

ARTICLE 50

TEXT OF ARTICLE 50

If preventive or enforcement measures against any state are taken by the Security Council, any other state, whether a Member of the United Nations or not, which finds itself confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of those measures shall have the right to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems.

NOTE

1. During the period under review, Article 50 was specifically cited together with Article 49 in a resolution of the Security Council¹ in connexion with the question of assistance to Mozambique.
2. Implicit references to Article 50 were also made in three other Security Council resolutions in connexion with the question of assistance to Lesotho² and to Mozambique.³
3. During the same period the General Assembly also invoked this Article together with Article 49 in a resolution in connexion with the question of assistance to Zambia.⁴
4. In the period covered by this review, Article 50 was cited⁵ in a note by the Secretary-General to the Security Council concerning the question of assistance to Mozambique. In the note the Secretary-General expressed confidence that the United Nations would respond favourably to any request for assistance which the Government of Mozambique might make in order to offset the economic consequences of its application of full sanctions against Southern Rhodesia.
5. Article 50 was also invoked in a telegram⁶ dated 10 March 1977 from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mozambique addressed to the President of the Security Council requesting an urgent meeting of the Council to consider the question of serious economic consequences faced by his country as a result of its application of sanctions against Southern Rhodesia.
6. In connexion with the question of assistance to Mozambique, Article 50, together with Article 49, was also cited in a report⁷ as well as in a draft resolution⁸ of

¹S C resolution 386 (1976), 13th preamb. para.

²S C resolution 402 (1976), para. 5 and S C resolution 407 (1977), para. 5.

³S C resolution 411 (1977), paras. 9 and 10.

⁴G A resolution 33/131, para. 13.

⁵S C (31), Suppl. for Jan.-March, 1976, p. 112, S/12004 and Add.1.

⁶S C (31), Suppl. for Jan.-March, 1976, pp. 117-118, S/12009.

⁷G A (30), Supplement No. 23, Part I, para. 163.

⁸A/AC.109/494B, para. 15 (mimeographed).

the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. In the report and in the draft resolution, the Special Committee recommended to the Security Council that, bearing in mind the provisions of Articles 49 and 50 of the Charter, it should initiate, as soon as possible, a specific programme of assistance to Mozambique in order to enable its Government to apply fully and effectively sanctions against Southern Rhodesia.

7. In the period covered by this report, references were made explicitly or implicitly to Article 50 in the Security Council and the General Assembly by various Member States in connexion with the question of assistance to Zambia,⁹ Mozambique¹⁰ and Lesotho.¹¹ It was also cited in a letter¹² addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of Botswana concerning the carrying out of sanctions by Botswana against Southern Rhodesia and the strain it was imposing on Botswana's economy. Article 50 was also cited in the Special Political Committee in connexion with the question of peace-keeping operations.¹³

8. None of these explicit or implicit references nor the discussions leading to the adoption of the resolutions referred to above gave rise to constitutional arguments regarding the interpretation or application of Article 50.

⁹For the texts of relevant statements, see S C (28), 1687th mtg.: Ghana, para. 50; Yugoslavia, para. 146; 1688th mtg.: Kenya, para. 143; 1689th mtg.: Austria, para. 61.

¹⁰For texts of relevant statements, see S C (31), 1890th mtg.: Egypt, para. 132; Tanzania, para. 94; United Kingdom, para. 110; 1891st mtg.: Guyana, para. 8; Sweden, para. 33; 1892nd mtg.: Japan, para. 35; United States, paras. 45 and 46; Secretary-General, para. 85; S C (32), 2014th mtg.: Mozambique, paras. 35 and 43; Tanzania, para. 87; 2016th mtg.: Algeria, para. 26; 2017th mtg.: Mauritius, paras. 72 and 87; G A (30), 4th Com., 2137th mtg.: India, para. 10; Jamaica, para. 23; 2139th mtg.: Trinidad and Tobago, para. 46; 2142nd mtg.: Mali, para. 5; 2144th mtg.: Canada, paras. 8 and 52.

¹¹For the texts of relevant statements, see S C (31), 1981st mtg.: Madagascar, para. 47; 1982nd mtg.: Botswana, paras. 38, 42; Tanzania, para. 90; Guyana, para. 108; United Kingdom, para. 149; Panama, para. 20; S C (32), 2009th mtg.: President (Benin), para. 98.

¹²S C (25), Suppl. for April-June, 1970, p. 116, S/9770.

¹³G A (27), Spec. Pol. Com., 846th mtg.: France, para. 7.