



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 5th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. O'DONOVAN (Ireland)
later: Mrs. MAS MOUDI (Tunisia)

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Distr. GENERAL
A/C.3/36/SR.5
22 October 1981
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. Mrs. SANTANDER-DOWNING (Secretary of the Committee) said that all the documents on the items now before the Committee were available, except for document A/36/43/Add.1 in Arabic and document A/36/18 in Arabic, Chinese and Russian.
2. Mr. OBADI (Democratic Yemen) drew attention to the fact that Arabic was one of the official languages of the United Nations and one of the working languages of the General Assembly. It was unfortunate that some documents were not ready in that language, as that would prevent his delegation from participating effectively in the discussions. The delegation of Democratic Yemen trusted that the Secretariat would co-operate with the Committee to ensure that the documents were ready at the proper time in all the languages.
3. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee's Bureau had prepared the programme of work in consultation with the different sectors of the Secretariat concerned with the production and distribution of documents. Delegations had previously been informed that at the current session of the General Assembly the documentation problem was more serious than usual. The Bureau would remind the Secretariat once again that it was imperative for the documentation to be ready on time in all the official languages.
4. The Chairman suggested that the deadline for the submission of draft resolutions on agenda items 64, 81 and 82 should be 6 p.m. on Thursday, 8 October.
5. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 74: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE DECADE FOR ACTION TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (continued) (A/36/75, 116 and Corr.1, 515; A/C.3/36/L.3)

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AGENDA ITEM 82: ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (continued) (A/36/116 and Corr.1, 138, 421)

- (a) REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (A/36/18)
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6. Mrs. AKAMATSU (Japan) said that she had been deeply impressed by the Chairman's opening statement in which he had clearly expressed his determination to fulfil his responsibilities in the spirit in which the United Nations had been created. Her generation had experienced the horror of the Second World War and witnessed the destruction of Hiroshima, but the Chairman belonged to a younger generation which had mercifully been spared the experience of a global conflagration. She had therefore been very moved that he should express such deep concern over the danger of war recurring.

7. Japan had traditionally been opposed to all forms of racism and racial discrimination because they constituted a flagrant violation of human rights and a denial of human dignity. It had been the Government of Japan which, at the time of the drafting of the Covenant of the League of Nations, had adopted the position that racism must be eradicated everywhere in the world. The Constitution of Japan provided that no one might be prevented from enjoying any of his or her fundamental human rights, that all people were equal under the law, and that there should be no discrimination in political, economic or social relations on the basis of race, creed, sex, social status or family origin.

8. The Japanese Government had participated in the deliberations of the United Nations on the questions of racism and racial discrimination and had given its consistent support to the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. The United Nations had achieved much in that field, particularly since the inauguration of the Decade. In the activities undertaken under the programme of the Decade, three themes had been given particular emphasis: teaching, training, education and the dissemination of information; the role of the mass media; and the need for adequate recourse procedures. In the view of her delegation, that was an adequate and sufficient approach. However, while the various activities aimed at eradicating racial discrimination already initiated at the international, regional and national levels should continue, there must also be an ongoing process of sober and objective evaluation of those activities. Such an evaluation would make it easier for the Committee to elaborate effective measures for the eradication of racial discrimination.

9. The apartheid policy of the Government of South Africa had institutionalized racial discrimination. The Secretary-General had quite properly mentioned in his report on the work of the Organization that the persistence of the policy of apartheid in South Africa was of major concern, and he had added the following words: "All the people of South Africa must be enabled to participate on an equal footing in guiding the destiny of their country. Otherwise, violence will persist. Moreover, a continuation of the present racial policies of the Government of South Africa can only cause further strains on its relations with other members of the international community." The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan had also voiced his indignation at the policy of apartheid of South Africa in his statement before the General Assembly on 22 September. He had pointed out that the fact that the practice of racial discrimination in South Africa had not yet been eradicated was a particularly serious problem, and he had strongly urged the Government of South Africa immediately to eradicate the policies of apartheid, which ran counter to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Since it was the basic position of the Japanese Government that that problem should be

