

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

The Assembly of Heads of State and government meeting in its Second Ordinary Session in Accra, Ghana, from 21 to 25 October 1965,

Deeply concerned at the gravity of the situation in Southern Rhodesia,

Considering that the situation constitutes a serious threat to world peace,

Noting:

- a) The statement of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that it will regard any Unilateral Declaration of Independence by the European minority in Southern Rhodesia as illegal and amounting to an act of rebellion and treason punishable solely by the imposition of economic sanctions and non-recognition,
 - b) The recent United Nations resolution passed with an overwhelming majority calling on the United Kingdom Government to take all possible steps to prevent a Unilateral Declaration of Independence and pledging support for any future measures that the United Nations might decide upon in this matter,
1. **Deplores** the refusal of the United Kingdom Government to meet with firmness and resolution the threat of a Unilateral Declaration of Independence by a European minority Government;
 2. **Deplores** the refusal of the United Kingdom Government to state categorically that it will not grant independence to Rhodesia except on the basis of a majority government;
 3. **Calls upon** the United Nations to regard any such Unilateral Declaration of Independence as constituting a threat to international peace, and to take any steps that such a situation requires in accordance with the Charter and to help to establish a majority government in southern Rhodesia;

4. **Requests** the United Kingdom Government, the administering power having sole responsibility for the present situation:
 - a) To suspend the 1961 Constitution of Southern Rhodesia forthwith and to take all necessary steps including the use of armed force to resume the administration of the territory;
 - b) To release the leader of the nationalist movements Joshua NKOMO, SITHOLE and other political prisoners;
 - c) To hold a constitutional conference with the participation of the representatives of the entire population of Southern Rhodesia with a view to adopting a new Constitution guaranteeing universal adult suffrage (one man, one vote), free elections and independence;
5. **Calls upon** all governments and all international Organizations to withhold recognition of a European minority government in the event of a unilateral declaration of independence, and to apply all necessary sanctions;
6. **Resolves** in the event of failure on the part of the United Kingdom to take the measures set forth in operative paragraph 2 (a):
 - a) To reconsider all political, economic, diplomatic and financial relations between African countries and the United Kingdom Government in the event of this Government's granting or tolerating Southern Rhodesian independence under a minority government;
 - b) To use all possible means including force to oppose a unilateral declaration of independence;
 - c) To give immediate assistance to the people of Zimbabwe with a view to establishing a majority government in the country;
7. **Empowers** the African Group at the United Nations to ensure that the request sent to the United Nations and the Security Council receives due consideration.

AFRICAN UNION UNION AFRICAINE

African Union Common Repository

<http://archives.au.int>

Organs

Assembly Collection

Southern Rhodesia

Organisation of African Unity

Organisation of African Unity

<http://archives.au.int/handle/123456789/753>

Downloaded from African Union Common Repository