

ARTICLE 12

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ARTICLE 12

TEXT OF ARTICLE 12

1. While the Security Council is exercising in respect of any dispute or situation the functions assigned to it in the present Charter, the General Assembly shall not make any recommendation with regard to that dispute or situation unless the Security Council so requests.
2. The Secretary-General, with the consent of the Security Council, shall notify the General Assembly at each session of any matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security which are being dealt with by the Security Council and shall similarly notify the General Assembly, or the Members of the United Nations if the General Assembly is not in session, immediately the Security Council ceases to deal with such matters.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. The scope and effect of the limitations of the powers of the General Assembly provided for in Article 12(1) were discussed in the General Assembly in the period covered by this *Supplement* during the consideration of three items. In the first place, the question was raised as to the propriety of including in the agenda of the General Assembly for consideration an item that fell under the primary responsibility of the Security Council. In the second place, pertinent remarks were made concerning the constitutional relationship between the General Assembly and the Security Council as envisaged in some of the Member States' proposals for strengthening the role of the United Nations. Third, on several occasions the propriety was questioned of the General Assembly's initiative in considering, taking decisions and making recommendations on items already before the Security Council.
2. The resolutions adopted in connexion with the questions

considered by both the General Assembly and the Security Council during the period under review are listed in annex II.

3. There was one instance of an item referred to the General Assembly by the Security Council, which could be taken as constituting a request by the Council, in accordance with the provisions of Article 12(1). This occurred during the Council's consideration of the situation in the India/Pakistan subcontinent in December 1971. A full account of events relating to that occasion is given in the Analytical Summary of Practice.

4. There were also a number of items which were notified to the General Assembly by the Secretary-General under the provisions of Article 12(2) as having been removed from the list of matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security of which the Security Council was seized. An account of those items is given in paragraphs 8-11 below.

I. GENERAL SURVEY

Article 12(1)

5. During the period under review the following questions were considered by both the General Assembly and the Security Council: "The situation in the Middle East", "The question of Namibia",¹ "The policies of *apartheid* of the Government of South Africa",^{1a} "The situation in the India/Pakistan subcontinent", "The question concerning the situation in Southern Rhodesia" and "The question of East Timor".² Three other items were considered independently by the General Assembly, namely: "Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security", "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects" and "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization", and one by the Security Council, namely: "Complaint by Lesotho against South Africa", in the course of which pertinent references were frequently made to Article 12, among others.
6. There was no specific mention of Article 12 in any of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly during the period covered by the present *Supplement* but, in one resolution adopted by the Assembly on the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security: report of the Secretary-General,"³ the Assembly reaffirmed the right of all States "to participate on the basis of equality in the settlement of major international problems in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United

Nations so that peace and security will be based on effective respect for the sovereignty and independence of each State." Such a formulation appeared to put a delimitation on the primary role of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security to the exclusion of the General Assembly while the Council was actively engaged in any aspect of that role as provided in Article 12.

7. There were, however, several occasions during the discussion of the various subjects mentioned above on which explicit mention was made of Article 12, as well as of other Articles bearing relevance to the subject matter of that Article. There was no specific constitutional discussion of the Article.

Article 12(2)

8. Acting under Article 12(2), the Secretary-General continued to notify the President of the General Assembly, with the consent of the Security Council, of "matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security which are being dealt with by the Security Council."⁴ The General Assembly took note⁵ of these notifications, which were based upon the "Summary statement by the Secretary-General on matters of which the Security Council is seized and on the stage reached in their consideration," circulated each week in accordance with rule 11⁶ of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council.

9. The items in the notifications were the same as those in the summary statements issued during the period covered by

each respective notification, with the exclusion of the items not considered "matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security."

10. The matters dealt with by the Security Council were divided in the notifications into two categories: first, matters "which are being dealt with by the Security Council" and which had been discussed during the period since the previous notification; and second, matters of which the Security Council "remains seized" but which it had not discussed

II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE

**A. The question of the scope of the term "recommendation" as used in Article 12(I)

B. The question of the meaning of the phrase "While the Security Council is exercising in respect of any dispute or situation the functions assigned to it in the present Charter", and its effect upon the powers of the General Assembly

12. There was no specific constitutional discussion of the phrase "While the Security Council is exercising in respect of any dispute or situation the functions assigned to it in the present Charter", and there were consequently no decisions taken in that regard. However, a direct reference was made to that phrase by the representative of Israel, during the discussion of the situation in the Middle East, who, after quoting the full text of Article 12, raised the point whether the General Assembly could properly take on that item while the Security Council was exercising its function in respect of the item. He observed that, only as recently as 21 October 1970, the Security Council had decided to reaffirm its resolution 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967.⁸ But the representative of the United Arab Republic⁹ disputed the validity of that point, quoting from published sources¹⁰ and the opinion of the United Nations Legal Counsel precisely on that point.¹¹ The Legal Counsel had said that, under Article 10 of the Charter, the General Assembly might discuss any question or any matters within the scope of the Charter, except as provided for in Article 12 when the General Assembly could not, in principle, make recommendations on matters without a request from the Security Council while the Council was exercising the functions assigned to it in the Charter. However, the Legal Counsel pointed to a recent practice under which the General Assembly had interpreted the words "is exercising" as meaning "is exercising at this moment"; consequently, the Assembly had proceeded to make recommendations on other matters which the Security Council was also considering. The representative of the United Arab Republic maintained that, on the basis of that interpretation, the General Assembly was entitled to discuss the situation in the Middle East as a means not of obstructing but of throwing its weight behind the efforts of the Security Council to effect the implementation of its own resolution.¹²

C. The inclusion in the agenda of the General Assembly, for consideration, of an item that falls within the primary responsibility of the Security Council

13. At the twenty-fifth session, the General Assembly included in the agenda an item entitled: "Consideration of measures for the strengthening of international security: report of the Secretary-General", in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2606 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969 and General Assembly decision at the 1843rd plenary meeting on 18 September 1970, and allocated it to the First Committee.¹³ The item was included in the agenda and has been discussed at every session since then.¹⁴

14. In the course of consideration of the item in the First Committee some delegations expressed views ranging from

during that period. The Secretary-General obtained the consent of the Security Council to these draft notifications by circulating copies among the Council members.