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(Mrs. Akamatsu, Japan)

solved peacefully, it was of the view that it was necessary to work to improve the situation in South Africa by patiently exerting on South Africa as much pressure as was practical and appropriate. Japan had been participating positively in the international effort to exert pressure on South Africa. It did not maintain diplomatic relations with the Government of South Africa. Furthermore, although the Japanese Government had undertaken a policy of liberalized overseas investment, it had excluded South Africa from that policy and prohibited direct investment in South Africa, such as the establishment of local corporations by Japanese nationals or corporate bodies under Japanese jurisdiction. Pursuant to the resolutions of the United Nations, the Government of Japan had been discouraging Japanese exchange banks and their overseas affiliates from engaging in financial activities in South Africa. Furthermore, the Government of Japan did not extend any economic co-operation to South Africa. Moreover, there were no co-operative relations between Japan and South Africa in the military field. The Government of Japan had imposed an arms embargo against South Africa even prior to the adoption of Security Council resolution 418. Subsequently, in order to ensure the enforcement of that resolution, Japan had taken legal measures to prohibit technical assistance relating to the production of arms in South Africa. The Japanese Government had also adopted a policy of discouraging exchange between Japan and South Africa in the fields of sports, culture and education.

10. Japan had expressed its opposition to the policy of racial discrimination in southern Africa through its annual contributions to the various United Nations funds and programmes concerned with that issue. During the current year the Government had contributed \$200,000 to the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for southern Africa, \$20,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa and \$10,000 to the Trust Fund for Publicity against Apartheid. The delegation of Japan trusted that the Government of South Africa would recognize the legitimacy of the demand of the international community that the policy of apartheid be revoked once and for all and that the day would soon come when not only the apartheid policy of the Government of South Africa, but all forms of racism and racial discrimination, would be eradicated forever.

11. Mrs. WARZAZI (Morocco) said that the campaign for the protection of human rights was based on an idea which had emerged following the Second World War, namely, that human rights could not be placed under the exclusive protection of any one government, but must be safeguarded by international guarantees.

12. Racism and racial discrimination had been the subject of numerous resolutions and various international instruments including, in particular - since slavery was the most odious form of racism - the Slavery Convention and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery. Apartheid was tantamount to slavery, and at the World Conference against Apartheid held at Lagos in 1977, the Director-General of UNESCO had described the policy of apartheid as the basest form of modern slavery.

13. Despite the continual condemnation of all forms of racism and racial discrimination by the international community, efforts to combat racial

(Mrs. Warzazi, Morocco)

discrimination and apartheid were still ineffective. There was no need for undue pessimism, however, since the international community was now fully aware of the existence of those evils and of how much suffering they caused to millions of human beings. In some cases, international instruments for combating racism and racial discrimination had provided a basis for decisions by the courts of certain countries. Nor must the generous efforts of thousands of men and women of goodwill be forgotten - members of non-governmental organizations and religious associations or of international and national bodies concerned with human rights.

14. Discussions in various United Nations forums continued to give rise to serious concern. For example, at a seminar on the political, economic, cultural and other factors at the roots of racism held in Nairobi in May 1980, it had been noted that no country or society could claim to be free from prejudice or discrimination and that even where discrimination did not exist, there was always the danger that it might arise. Whatever the results achieved, it should be recorded that millions of persons were still fighting against racial discrimination and that while the old forms of racism were disappearing new forms were appearing. In the final report of the colloquium on the prohibition of apartheid, racism and racial discrimination and the achievement of self-determination in international law, held by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, it was pointed out that in some societies in South Africa and Namibia, racism had assumed secret and subtle forms and was detectable only by complex and costly procedures.

15. Consideration should be given to the possibility that in view of the failure to achieve the objectives of the first Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, owing mainly to lack of more decisive financial measures, a second Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination might be justified.

16. Turning to agenda item 81, she said that the admission to the United Nations in 1960 of a large number of young African nations, which had been a milestone on the long road to decolonization and an example followed by countries in other continents, might lead to the conclusion that the achievement of independence and self-determination by the Namibian and Palestinian peoples would complete the process. However, as the Director of the Division of Human Rights had said in his introductory statement at the Committee's fourth meeting, it would be a distortion of the right of self-determination to say that once a people had achieved political self-determination that was the end of the matter. On the contrary, it was a general and continuing principle of international law which remained in force when a State achieved sovereignty and independence. Its recognition was a condition for the maintenance of international peace and security, the development of friendly and co-operative relations among States and economic, social and cultural progress in the world.

