace and security;
4. Affirms the setting of standards in the transition to independence for NSGTs, to be achieved in the C-24, using Article 73 of the United Nations Charter for guidance:

(a) Emphasizing the need for Administering Powers to assist in efforts such as;

(i) Creation of stable government;

(ii) Promotion of a functioning public infrastructure;

(iii) Furthering international peace and security;

5. Expresses its hope that former colonies will be able to ease economic dependence on former colonial powers with the intention to:

(a) Encourage development in former colonized territories, with due consideration of the former colonized territories’ economic structures and capabilities;

(b) Support independent government and increased liberty;

(c) Considers the opportunity for former colonies to apply to the C-24 for funds from their former colonies and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to offset the implications of colonization;

(i) With the intention of reinforcing ex-colonial economic stability;

(ii) On a case by case analysis of each NSGT, ascertaining the specific needs of each territory in order to determine whether intervention is necessary;

6. Encourages the C-24 to create regional conferences to include NSGTs, as well as formerly colonized nations, in discussion of economic opportunities within their region:

(a) Further encourages these conferences to cover the topics of;

(i) Activity and inclusion within regional trade agreements;

(ii) Environmental challenges, such as natural disasters, that impact the regional economy;

(iii) The protection of natural resources that accumulate revenue;

(iv) The status of working conditions within NSGTs and surrounding states for civilians;

(v) Strengthening regional economic ties and collaboration;

(vi) Promoting self sufficiency within current and formerly colonized nations, in order to minimize financial dependence on former colonial powers;

7. Advocates for the establishment of a public relations initiative run by the C-24 in partnership with United Nations Development Program’s focused on building goodwill between countries formerly in conflict by:

(a) Encouraging former colonial powers to improve relations with former colonies through media campaigns emphasizing the positive nature of self determination, independence, reconciliation and future cooperation;

(b) Endorsing cooperation between willing governments of nations in conflict on projects of mutual interest;

(c) Accounting for the general sentiments of the local population in addition to those of the disputing powers;

8. Declares formally that the C-24 and the precedent of former United Nations actions be consulted when resolving any ambiguous definitions referenced in this resolution..

Passed, Yes: 53 / No: 0 / Abstain: 3