11. Sixteen items⁷ related to the maintenance of peace and security were notified to the General Assembly as having been removed from the list of matters of which the Council was seized during the period under review. The General Assembly took note of the notifications as indicated in paragraph 8 above.

mild reservation to strong warnings regarding the propriety of not only discussing the item but also of having included it in the agenda in the first place. They recognized the creative role of the General Assembly in promoting international peace and security, and quoted in particular the provisions of Articles 11 and 14 to that end. But they warned that a clear distinction should be drawn between the proper functions of the principal organs of the United Nations as laid down in the Charter. An encroachment on the powers of the Security Council could lead to total confusion and might compromise the delicate mechanism for the maintenance of international peace and security. Some speakers drew attention to the Security Council's decision¹⁵ to hold periodic meetings in conformity with Article 28(2) of the Charter, which they welcomed but also cited as a possible instance of conflict between the General Assembly and Security Council. For that reason they opposed a number of proposals in the draft resolutions before the Committee,¹⁶ particularly those seeking to make specific recommendations to the Council.

15. The majority of delegations saw no conflict of mandate between the General Assembly and the Security Council in the Assembly's discussion of the item. They maintained that there was a residual area beyond the primary responsibility of the Security Council in which the General Assembly was entitled to discuss measures and make suggestions to the Security Council aimed at assisting the Council in the effective implementation of its decisions as well as at strengthening the role of the Council in that regard. They therefore urged that the item should be maintained on the Assembly's agenda. Their views prevailed by virtue of the relevant resolution adopted by the General Assembly on the item at each session.¹⁷

D. The constitutional relationship between the General Assembly and the Security Council as envisaged in Member States' proposals to amend the Charter and strengthen the United Nations

16. Two items were discussed in the plenary and in the Sixth Committee evoking comments on the constitutional relationship between the General Assembly and the Security Council, namely: "Strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security"¹⁸ and the "Need to consider suggestions regarding the review of the Charter of the United Nations",¹⁹ respectively.

17. In the course of consideration of those two items a number of delegations expressed their disquiet at what they considered a growing trend for the General Assembly to encroach on the powers and assume the role of the Security Council in dealing with matters of international peace and security. The representative of Australia, speaking on the "Strengthening of the role of the United Nations", said that, although the subject was suitable for discussion in the General Assembly, careful note should be taken of the limitations imposed upon that exercise by Article 12 of the Charter.²⁰

18. The representative of France was more emphatic on that point. Addressing himself to the proposals regarding the

review of the Charter,²¹ he expressed alarm that the envisaged changes could only reduce the effectiveness of the Organization, since some of the proposals were aimed at giving more power to the General Assembly and less to the Security Council. Such a trend, he asserted, virtually ignored Article 12(1) of the Charter.

19. On the point of the constitutional relationship between the General Assembly and the Security Council, one member of the Council made pertinent remarks during the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Complaint by Lesotho against South Africa".²² During the discussion many speakers, including non-members invited to participate, urged the Council to take into consideration, while formulating its decision on the matter, the terms of the General Assembly resolution on "the so-called Independent Transkei and other Bantustans".²³ At the 1982nd meeting, on 22 December 1976, the Council adopted resolution 402 (1976). In the third and fourth preambular paragraphs of that resolution the Council recalled the relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular resolutions 3411 D (XXX) of 28 November 1975 and 31/6 A of 26 October 1976 and, in operative paragraph 1 of the resolution, the Council endorsed General Assembly resolution 31/6 A.

20. The representative of the United Kingdom, speaking after the vote, lodged his delegation's reservations on the resolution just adopted. He questioned the propriety of the Security Council endorsing a resolution of the General Assembly, maintaining that the two organs were separate and that it was neither appropriate nor necessary for one to have the endorsement of the other for its actions.²⁴

E. Consideration of and making recommendations on items already before the Council

21. During the period under review several references and pertinent remarks were made in the General Assembly and its political Committees on the practice of consideration of, and making recommendations by, those bodies on items already before the Security Council.²⁵ The references and remarks were made in respect of three particular points, namely: the propriety of considering items already on the agenda of the Security Council, the practice of making unilateral recommendations to the Council, and the purported determination that a threat to international peace and security existed. Discussion of these points arose during the consideration of the following items: "The situation in the Middle East", the "Policies of *apartheid* of the Government of South Africa", "The question of Namibia", "The situation in the India/Pakistan subcontinent", "The question concerning the situation in Southern Rhodesia", "The question of East Timor" and "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects".

22. Reference has already been made to one occasion when the wisdom was questioned of the General Assembly including in its agenda an item already before the Security Council.²⁶ There were other occasions on which such a position was taken. At the 1900th meeting in the Fourth Committee, for instance, a number of delegations, speaking on the draft resolutions on Namibia and Southern Rhodesia before the Committee, pointed out that the Security Council was considering the question of Southern Rhodesia and that it was for that body to determine what measures should be adopted; consequently the General Assembly should not take any decision on the matter.²⁷ On other items many delegations cautioned that the General Assembly should take care not to encroach on the mandate of the Security Council.

23. It was on the various draft resolutions, however, that such objections were most explicitly expressed. Many of the draft resolutions contained recommendations to the Security Council to undertake particular measures, especially those

falling under Chapter VII of the Charter. This happened most frequently during consideration of the situation in the Middle East, the situation in Southern Rhodesia, the question of Namibia and the policies of *apartheid* of the Government of South Africa. The delegations of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Israel, the Netherlands and Sweden were the most frequently heard voicing their reservations, warnings or objections with varying degrees of emphasis.