17. It would be useful for the General Assembly to consider the concept of the right to development in relation to the right of self-determination, but above all the General Assembly must defend and protect the self-determination of the independent peoples. On the other hand, the international community must do

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everything in its power to ensure the implementation of the right of self-determination of the individual, as provided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

18. Mrs. Masmoudi (Tunisia) took the Chair.

19. Mr. TOPALOSKI (Yugoslavia) said that the democratic and peace-loving peoples of the world must undertake more specific action in the fight against racism and racial discrimination. It was in that framework that the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had been proclaimed, various international instruments and numerous resolutions had been adopted in the United Nations and other international forums and many international meetings had been held on the question of combating racism and racial discrimination.

20. However, the racist régime of South Africa was still pursuing its policy of apartheid, oppression and exploitation of the people of South Africa and Namibia. It was also committing acts of aggression against neighbouring countries, thus violating their independence and territorial integrity and threatening international peace and security. The recent military invasion and occupation of extensive areas of the People's Republic of Angola was the most blatant example of the policy of aggression of the racist régime of Pretoria. Yugoslavia condemned those acts of aggression and joined in the call of the international community for the aggressor to withdraw from the occupied territories of Angola, for the aggressor to be punished and for measures to be taken to prevent similar acts in the future.

21. It was obvious that the Pretoria régime would not be able to pursue its policy so stubbornly and aggressively without the foreign aid and co-operation which enabled the régime to continue. An essential requirement for the success of the campaign against the policy of apartheid and for the elimination of racism and racial discrimination throughout the world was strict observance of the relevant resolutions and other decisions of the United Nations.

22. It was becoming increasingly clear that the resistance of the people of southern Africa to the Pretoria régime was growing and was involving different forms of action, including the stepping up of guerrilla warfare. His delegation firmly believed that it was the duty of the United Nations and the international community to support those peoples. It was essential to take realistic and effective action to that end, for example, action to bring about the political, economic and military isolation of the racist régime of South Africa.

23. Also to be condemned were the violations of the human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories, such as mass expulsions of the Arab population, confiscation of Arab property, settlement of Arab territories by a non-Arab population and other similar actions resulting, inter alia, from discrimination against the Arab people on the grounds of their national origin.

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(Mr. Topaloski, Yugoslavia)

24. Furthermore, discrimination affected migrant workers, national and ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples. It was essential to adopt an international convention for the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families. Yugoslavia had submitted to the Commission on Human Rights a proposal for the adoption of a declaration on the rights of national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities. He emphasized that the ethnic homogeneity of States was the exception rather than the rule in the contemporary world. The adoption of such a declaration would improve the position of minorities and make a real contribution to the promotion of human rights in general, as well as to the strengthening of international peace and security.

25. Bearing in mind the foregoing, the implementation of the programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination was not satisfactory. Two important tasks remained to be carried out during the rest of the Decade: it was necessary both to strengthen efforts towards the attainment of its objectives and to make the necessary preparations to guarantee the successful outcome of the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which would sum up the results of the Decade, analyse the weaknesses and attempt to find ways of pursuing the struggle against racism. In that connexion, greater attention had to be paid to ensuring a more consistent implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. The importance of both those instruments for the success of the struggle against racism was such that there could be no excuse whatsoever for their non-ratification.

26. Yugoslavia, as a non-aligned socialist country, was taking all the necessary national and international measures required to attain the goals of the Decade, was participating actively in the struggle against racism and racial discrimination and was particularly interested in taking an active part in the preparations for the second conference to combat racism, as could be seen from its sponsorship of resolution 1981/30 in the Economic and Social Council on the implementation of the Programme for the Decade, which had been recommended by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session in 1981 and was expected to be approved by the General Assembly at its current session.

27. Ms. FAWTHORPE (New Zealand) said that the political aspects of the problems of racism and racial discrimination and the related issue of self-determination and human rights would be considered by the Assembly in other committees. The prime focus of the Third Committee should be the human dimension. Its concern should be centred on the victims of the policies or attitudes based on racial prejudice and its objectives should be to devise practical and effective ways of encouraging change. It should be remembered that such situations were often the result of actions taken by people who were themselves ignorant or lacking in understanding of the nature of racial prejudice; hence the need for the United Nations to continue to explore ways of educating and informing both Governments and peoples about the dangers of racism and racial discrimination and to seek better ways of overcoming them.

