

(Note: The following is the text of a resolution passed in the Fourth Committee on November 5, 1953 by a vote of 22 in favour, 18 against (including Canada) and 19 abstentions. Canada voted against largely because of the inclusion of the final paragraph of the preamble beginning "Bearing in mind..." and relating to the competence of the General Assembly to decide on this question. The Canadian Delegation had expressed the view that the administering powers have the right to decide when transmission of information should cease. There is a possibility that an attempt will be made to have this paragraph removed when the question comes up in plenary session.)

The General Assembly,

Considering that resolution 222 (iii), adopted by the General Assembly on 3 November 1948, while welcoming any development of self-government in non-self-governing territories, considers that it is essential that the United Nations be informed of any change in the constitutional status of any such territory as a result of which the government responsible for the transmission of information in respect of that territory under Article 73 E of the Charter thinks it unnecessary or inappropriate to continue such a practice,

Having received the communications dated 19 January and 20 March 1953 informing the United Nations of the establishment of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, as a result of the entry into force on 25 July 1952 of the constitution of Puerto Rico, and stating that in consequence of these constitutional changes, the Government of the United States would cease to transmit information under Article 73 E of the Charter,

Having studied the report prepared by the committee on information from non-self-governing territories, during its session of 1953, on the question of the cessation of the transmission of information on Puerto Rico, and presented to the General Assembly in conformity with paragraph 2 of resolution 448 (v),

Having examined the communication of the Government of the United States in the light of the basic principles embodied in Chapter XI of the Charter and of all the other elements of judgment pertinent to the issue,

Considering that the agreement reached by the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, in forming a political association which respects the individuality and the cultural characteristics of Puerto Rico, maintains the spiritual bonds between Puerto Rico and Latin America and constitutes an additional link in continental solidarity,

Bearing in mind the competence of the General Assembly to decide whether a Non-Self-Governing Territory has or has not attained a full measure of self-government as referred to in Chapter XI of the Charter,