24. The point of whether the General Assembly was entitled to determine if a situation existed threatening internal peace and security also received attention on a number of occasions. In the Fourth Committee, at the 1897th meeting,²⁸ the representative of Sweden, speaking on a draft resolution on the question of Namibia, pointed out that it was only the Security Council that could determine whether a threat to international peace and security existed. At the next meeting,²⁹ the representative of the United States, addressing himself to the same draft resolution, expressed the same sentiment, pointing out, moreover, that the draft resolution failed to mention the activities relating to Namibia being undertaken by the Security Council and thus gave the impression that the Council had not concerned itself with the question.

25. Similarly, at the 780th meeting of the Special Political Committee,³⁰ the representative of France, speaking on a draft resolution on the policies of *apartheid* of the Government of South Africa, stated that the General Assembly could not take the place of the Security Council in declaring that a situation constituted a threat to peace.

F. The question of requests by the Security Council to the General Assembly in accordance with the provision of Article 12(1)

26. At its 1608th meeting, on 6 December 1971, the Security Council adopted resolution 303 (1971) on the situation in the India/Pakistan subcontinent. By the operative paragraph of that resolution, the Council decided "to refer the question contained in document S/Agenda/1606 to the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session, as provided for in Assembly resolution 377 A (V) of 3 November 1950".³¹

27. During the discussion, a member of the Council urged that, as a matter of procedure, it was sufficient to submit the request to the General Assembly under the terms of Article 12(1) rather than under General Assembly resolution 377 (V),³² particularly as the General Assembly was already in session. The point was not pursued.

28. The General Assembly considered the question immediately, at the 2002nd and 2003rd plenary meetings, and adopted resolution 2793 (XXVI). In the last operative paragraph of that resolution the General Assembly called upon the Security Council to take appropriate action in the light of the resolution. At the 2031st plenary meeting, on 22 December 1971, the General Assembly decided that it had concluded its consideration of the item.³³

NOTES

¹ This item was included in the agenda of the Security Council as: "The situation in Namibia".

^{1a} The Security Council also considered, at the request of the General Assembly, an item entitled "Relationship between the United Nations and South Africa", which contained matters of substantive relevance to this item.

² This item was included in the agenda of the Security Council as: "The situation in Timor".

³ G A resolution 3332 (XXIX), para. 2, based on the recommendation of the First Committee.

⁴ G A (25), Annexes, a.i. 7, A/8064; G A (26), Annexes, a.i. 7, A/8396; G A (27), Annexes, a.i. 7, A/8816; G A (28), Annexes, a.i. 7, A/9158; G A (29), Annexes, a.i. 7, A/9730; G A (30), Annexes, a.i. 7, A/10230; G A (31), Annexes, a.i. 7, A/31/214; G A (32), Annexes, a.i. 7, A/32/223; G A (33), Annexes, a.i. 7, A/33/237.

⁵ G A (25), Plen., 1843rd mtg., para. 103; G A (26), Plen., 1939th mtg., para. 179; G A (27), Plen., 2037th mtg., para. 347; G A (28), Plen., 2123rd mtg., para. 8; G A (29), Plen., 2236th mtg.; G A (30), Plen., 2353rd mtg.; G A (31), Plen., 4th mtg., decision 31/401; G A (32), Plen., 5th mtg.; decision 32/401; G A (33), Plen., 51st mtg., decision 33/404.

⁶ Rule 11 reads as follows: "The Secretary-General shall communicate each week to the representatives on the Security Council a summary statement of matters of which the Security Council is seized and of the stage reached in their consideration" (S/96/Rev. 5: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.69.I.9).

⁷ For a full listing of the 16 items, see annex III, below.

⁸ G A (25), Plen., 1888th mtg., paras. 45-47. For the reference to the decision of the Security Council, see para. 3 of the final communiqué issued after the first periodic meeting of the Security Council, held in private at its 1555th meeting, to review the international situation.

⁹ Subsequently renamed the Arab Republic of Egypt.

¹⁰ L. M. Goodrich, E. Hambro and A. P. Simons, *Charter of the United Nations—Commentary and Documents*, 3rd revised ed. (New York, Columbia University Press), pp. 129 and 131.

¹¹ Statement made by the Legal Counsel at the 1637th mtg. of the Third Committee on 12 December 1968 in reply to a question by the representative of Peru (*United Nations Juridical Yearbook 1968*, p. 185. See also the report of that discussion in the *Repertory, Supplement No. 4*, under Article 12, paras. 30-46).

¹² G A (25), Plen., 1888th mtg., paras. 184-195.

¹³ G A (25), Plen., 1843rd meeting, paras. 104 and 181. The item was first included in the agenda of the General Assembly at the twenty-fourth session on the initiative of the USSR and was discussed in the First Committee under the title "Strengthening of international security", resulting in General Assembly resolution 2606 (XXIV). That resolution invited Member States to "study the proposals and statements made during the consideration of the item entitled "The strengthening of international security", and requested Member States "to inform the Secretary-General of their views and proposals on this subject not later than 1 May 1970 and also of any measures they take for the purpose of strengthening international security" (paras. 2 and 3 respectively). At the 25th session the General Assembly, having considered the Members' proposals on the matter, adopted the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security (G A resolution 2734 (XXV) of 16 December 1970).

¹⁴ Since the 26th session the item has been included in the agenda under the title: "Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

¹⁵ S C (25), 1544th mtg., on 12 June 1970.

¹⁶ Altogether four draft resolutions were tabled on the item during the

25th session but only one was adopted, as G A resolution 2734 (XXV), constituting the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security. Similarly, at each subsequent session one draft resolution was adopted out of several tabled.