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(Ms. Fawthorpe, New Zealand)

28. The Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination declared by the General Assembly in its resolution 3057 (XXVIII) had provided an opportunity for heightening awareness of the problem in all its manifestations and for emphasizing the irrationality and wastefulness of all forms of racial discrimination. New Zealand continued to support the goals of the Decade, which were still as relevant as they had been when the resolution was adopted in 1973. The outcome of the World Conference held halfway through the Decade had proved a disappointment to many countries, including New Zealand. She expressed the hope that the Second World Conference to be held in 1983 would once more direct its attention to the universally agreed and practical elements of the 1973 Programme of Action and would find an effective way of bringing about changes in the social attitudes and practices which gave rise to racism and racial discrimination and were to be found to varying degrees in every society. Only a concerted effort on the part of all the Member States would make it possible to achieve that end. She trusted that the Second Conference would provide an opportunity for the pooling of all the available resources in the movement for social change towards equality for people of all races.

29. In considering the measures that might be taken to bring about such a change, useful guidance could be found in some of the conclusions in the report of the Secretary-General on education activities and activities of the mass media (A/36/75). The need for a balanced approach to be followed in presenting information was particularly important. The suggestion in paragraph 277 (a) of the report that effective dissemination of information could be achieved by the use of a more informal style in United Nations reports and communications was a valuable one. New Zealand also agreed that there was no single strategy valid for all countries; the most effective policies would undoubtedly be those developed at the national level. In New Zealand, the Race Relations Conciliator conducted a range of activities which included the use of television and radio programmes to promote understanding among the peoples of different races and cultures in New Zealand society.

30. It was encouraging to note that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination had been ratified by so many States, although efforts should continue to obtain more ratifications, which would contribute towards attaining the goals of the Decade. The report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination having been published only very recently, New Zealand's comments would be brief. The Committee had considered the fourth periodic report by New Zealand at its session in August. The confidence which New Zealand placed in the Committee was reflected in the detail of its report and in the measures it had adopted to combat racial prejudice in ways that were consistent with the tradition and values of New Zealand society which were described therein.

31. New Zealanders were united in their condemnation of the policy and practice of apartheid; that policy was based on a philosophy which had no place in the modern world and violated the human rights of the majority of the population of South Africa. The economic exploitation of the non-white majority was closely bound up with the social and cultural factors underlying apartheid. The delegation

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of New Zealand supported the views expressed during the recent meetings of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities stressing the need for educational and information activities on the inhumanity of apartheid.

32. A related aspect of the problem of apartheid was the obstacle the Government of South Africa was putting in the way of self-determination for the people of Namibia. New Zealand fully supported the efforts of the Western Contact Group and the Secretary-General to achieve a peaceful solution to the Namibian question and hoped for an early resolution of the outstanding issues and full implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). The South African Government had even gone so far as to dispute the authority of the United Nations to protect the rights of minorities in Namibia. It was necessary for the United Nations to renew its efforts to protect the rights of the people of Namibia.

33. Mr. FERGUSON (Australia), referring specifically to agenda item 81, said that his Government attached special importance to the universal right of peoples to self-determination, which was enshrined in the International Covenants on Human Rights and was a central tenet of international law. Because of its colonial past, Australia had a deep sympathy for the aspirations of peoples to independence. Australia had been an Administering Power since the days of the League of Nations; it had witnessed with special satisfaction the attainment of independence by a number of States in its own region and looked forward to the day when those countries of the South Pacific which had not yet achieved independence would do so.

34. Through its membership in the Committee of 24, Australia had been intimately involved in the process of self-determination in the context of decolonization and was gratified to note that the number of former colonies which had not yet received their independence was dwindling each year. Currently his delegation was particularly pleased to be able to welcome Vanuatu and Belize membership in the Organization, just as it had welcomed the achievement of independence by Zimbabwe in 1980, a development in which Australia had played an important role, of which it was proud.

35. Notwithstanding the successes achieved, there remained a number of cases in which the principle of self-determination had not been implemented in practice. The most obvious example in the colonial context was that of Namibia. As a member of the Council for Namibia, Australia had been closely involved in the effort to secure a satisfactory resolution of the impasse which had developed as a result of South Africa's intransigence. Australia condemned the continued illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa and supported the plan embodied in Security Council resolution 435 (1978).

