



American Model United Nations
General Assembly Fourth Committee

GA Fourth/II/2

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,

1 *Supporting* the pursuit of independence by Colonized Countries and Peoples,

2 *Seeking* to foster a global spirit of international cooperation in achieving the goals of the Third and Fourth
3 International Decades for the Promotion of Decolonization,

4 *Reaffirming* the right of all peoples to self-determination as outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human
5 Rights,

6 *Desiring* to promote preservation of all cultures for future generations,

7 *Strongly opposed* to the significant lack of progress in decolonization and implementation of the Declaration
8 of the Granting of Independence to colonial countries and peoples,

9 1. *Encourages* the committee to join together to create a council of diverse countries for Voices of Indigenous
10 and Colonized Entities (VOICE):

11 (a) Encouraging the United Nations to invite representatives from Non-Self Governing Territories's
12 (NSGT) to observe United Nations General Assembly meetings, especially those regarding their states or decoloniza-
13 tion;

14 (b) Recommending an advisory committee consisting specifically of the 55 nations formerly on the
15 list of Non-Self-Governing Territories already removed from this list and considered to be officially decolonized by
16 this body to aid current Non-Self-Governing Territories and each other in their efforts to maintain independence;

17 (c) Maintains the sovereignty of current Member States and acknowledges that they have a better
18 understanding of their citizens and inhabitants;

19 (d) Specifies asking the 17 NSGTs what they need instead of recommending solutions from the
20 status of a self governing territory;

21 (e) Reminds and calls upon all Member States to fully respect the maritime rights of non-self-
22 governing territories as outlined under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea Treaty (UNCLOS);

23 2. *Calls upon* the General Assembly and the Member States of the United Nations to focus on centering the
24 voices of the colonized and the formerly colonized when considering matters regarding Non-Self-Governing Territories
25 and colonial affairs;

26 3. *Further calls upon* all member states of the United Nations to consider that independence consists not
27 only of government independence, but also economic independence;

28 4. *Recommends* Member States put efforts to consider the many migrants left behind in the wake of decol-
29 onization by;

30 5. Recommendations for accommodating this suggestion include:

31 (a) Providing special status to nationals of newly independent states living abroad, either in the
32 originally colonizing nation or some other state;

33 (b) Creating avenues for nationals of the colonizing nation to return to their country of origin without
34 straining the infrastructure of the newly independent nations. This committee suggests that programs for return will
35 be negotiated with the colonizing nation;

36 (c) Partnering with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in order to
37 solicit recommendations for preventing the inhabitants of newly independent nations from becoming second-class
38 citizens of the world, with an emphasis on preventing passport discrimination which continues to plague the daily
39 lives of many refugees;

40 6. Encourages Member States with greater resources work to aid refugees, victims of colonial violence, in-
41 digenous and colonized peoples, and others harmed by ongoing neocolonialism and imperialism through humanitarian
42 aid, without compromising the sovereignty of newly independent states, through:

43 (a) Grants funded by former colonial states to be redistributed amongst colonized nations;

44 (i) A need for the global community to work together in addressing the harmful legacy of colonialism;

45 7. *Draws the attention* of the committee to the issues of tourism as a source of neocolonialism or dependence
46 of former and current non independent territories:

47 (a) Advising relevant Member States to partner with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and
48 World Bank to expand their diversity of industry to avoid the economy of their country relying on tourism, which
49 Covid-19 has shown is a volatile economic endeavor by;

50 (i) Requesting funding from international economic organizations may be a viable way for impover-
51 ished territories to access funds to build infrastructure and give government loans or tax breaks to
52 new small businesses;

53 (ii) Partnering to work towards the accomplishment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)1, 9,
54 10, and 11 to create long term economic growth that is not harmful to the environment and promotes
55 social mobility and any infrastructure that lifts people out of poverty;

56 (iii) For countries that are in a state of transition or are not able to diversify their economy, the
57 United Nations may recommend ecotourism as a viable alternative, since it depletes fewer natural
58 resources;

59 8. *Supports* a temporary patent waiver on Covid-19 vaccines and therapies to allow for:

60 (a) Formerly colonized nations to not be put at risk of further economic imperialism from the
61 pharmaceutical industries requiring economic powers as payment for vaccines;

62 (b) Currently colonized states and Non-Self Governing Territories to put their focus on self-determination
63 instead of having to find ways to pay exorbitant prices for vaccines;

64 (c) No colonizing nations, formerly or currently, to use vaccines as a way of neo-colonization or
65 reinforcement of colonization;

66 9. *Encourages* nations to work with NSGT's to provide cultural assistance in pulling away from colonial
67 influences on cultures seeking decolonization, with other special consideration towards newly free nations:

68 (a) Recommends local museums to include;

69 (i) education on museums;

70 (ii) archival techniques;

71 (iii) advisement from other countries;