¹⁷ For the relevant statements made in connexion with these viewpoints see, e.g.: G A (25), 1st Com., 1728th mtg.: Yugoslavia, para. 96; 1729th mtg.: Chile, para. 45; 1731st mtg.: Trinidad and Tobago, para. 4.

¹⁸ First included in the agenda of the General Assembly at the 27th session, at the request of Romania, and discussed at the 27th (a.i. 24), 28th (a.i. 25), 29th (a.i. 20, considered together with a.i. 95: Need to consider suggestions regarding the review of the Charter of the United Nations), 30th (a.i. 29 considered together with a.i. 113: Report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Charter of the United Nations), and at the 31st (a.i. 110), 32nd (a.i. 116) and 33rd (a.i. 117) sessions under the title: "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

¹⁹ First included in the agenda of the General Assembly at the 24th session (a.i. 95), but subsequently the two items were discussed together as one item (see footnote 16, above).

²⁰ G A (29), Plen., 2307th mtg.: Australia.

²¹ *Ibid.*, 6th Com., 1516th meeting: France.

²² The item was included in the Security Council's agenda at the request of Lesotho, complaining that South Africa had closed part of the common border between the country and that part of South Africa referred to as Transkei, and was discussed at four meetings held between 21 December 1976 and 25 May 1977.

²³ G A (31), resolution 31/6 A, adopted on 26 October 1976 on the general question of the policies of *apartheid* of the Government of South Africa. For texts of the relevant statements in the Council see S C (31), 1981st mtg.: Madagascar, Libyan Arab Republic (since renamed the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), China; 1982nd mtg.: Mauritius, Panama, Pakistan, USSR and Guyana.

²⁴ S C (31), 1982nd mtg.: United Kingdom.

²⁵ For a reference to the interpretation of the phrase "While the Security Council is exercising in respect of any dispute or situation the functions assigned to it in the present Charter", see para. 12, above. For the relevant references and remarks, see, e.g. the delegations cited in footnotes 8, 12 and 17 above, as well as G A (25), 1st Com., 1736th mtg.: Israel, paras. 160, 162 and 164.

²⁶ See para. 12, above.

²⁷ G A (25), 4th Com., 1897th mtg.: Sweden, paras. 3-4; 1898th mtg.: United States, para. 12; Ireland, para. 32; and 1900th mtg.: Argentina, para. 27.

²⁸ G A (25), 4th Com., 1897th mtg.: Sweden, paras. 3 and 4.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, 1898th mtg.: United States, para. 12.

³⁰ G A (26), Spec. Pol. Com., 780th mtg.: France, para. 37.

³¹ "Uniting for Peace" resolution.

³² S C (26), 1608th mtg.: France, para. 303.

³³ G A (26), Plen., 2031st mtg.

ANNEX I

Tabulation of meetings on items discussed by the Security Council and the General Assembly,
1 January 1970 to 31 December 1978

Year	Item	Security Council		General Assembly	
		Meeting(s)	Date(s)	Meeting(s)	Date(s)
	The situation in the Middle East				
1970		1537th-1542nd 1551st	12-19 May 5 Sept.	Plen.: 1884th 1886th-1897th 1933rd	26 Oct. 27 Oct. 17 Dec.
1971		1579th-1582nd	16-27 Sept.	1999th-2002nd 2004th 2006th 2008th-2010th 2012th-2017th	3-7 Dec. 8 Dec. 8 Dec. 9-10 Dec. 10-14 Dec.
1972		1643rd-1644th 1648th-1653rd 1661st-1662nd	26-27 Febr. 23 June-21 July 10 Sept.	2092nd, 2094th 2095th 2097th-2103rd 2105th	29 Nov. 1 Dec. 4-7 Dec. 8 Dec.
1973		1705th-1711th 1717th-1726th ^a 1733rd-1735th ^a 1736th-1740th 1743rd-1752nd 1754th	12-21 Apr. 6-14 June 20-26 July 13-15 Aug. 8-27 October 2 Nov.		
1974		1765th-1769th 1773rd-1774th 1799th 1809th	8-24 April 30-31 May 23 Oct. 29 Nov.	2325th 2350th	18 Dec. 18 Sept. 1975 ^b
1975		1821st-1822nd 1832nd-1833rd 1851st 1856th 1859th-1862nd	17 Apr.-28 May 21-24 July 23 Oct. 30 Nov. 4-8 Dec.	2422nd-2427th 2429th	5 Dec.
1976		1870th-1879th ^c 1923rd 1964th 1975th	12-26 Jan. 28 May 22 Oct. 30 Nov.	87th-92nd 94th 95th 100th	2-7 Dec. 8 Dec. 9 Dec.
1977		1993rd 1995th 1997th 2010th 2035th 2051st	25 Mar. 28 Mar. 29 Mar. 26 May 21 Oct. 30 Nov.	77th-82nd	22-25 Nov.
1978		2071st-2076th 2079th 2085th 2089th 2091st 2101st 2051st	17 Mar.-3 May 31 May 18 Sept. 6 Oct. 23 Oct. 27 Nov. 30 Nov.	69th-73rd	5-7 Dec.
	The question of Namibia				
1970		1537th-1529th 1550th	28-30 Jan. 29 July	4th Com.: 1875th-1888th 1891st-1899th 1906th 5th Com.: 1401st Plen.: 1923rd	5-26 Oct. 6-18 Nov. 27 Nov. 30 Nov. 9 Dec.
1971		1583rd-1585th 1587th-1589th 1593rd-1595th 1597th-1598th	27-28 Sept. 30 Sept.-6 Oct. 13-15 Oct. 19 Oct.	4th Com.: 1921st-1926th 1928th-1936th 1938th-1945th 1950th 1952nd 1954th 1960th 1965th-1969th 5th Com.: 1487th Plen.: 2028th	7-21 Oct. 22-29 Oct. 1-10 Nov. 16 Nov. 19 Nov. 23 Nov. 2 Dec. 9-14 Dec. 17 Dec. 20 Dec.

