

is also to "take cognizance of the reasonable wishes and needs" of the non-white inhabitants.

Encouraging as this may be, it is our view that the South African Government is gravely mistaken if it thinks that it can effectively fulfil its responsibilities to the people of Southwest Africa even in these fields within the limitations imposed by the system of apartheid. Far less can the wishes of the inhabitants to learn to govern themselves be met under this system.

We have heard from petitioners and from the reports of the Committee on Southwest Africa a great deal concerning the failure of the South African administration to promote the welfare and social progress of the inhabitants as it is required to do under the League of Nations mandate. This is the subject of the very important case which is now before the International Court of Justice. My Delegation agrees with the distinguished representative of the United Kingdom that this Assembly should not take definitive steps with regard to Southwest Africa until the conclusions of the Court justify such steps. We also share the view that the South African Government should agree to be bound by whatever ruling the Court may make in the case.

At the same time it would be appropriate for some committee of this Assembly to be entrusted with keeping the Southwest Africa question under review while the Assembly is not in session. In this connection we think that serious consideration should be given to the suggestion made by the distinguished representative of Mexico that any procedure proposed for the revocation of the mandate would carry the greatest weight if it were supported by an opinion of the Court.

In the meantime, we should not give up efforts to associate the United Nations with the progress towards self-government of the territory. To this end, I would submit that representatives of the Assembly or of the Secretariat should