72 (iv) stipulates a two way relationship for how other cultures preserve their heritage to create a means
73 for students to gain access to these educational means, in a purely educational sense with no inherent
74 obligations;

75 (b) Cultural heritage showcases to be encouraged;

76 (c) Establishment of national archives within specifically non-decolonized territories with special
77 reservations for recently decolonized nations as well;

78 (i) Specific preservation of native languages;

79 (ii) Recommends establishing international scholarships, provided by Member-States or NGOs fo-
80 cused on it, for students from colonized territories pursuing research on marginalized and colonially
81 impacted powers with special priority to newly decolonized and NSGT student representatives;

82 (d) Encourages either the return of all cultural artifacts, or fair compensation for them as determined
83 by fair agreement between the two parties;

84 (i) Cultural artifacts are to be defined as any object of significant traditional or historical importance
85 which was removed from its nation of origin by a ruling colonial power;

86 (ii) Fair compensation is to be an amount agreed upon by the artifact's nation of origin and the
87 nation currently possessing the artifact;

88 (iii) Fair compensation includes both compensation from world heritage and United Nations funds
89 on behalf of the territories to the countries returning the artifacts, as well in the case of a failure of
90 return, monetary compensations from the states still holding the cultural aspects too to the territory
91 or decolonized nation on a agreed upon amount between them;

92 (iv) Stipulates a program for a staggered return of artifacts and possible sharing program to ensure
93 that current powers are not hurt in the effect of cultural preservation;

94 (e) *Requests* additional support for the preservation of the cultural legacy of all current and former
95 colonial nations to encourage UNESCO to consider a UNESCO pre-colonial Heritage Sites subsection under the
96 UNESCO Heritage Sites, in order to recognize the unique cultural and historical legacy of colonized nations with a
97 specific focus on African States to increase representation of African nations;

98 (f) Encourages the return of cultural items to their original location as long as the artifacts will be
99 properly preserved in their original cultural heritage. Proper preservation institutes insurance that the object will
100 not erode but still allows for objects to be stored in preferable traditional spaces;

101 10. *Strongly recommends* Member States work together to ensure equal access of development resources to
102 these NSGTs in order to empower these territories to come into independence with adequate resources and stable
103 footing by recommending a non partisan advisory board to accomplish the following:

104 (a) Encouraging the awarding of said aid independent of conditionality, as conditions can stand in
105 the way of the formation of a comprehensive government and economy, specifically calling for allowing countries to
106 choose their form of government no matter the preferences of larger powers so as long as it is decided by the people,
107 only allowing for two exceptions;

108 (i) The recipient of the aid must not be actively seeking to oppress ethnic minorities within the
109 territory;

110 (ii) The recipient must use the funding with the purpose of moving towards removal from the list of
111 NSGTs;

112 (b) Setting and evaluating goals annually in hopes of reaching zero territories on the current list
113 of non-self governing territories by using the reports required under Article 73e of the United Nations Charter to
114 evaluate the allocation of aid and adjusting its distribution annually;

115 (i) Further recommends the formation of a United Nations based database with the purpose of
116 collecting information in these reports and tracking trends in;

117 (ii) Economic or social activity;

118 11. *Recommends* that administering powers hold regular referendums within NSGTs on the status of their
119 sovereignty, keeping with the United Nations principles of self-determination as outlined in the Universal Declaration
120 of Human Rights:

121 (a) Proposes the structure of referendums held within these territories be carried out in accordance
122 with the following framework;

123 (i) Referendums should be held at least once every 4 years;

124 (ii) Referendums should be overseen by United Nations observers in order to ensure free and fair
125 elections;

126 (iii) In the case of a 51% majority vote in favor of independence, a transitional period of two years
127 should begin before the territory is granted full independence;

128 (iv) The transitional period should be overseen through a joint administration between local author-
129 ities, the current administering power of the territory, and the United Nations;

130 (v) These transitional governments should be tasked with creating a constitution for the territory,
131 determining the future relationship between the territory and the former occupying state, and or-
132 ganizing free and fair elections for the territory's future governance;

133 12. *Calls* upon administering powers to ensure protection of the environment and natural resources within
134 non-self governing territories:

135 (a) With an emphasis on;

136 (i) The maritime resources and aquatic habitats;

137 (ii) Non-renewable resources;

138 (iii) Forests and undeveloped lands;

139 (b) Encourages administering powers to create a plan for the conservation of the above listed natural
140 resources;

141 (c) Recommends action towards restoring any environmental detriment to the NSGTs during their
142 non self governing time;

143 (d) Encourages administering powers to create action plans outlining the development of economic
144 and environmental sustainability to ensure the future viability and stability of non-self-governing territories, whether
145 that future is as independent states or if they continue under their current form of administration.

Passed, Yes: 21 / No: 10 / Abstain: 9