Year	Item	Security Council		General Assembly	
		Meeting(s)	Date(s)	Meeting(s)	Date(s)
1972		1656th-1657th 1678th-1682nd	31 July-1 Aug. 28 Nov.-6 Dec.	4th Com.: 1978th 1987th 1989th 1992nd 2014th-2016th 2018th-2024th 5th Com.: 1556th Plen.: 2114th	9 Oct. 17 Oct. 30 Oct. 1 Nov. 6-7 Dec. 11-14 Dec. 16 Dec. 18 Dec.
1973		1684th 1756th-1758th	11 Jan. 10-11 Dec.	4th Com.: 2046th-2054th 2060th 2069th-2070th 2072nd 2075th 5th Com.: 1624th Plen.: 2198th 2205th	26 Oct.-6 Nov. 15 Nov. 28-29 Nov. 30 Nov. 4 Dec. 11 Dec. 12 Dec. 18 Dec.
1974		1811th-1812th	17 Dec.	4th Com.: 2092nd, 2097th 2100th-2110th 2119th, 2120th 2123rd 5th Com.: 1690th Plen.: 2318th 2325th	15 Oct. 29 Oct.-11 Nov. 26-27 Nov. 29 Nov. 12 Dec. 13 Dec. 18 Dec.
1975		1823rd-1829th	30 May-6 June	4th Com.: 2145th-2156th 2163rd-2167th 5th Com.: 1748th Plen.: 2419th	13-28 Oct. 10-13 Nov. 25 Nov. 26 Nov.
1976		1880th-1885th 1956th-1963rd	27-30 Jan. 28 Sept.-19 Oct.	4th Com.: 30th-41st 43rd-45th 5th Com.: 53rd Plen.: 104th-105th 107th	22 Nov.-7 Dec. 9-10 Dec. 16 Dec. 17-20 Dec. 22 Dec.
1977				5th Com.: 34th-35th Plen.: 35th-42nd 45th-46th 57th	3-4 Nov. 18-21 Oct. 25 Oct. 8 Nov.
1978		2082nd 2087th-2088th 2092nd 2094th-2098th 2103rd-2104th	27 July 29-30 Sept. 31 Oct. 1-13 Nov. 4-5 Dec.	4th Com.: 21st 5th Com.: 68th Plen.: 52nd 73rd-76th 80th 90th-91st 97th-108th	20 Nov. 20 Dec. 17 Nov. 7-8 Dec. 12 Dec. 20-21 Dec. 23-31 May 1977
	The policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa				
1970		1545th-1549th ^d	17-23 July	Spec. Pol. Com. 697th-714th 724th-725th 730th-731st 5th Com.: 1401st Plen.: 1864th 1921st	12 Oct.-4 Nov. 16-17 Nov. 23-24 Nov. 30 Nov. 13 Oct. 8 Dec.
1971				Spec. Pol. Com.: 757th-780th 5th Com.: 1462nd Plen.: 1981st 1997th	20 Oct.-16 Nov. 26 Nov. 9 Nov. 29 Nov.
1972		1627th-1639th ^{dd}	29 Jan.-4 Feb.	Spec. Pol. Com.: 809th-828th 5th Com.: 1548th Plen.: 2085th 2108th	9 Nov.-1 Dec. 12 Dec. 15 Nov. 13 Dec.

Year	Item	Security Council		General Assembly	
		Meeting(s)	Date(s)	Meeting(s)	Date(s)
1973				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 859th-875th 887th-888th <i>5th Com.:</i> 1627th <i>Plen.:</i> 2157th 2201st	9-31 Oct. 14-15 Nov. 13 Dec. 26 Oct. 14 Dec.
1974				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 906th 908th-921st 926th 937th-940th <i>5th Com.:</i> 1636th 1693rd <i>Plen.:</i> 2254th 2320th	26 Sept. 7-28 Oct. 4 Nov. 22-28 Nov. 1 Oct. 13 Dec. 3 Oct. 16 Dec.
1975				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 951st-973rd <i>5th Com.:</i> 1744th-1745th <i>Plen.:</i> 2421st 2430th 2434th-2435th	8 Oct.-6 Nov. 20-21 Nov. 28 Nov. 8 Dec. 10 Dec.
1976		1929th-1930th ^c	18-19 June	<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 12th <i>5th Com.:</i> 24th-25th <i>Plen.:</i> 41st-54th 56th 58th-59th 107th	4 Nov. 5-8 Nov. 26 Oct.-3 Nov. 5 Nov. 9 Nov. 22 Dec.
1977		1988th-1992nd 1994th 1996th 1998th-1999th 2036th-2040th 2042nd-2046th 2052nd-2053rd	21-25 Mar. 28 Mar. 29 Mar. 30-31 Mar. 24-26 Oct. 28 Oct.-4 Nov. 9 Dec.		
1978		2056th-2060th	26-31 Jan.	<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 46th <i>5th Com.:</i> 76th <i>Plen.:</i> 53rd-58th 60th 72nd 93rd-94th	7 Dec. 23 Jan. 1979 20-24 Nov. 27 Nov. 6 Dec. 24 Jan. 1979
	The situation in the India/ Pakistan subcontinent				
1971		1606th-1608th	4-6 Dec.	<i>Plen.:</i> 2002nd-2003rd 2031st	7 Dec. 22 Dec.
	The question concerning the situation in Southern Rhodesia				
1970		1530th-1535th 1556th-1567th	6-18 Mar. 10-17 Nov.		
1971		1602nd 1604th-1605th 1609th 1622nd-1623rd	25 Nov. 2 Dec. 8 Dec. 29-30 Dec.	<i>4th Com.:</i> 1923rd-1926th 1928th-1936th 1938th-1949th 1951st-1959th 1963rd 1965th 1970th-1972nd <i>Plen.:</i> 1984th 1991st 2012th 2028th	11-21 Oct. 22-29 Oct. 1-15 Nov. 18 Nov.-1 Dec. 7 Dec. 9 Dec. 15-16 Dec. 16 Nov. 22 Nov. 10 Dec. 20 Dec.
1972		1640th-1642nd 1645th 1654th-1655th 1663rd-1666th	16-25 Feb. 28 Feb. 28 July 27-29 Sept.	<i>4th Com.:</i> 1987th-2000th 2006th 2008th-2009th <i>Plen.:</i> 2102nd	17 Oct.-10 Nov. 28 Nov. 29-30 Nov. 7 Dec.