36. The international community, particularly the United Nations, had an obligation to support the efforts of those who were striving to exercise their legitimate right to self-determination. The notion of the political independence of peoples, their right to determine their form of Government free from external interference of any kind, including military intervention, was at the heart of the

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(Mr. Ferguson, Australia)

concept of the right of peoples to self-determination. There were currently a number of situations in which the political independence of sovereign States had been seriously compromised by undue external interference from neighbouring States or from States in the same region. Such situations were frequently accompanied by gross and persistent violations of human rights, as was exemplified in the tragic plight of those who had no alternative but to become refugees. Australia reaffirmed its support for resolution 35/35 B, which the General Assembly had adopted by consensus at its thirty-fifth session. The United Nations and all Member States had the responsibility to oppose foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since such actions led to the suppression not only of the right to self-determination but also of other human rights of peoples in different areas of the world.

37. It was a matter for regret that there were currently two cases in which the presence of foreign troops was denying the right of independent peoples to self-determination. In Kampuchea, Australia would like to see the maintenance of respect for sovereignty and the peaceful establishment of a Government which enjoyed widespread support without the presence of foreign troops; Accordingly, it supported the Committee set up by the International Conference on Kampuchea which had been held at New York in July. Australia also supported the right of Afghanistan to self-determination. The two situations were connected in that both had resulted in the mass exodus of refugees, which had imposed heavy burdens on neighbouring countries. Those refugees were not, of course, in a position to exercise their right to self-determination in their homelands. In the case of Afghanistan, Australia welcomed the appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and hoped that, through his good offices, it would be possible to bring about a solution which would allow for the exercise of the right of the people of Afghanistan to self-determination.

38. Australia also supported the negotiations on Western Sahara currently taking place within the Organization for African Unity; those negotiations represented an example of how such disputes should be handled. Likewise, of course, it supported the right of the peoples of Western Sahara to determine their own future.

39. It must be emphasized that the basic right to self-determination was not confined purely to colonial situations. His delegation strongly supported the right of all peoples to determine their own political destiny free from outside interference.

40. Mr. PHEDONOS (Cyprus), welcoming Vanuatu and Belize to the United Nations, reminded the Committee that a number of other territories in the Pacific and Caribbean continued to be subject to colonial or foreign domination and that the small size of those islands and their populations should not be used as a pretext to delay their decolonization. It should also be borne in mind that, in the Middle East, the continuing violation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination, and in particular their right to establish a sovereign State on Palestinian territory, remained a matter of concern to the countries of the region, including Cyprus. In Africa, moreover, Namibia and

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(Mr. Phedonos, Cyprus)

Western Sahara were still awaiting agreements which would make it possible for them to exercise their right to self-determination. He reaffirmed the support of Cyprus for the struggle of the peoples of those lands.

41. Cyprus, to the extent permitted by its limited capabilities, was making every effort to provide concrete assistance to colonial peoples by contributing to the various United Nations funds designed for that purpose. Moreover, his Government was offering fellowships to students from colonial countries.

42. In connexion with the activities of mercenaries, referred to in paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 35/35 A, he said that the Republic of Cyprus condemned such activities, which were criminal offences under article 55 of the Cypriot Penal Code.

43. Unfortunately, situations of colonial dependence were not the only violations of the international legal order. Acts of aggression and foreign interference continued to threaten peace and the progress of the world's peoples. The South African Government, in addition to violating the human rights of indigenous populations both in its own country and in Namibia, had recently attacked Angola. The illegal occupation of southern Angola by the armed forces of South Africa was an intolerable act, an affront to the international community and to the United Nations in particular. Furthermore, the continuing intervention in Lebanon was detrimental to the most basic rights of the inhabitants, who frequently found themselves forced to abandon their land and take refuge far from the battlefield. The armed aggression committed by Turkey against Cyprus in 1974 continued to drag on. The northern part of the island remained under the military occupation of Turkey, which had installed settlers imported from Asia Minor. Notwithstanding such constraints, the Greek Cypriots wished to reach an agreement with the Turks.

44. Such developments portended a dark future. There were areas of tension in the Near East, in South-East Asia, in southern Africa and in the Caribbean, and confrontations could arise at any time. Only unreserved respect for human rights and the strict application of the Charter of the United Nations by Member States could avert the holocaust which threatened the world.

45. Mr. O'Donovan (Ireland) resumed the Chair.

46. Mrs. TASHIBEKOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said the fact that the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination was drawing to a close made it all the more imperative to take more effective and timely steps to put an end to racism. The proclamation of the Decade and the measures provided for in the Programme for the Decade and other United Nations resolutions had, indeed, mobilized world public opinion against racism and had been in part responsible for the fact that many peoples had, through their own struggles, thrown off the colonial yoke.

