

mitted to the United Nations under Article 73(e) of the Charter; and (c) the mandated territory of South West Africa, in respect of which the United Nations has inherited those supervisory responsibilities assigned originally to the League of Nations. The general responsibilities of the United Nations for non-self-governing territories are set out in Chapter XI of the Charter, while Chapters XII and XIII concern the trusteeship territories.

It is now the practice of the General Assembly to address detailed recommendations to the administering powers on political developments in colonial territories for which they are responsible. To a very large extent, the creation of representative institutions and advancement towards self-government and independence has become the main preoccupation of most delegations. Consideration of social, economic and educational conditions in colonial territories has been relegated to the background.

During 1963, in their determination to wipe out the last pockets of colonialism in Africa, the African delegations sought positive action through the Security Council for the problems of Southern Rhodesia, the Portuguese territories in Africa and South Africa's racial policies. Parallel action was pursued in the General Assembly in plenary, in the Special Political Committee and in the Fourth Committee.

Southern Rhodesia

The debate on Southern Rhodesia took place shortly after the Security Council had considered the problem and Britain had vetoed the resolution which had been tabled. The same arguments which had been advanced in the Council were put forward again. The delegations from Africa and Asia contended that Britain still had constitutional power to intervene in Southern Rhodesia, suspend the constitution and convene a new constitutional conference attended by representatives of all political parties in the territory. Britain continued to maintain that Southern Rhodesia was not a non-self-governing territory and to reject United Nations competence on this question. The British representative argued that the situation in the territory was neither explosive nor a threat to international peace, and that there was no evidence to support the African contention that the Southern Rhodesian armed forces would be used to attack the African population.

In October a resolution dealing with the transfer of powers to Southern Rhodesia, substantially the same as that vetoed by Britain in the Security Council, was adopted by a vote of 90 in favour, two against, with 14 abstentions (Canada). Britain did not participate in the vote on the resolution [1883 (XVIII)] because of its legal stand concerning the Assembly's competence.

Later, the African-Asian states introduced a longer and more comprehensive draft resolution, which described the situation in Southern Rhodesia as a threat to international peace, and called upon Britain not to grant