Year	Item	Security Council		General Assembly	
		Meeting(s)	Date(s)	Meeting(s)	Date(s)
1973		1712th-1716th	14-22 May	4th Com.: 2037th-2045th 2060th 2063rd-2064th Plen.: 2198th	12-24 Oct. 15 Nov. 19-20 Nov. 12 Dec.
1974				4th Com.: 2092nd-2100th 2116th-2117th 2119th-2121st 2123rd Plen.: 2318th	15-29 Oct. 22-25 Nov. 26-28 Nov. 29 Nov. 13 Dec.
1975				4th Com.: 2134th-2145th 2148th-2149th 2155th Plen.: 2414th	30 Sept.-13 Oct. 17-20 Oct. 27 Oct. 21 Nov.
1976		1907th	6 Apr.	4th Com.: 40th-43rd 46th-49th Plen.: 104th-105th	6-9 Dec. 13-14 Dec. 17-20 Dec.
1977		2011th 2033rd-2134th	27 May 28-29 Sept.	4th Com.: 25th 27th-35th Plen.: 104th	15 Nov. 30 Nov.-12 Dec. 28 Nov.
1978		2061st-2067th 2090th	26-31 Jan. 10 Oct.	4th Com.: 10th-19th 21st-23rd Plen.: 81st	30 Oct.-8 Nov. 20-22 Nov. 13 Dec.
	The situation in Timor^a				
1975		1867th-1869th	18-22 Dec.		
1976		1916th-1922nd	5-28 May		
1977				4th Com.: 8th 10th-21st 5th Com.: 47th Plen.: 83rd 103rd	26 Oct. 31 Oct.-10 Nov. 22 Nov. 28 Nov. 15 Dec.
1978				4th Com.: 20th-21st 23rd-33rd Plen.: 81st	16-20 Nov. 22 Nov.-5 Dec. 13 Dec.
	Consideration of measures for the strengthening of international security^b (item discussed by the General Assembly alone)				
1970				1st Com.: 1725th-1739th 1795th 1797th Plen.: 1932nd	28 Sept.-13 Oct. 12 Dec. 14 Dec. 16 Dec.
1971				1st Com.: 1804th-1818th 1827th-1829th 1835th 1856th-1857th Plen.: 2029th	14 Oct.-4 Nov. 11-16 Nov. 24 Nov. 17 Dec. 21 Dec.
1972				1st Com.: 1897th-1902nd 1916th-1920th Plen.: 2111th	20-24 Nov. 8-12 Dec. 15 Dec.
1973				1st Com.: 1971st-1976th 1979th 1983rd-1984th Plen.: 2205th	28 Nov.-4 Dec. 5 Dec. 10 Dec. 18 Dec.
1974				1st Com.: 2040th-2044th Plen.: 2322nd	10-13 Dec. 17 Dec.
1975				1st Com.: 2054th-2059th Plen.: 2409th	15-20 Oct. 18 Nov.

Year	Item	Security Council		General Assembly	
		Meeting(s)	Date(s)	Meeting(s)	Date(s)
1976				<i>1st Com.:</i> 53rd-58th <i>Plen.:</i> 98th	6-10 Dec. 14 Dec.
1977				<i>1st Com.:</i> 47th-49th 51st-58th <i>Plen.:</i> 106th	29-30 Nov. 2-9 Dec. 19 Dec.
1978				<i>1st Com.:</i> 61st-68th <i>Plen.:</i> 84th-85th	4-8 Dec. 14-15 Dec.
	Strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security¹ (item considered by the General Assembly alone)				
1972				<i>Plen.:</i> 2086th-2090th	20-27 Nov.
1973				2180th-2184th 2186th	27-29 Nov. 30 Nov.
1974				2307th-2308th 2313th-2314th 2316th	6 Dec. 11 Dec. 12 Dec.
1975				<i>6th Com.:</i> 1561st-1574th 1576th-1578th 1582nd <i>Plen.:</i> 2440th	10-25 Nov. 28 Nov.-2 Dec. 5 Dec. 15 Dec.
	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the strengthening of the role of the Organization¹ (item considered by the General Assembly alone)				
1976				<i>6th Com.:</i> 41st-50th <i>5th Com.:</i> 36th <i>Plen.:</i> 81st	11-22 Nov. 13 Dec. 29 Nov.
1977				<i>6th Com.:</i> 19th-23rd 25th-30th 32nd-33rd <i>5th Com.:</i> 47th <i>Plen.:</i> 97th	17-19 Oct. 21-26 Oct. 28-31 Oct. 22 Nov. 8 Dec.
1978				<i>6th Com.:</i> 20th-26th 28th-30th 33rd 54th-57th 60th <i>5th Com.:</i> 62nd <i>Plen.:</i> 86th	13-20 Oct. 23-25 Oct. 27 Oct. 22-28 Nov. 30 Nov. 15 Dec. 16 Dec.
	Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects (item discussed by General Assembly alone)				
1970				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 715th-723rd <i>Plen.:</i> 1921st	5-13 Nov. 8 Dec.
1971				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 794th-797th <i>Plen.:</i> 2023rd	7-10 Dec. 17 Dec.