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(Mrs. Tashibekova, USSR)

47. The most cruel form of racism was without a doubt the apartheid system, condemned by the United Nations as a crime against humanity. The Pretoria régime was continually trampling on the human rights, honour and dignity of the African inhabitants and seeking to enslave them. Mass detentions, torture and executions had become characteristic of the way of life in South Africa. Furthermore, the South African racists were mercilessly punishing any expression of discontent against the policy of apartheid, and by their permanent and illegal occupation of Namibia they were subjecting the African masses to increasing terror and oppression, resorting to various manoeuvres to perpetuate their régime, which constituted a threat to the peace and security of an independent Africa.

48. As part of such an aggressive policy, the South African régime had carried out repeated armed incursions into Angola, causing the death of thousands of Angolans and severely damaging the economy of the country. Mozambique and other front-line States had also been victims of continuous attacks by South Africa, which had gone so far as to declare that it had the right to use force against the independent countries surrounding it. That aggressive policy had culminated in the armed attack of August 1981 against Angola.

49. South Africa was able to apply that policy in open violation of international standards thanks to the military assistance of certain NATO countries. Those countries, refusing to apply the resolutions that established sanctions against the South African régime and avoiding any participation in the activities provided for in the Programme for the Decade, had shown once again at the recent emergency special session on Namibia that they were interested in maintaining the racist and colonialist order of things.

50. The United States had not only attempted to exacerbate international tensions in order to exert pressure on peaceful States but had also strengthened its ties to the apartheid régime, even to the point of declaring at the highest governmental levels that South Africa was a friendly nation and a traditional ally. A convincing demonstration of United States indifference towards the racist policy pursued by South Africa was the veto with which the United States had blocked the adoption of a Security Council resolution condemning South African aggression against Angola. In the words of Andrei Gromyko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR, "the support given to South Africa by the United States of America amounts to direct co-operation with the aggressor. Such conduct merits vigorous condemnation. The United Nations must do everything possible to put an end to the aggression and call the aggressors to order".

51. The policy pursued by Israel in the occupied Arab territories and its severe oppression of the Palestinian Arabs were aimed at consolidating the results of its aggression and showed that zionism was synonymous with racism and racial discrimination. The latest example of Israeli disdain for international law was the attack carried out against peaceful Lebanese towns and villages. Once again it was clear that Israel would not be able to pursue such a policy without the support of its overseas protectors.

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(Mrs. Tashibekova, USSR)

52. Equally intolerable were the forms of racism to be found in many Western countries which proclaimed their concern for human rights. For example, in the United States, a nation which aspired to world leadership, widespread racial discrimination was apparent in every part of social life. The existence of racially discriminatory practices provided an ideal medium for the proliferation of fascist and racist organizations in general, and again underscored the need to adopt an appropriate instrument prohibiting the dissemination of racist ideas, a need often reiterated by the General Assembly.

53. The Soviet State, born of the October Revolution, had always considered it a question of principle to combat racial discrimination, and the Soviet Constitution guaranteed full rights to all races and cultures of the Soviet Union. Moreover, the USSR had always given unconditional assistance to all national liberation movements and had supported all the measures necessary to eliminate racism, apartheid and colonialism, including those in the Programme for the Decade.

54. The USSR called for implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the International Conference on Sanctions against South Africa held in 1981, and it resolutely supported the imposition of broad sanctions against South Africa by the Security Council in conformity with Chapter VII of the Charter, as well as other measures aimed at boycotting and isolating that country in keeping with the goals of the Decade.

55. Such United Nations organizations and bodies as the Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination should be encouraged to continue making efforts to achieve the objectives of the Decade. The International Seminar on Publicity and Role of Mass Media in the International Mobilization against Apartheid, held at Berlin in August and September 1981, had been very significant in that regard.

56. There was no better way to demonstrate good faith and an honest will to pursue the objectives of the Decade than to comply with the international instruments on the subject. It was worth pointing out that certain Western States, including the United States, had not yet signed the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. Moreover, no Western country had yet signed the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. The General Assembly should appeal once again to all States to sign those instruments and should adopt the draft resolution on the implementation of the Programme for the Decade which was contained in resolution 1981/30 recently adopted by the Economic and Social Council.

The meeting rose at 12.40 p.m.