Year	Item	Security Council		General Assembly	
		Meeting(s)	Date(s)	Meeting(s)	Date(s)
1972				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 843rd-848th	22-30 Nov.
				<i>Plen.:</i> 2108th	13 Dec.
1973				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 897th-901st	26-29 Nov.
				<i>Plen.:</i> 2193rd	7 Dec.
1974				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 933rd-936th	15-20 Nov.
				<i>Plen.:</i> 2023rd	29 Nov.
1975				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 982nd-984th	21-25 Nov.
				988th	2 Dec.
				990th-991st	3-5 Dec.
				<i>Plen.:</i> 2435th	10 Dec.
1976				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 32nd-36th	6-13 Dec.
				<i>Si. Com.:</i> 50th	14 Dec.
				<i>Plen.:</i> 100th	15 Dec.
1977				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 41st-45th	7-12 Dec.
				<i>Plen.:</i> 103rd	15 Dec.
				111th	21 Dec.
1978				<i>Spec. Pol. Com.:</i> 37th	28 Nov.
				39th-41st	30 Nov.-4 Dec.
				<i>Plen.:</i> 87th	18 Dec.
	Complaint by Lesotho against South Africa (item considered by the Security Council alone)				
1976		1981st-1982nd	21-22 Dec.		

^aFor this series of meetings the item was considered by the Security Council under the title: "Examination of the situation in the Middle East".

^bAt the 2325th mtg., the General Assembly decided to suspend its 29th session and to resume it for the consideration of the item, which it did at the 2350th mtg., on 18 September 1975.

^cDiscussed by the Security Council at this series of meetings under the heading: "The Middle East problem including the Palestine question".

^dDiscussed by the Security Council at these meetings under the heading: "The question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of *apartheid* of the Government of the Republic of South Africa".

^{dd}In the course of its meetings in Africa, the Council took up this issue under the agenda item "Consideration of questions relating to Africa of which the Security Council is currently seized and the implementation of the Council's relevant resolutions".

^eDiscussed by the Security Council at these meetings under the heading: "Situation in South Africa: Killings and violence by the *apartheid* régime in South Africa, in Soweto and other areas. . .". Thereafter, the item was maintained on the Council's agenda and discussed under the title: "The question of South Africa".

^fEntered into the agenda of the General Assembly under the heading: "Question considered by the Security Council at its 1606th, 1607th and 1608th meetings on 4, 5 and 6 December 1971".

^gEntered into the General Assembly agenda under the heading: "The question of East Timor". The item was first discussed by the General Assembly at the thirtieth session under the title "Question of Territories under Portuguese administration", and at the thirty-first session under the title: "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: Report of the Special Committee".

^hFrom the twenty-sixth session on, the item was discussed under the title: "Implementation of the Declaration on the strengthening of international security", and from the thirty-second session it was discussed together with two other relevant items: "Conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations" and "Deepening and consolidation of international détente and prevention of the danger of nuclear war".

ⁱSubsequently discussed and eventually merged with another relevant item entitled (in its final formulation): "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization" (32nd session).

^jSee note (i) and note 16 in the main text.

ANNEX II

Tabulation of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council in connexion with the questions considered by the two organs, 1 January 1970 to 31 December 1978

Item	Resolutions adopted by the	
	Security Council	General Assembly
The situation in the Middle East	279 (1970)	2628 (XXV)
	280 (1970)	
	285 (1970)	
	298 (1971)	2799 (XXVI)
	313 (1972)	2949 (XXVII)
	316 (1972)	
	317 (1972)	
	331 (1973)	

Item	Resolutions adopted by the	
	Security Council	General Assembly
	332 (1973)	
	337 (1973)	
	338 (1973)	
	339 (1973)	
	340 (1973)	
	341 (1973)	
	344 (1973)	
	346 (1974)	
	347 (1974)	
	350 (1974)	
	362 (1974)	
	363 (1974)	
	368 (1975)	3414 (XXX)
	369 (1975)	

Item	Resolutions adopted by the		Item	Resolutions adopted by the	
	Security Council	General Assembly		Security Council	General Assembly
	371 (1975)		314 (1972)	2945 (XXVII)	
	378 (1975)		318 (1972)	2946 (XXVII)	
	381 (1975)		320 (1972)		
	390 (1976)	31/61	333 (1973)	3115 (XXVIII)	
	396 (1976)	31/62		3116 (XXVIII)	
	398 (1976)			3297 (XXIX)	
	408 (1977)	32/20		3298 (XXIX)	
	416 (1977)			3396 (XXX)	
	420 (1977)			3397 (XXX)	
	425 (1978)	33/29	388 (1976)	31/154 A and B	
	426 (1978)		409 (1977)	32/116 A and B	
	427 (1978)		415 (1977)		
	429 (1978)		423 (1978)	33/38 A and B	
	434 (1978)		437 (1978)		
	436 (1978)		The question of East Timor^c		
	438 (1978)		384 (1975)		
	441 (1978)		389 (1976)		
The question of Namibia^a	276 (1970)	2678 (XXV)		32/34	
	283 (1970)	2679 (XXV)		33/39	
		2680 (XXV)	Consideration of measures for the strengthening of international security^d		
	301 (1971)	2871 (XXVI)		2734 (XXV)	
		2872 (XXVI)		2880 (XXVI)	
	309 (1972)	3030 (XXVII)		2993 (XXVII)	
	319 (1972)	3031 (XXVII)		3185 (XXVIII)	
	323 (1972)			3332 (XXIX)	
	342 (1973)	3111 (XXVIII)		3389 (XXX)	
		3112 (XXVIII)		31/91	
	366 (1974)	3295 (XXIX)		31/92	
		3296 (XXIX)		32/153	
		3399 (XXX)		32/154	
		3400 (XXX)		33/73	
	385 (1976)	31/146		33/74	
		31/147		33/75	
		31/148		33/76	
		31/149	Strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security^e		
		31/150		2925 (XXVII)	
		31/151		3073 (XXVIII)	
		31/152		3282 (XXIX)	
		31/153		3283 (XXIX)	
		31/317		3499 (XXX)	
		32/9 A to H			
	431 (1978)	33/182 A to C	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the strengthening of the role of the Organization^f		
	432 (1978)	33/206		31/28	
	435 (1978)	33/407		32/45	
	439 (1978)			33/94	
The policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa^b	282 (1970)	2624 (XXV)	Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects		
		2671 (XXV)		2670 (XXV)	
		2764 (XXVI)		2835 (XXVI)	
		2774 (XXVI)		2965 (XXVII)	
		2775 (XXVI)		3091 (XXVIII)	
	311 (1972)	2923 (XXVII)		3239 (XXIX)	
		3055 (XXVIII)		3457 (XXX)	
		3151 (XXVIII)		31/105	
		3324 (XXIX)		32/106	
		3411 (XXX)		33/114	
	392 (1976)	31/6 A to K	Complaint by Lesotho against South Africa		
	417 (1977)	32/105 A to O		402 (1976)	
	418 (1977)				
	421 (1977)				
		33/183 A to O			
The situation in the India/Pakistan subcontinent	303 (1971)	2793 (XXVI)			
The question concerning the situation in Southern Rhodesia	277 (1970)	2652 (XXV)			
	288 (1970)				
		2765 (XXVI)			
		2769 (XXVI)			
		2796 (XXVI)			
		2877 (XXVI)			

^a Discussed by the Security Council as "The situation in Namibia".

^b Also discussed by the Security Council under different headings and eventually maintained on the agenda of that organ as "The question of South Africa".

^c Discussed by the Security Council as "The situation in Timor".

^d See notes 12 and 13 in the main text, as well as note (h) in annex I.

^e See note 16 in the main text as well as note (i) in annex I.

^f See notes 16 and 17 in the main text, as well as note (i) in annex I.

ANNEX III

Tabulation of questions related to the maintenance of international peace and security removed from the list of matters of which the Security Council was seized, based on the notifications by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly under Article 12(2), 1 January 1970 to 31 December 1978

Following the requests contained in letters preceding the items listed below, the Secretary-General notified the General Assembly that the Security Council had agreed to remove those items from the list of matters related to international peace and security of which the Council was seized.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Date of Secretary-General's letter of transmittal</i>	<i>Item removed</i>
1970	XXV	15 Sept. 1970	none
1971	XXVI	20 Sept. 1971	none
1972	XXVII	20 Sept. 1972	none
1973	XXVIII	18 Sept. 1973	none
1974	XXIX	17 Sept. 1974	Letter dated 24 Sept. 1973 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the Secretary-General: 1. "The Indonesian question".
1975	XXX	15 Sept. 1975	At the suggestion of the President of the Security Council at the 1810th meeting on 13 December 1974: 2. "Letter dated 26 December 1963 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the President of the Security Council". Letter dated 19 Dec. 1974 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the Secretary-General: 3. "Letter dated 18 December 1961 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal addressed to the President of the Security Council". Letter dated 20 Dec. 1974 from the Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the Secretary-General: 4. "The question of Bahrain".
1976	31	21 Sept. 1976	Letter dated 19 Dec. 1975 from the Permanent Representatives of France and Tunisia to the Secretary-General: 5. "Letter dated 13 February 1958 from the representative of Tunisia to the President of the Security Council concerning: Complaint by Tunisia in respect of an act of aggression committed against it by France on 8 February 1958 at Sakiyet-Sidi-Youssef". 6. "Letter dated 14 February 1958 from the representative of France to the President of the Security Council concerning: Situation resulting from the aid furnished by Tunisia to rebels enabling them to conduct operations from Tunisian territory directed against the integrity of French territory and the safety of persons and property of French nationals". 7. "Letter dated 29 May 1958 from the representative of Tunisia to the President of the Security Council concerning: Complaint by Tunisia in respect of acts of armed aggression committed against it since 19 May 1958 by the French military forces stationed in its territory in Algeria". 8. "Letter dated 29 May 1958 from the representative of France to the President of the Security Council concerning: (a) The complaint brought by France against Tunisia on 14 February 1958; and (b) The situation arising out of the disruption, by Tunisia, of the modus vivendi which had been established since February 1958 with regard to the stationing of French troops at certain points in Tunisian territory". 9. "Telegram dated 20 July 1961 addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tunisia. Letter dated 20 July 1961 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia addressed to the President of the Security Council".
1977	32	19 Sept. 1977	Letter dated 16 September 1976 from the Permanent Representative of Iran, and letters dated 24 September and 4 October 1976 from the Permanent Representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Iran, respectively: 10. "The Iranian question". 11. "Complaint of failure by the Iranian Government to comply with provisional measures indicated by the International Court of Justice in the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company Case".

<i>Year</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Date of Secretary-General's letter of transmittal</i>	<i>Item removed</i>
1978	33	18 Sept. 1978	<p>Letters dated 27 May 1977 from the Permanent Representatives of Italy and Yugoslavia, respectively:</p> <p>12. "Appointment of a Governor of the Free Territory of Trieste".</p> <p>13. "The question of the Free Territory of Trieste".</p> <p>Letters dated 22 February 1978 from the Permanent Representatives of Chad and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, respectively:</p> <p>14. "Complaint by Chad".</p> <p>Letter dated 20 June 1978 from the Permanent Representative of Senegal:</p> <p>15. "Complaints by Senegal".</p> <p>Letter dated 30 June 1978 from the Permanent Representative of Zaire:</p> <p>16. "Complaints by the Democratic Republic of the Congo".</p>