



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 68th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. O'DONOVAN (Ireland)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued) (A/36/3, chaps. II, V, VIII, XIX, XXIII (parts I and II), XXIV, XXVII, XXVIII, XXXII (part I and Corr.1 and 2, and part II), XXXIV (parts I and II), XXXVI and XXXVII; A/36/61, 117, 136 and Add.1 and Corr.1, 138, 179, 187, 209 and Add.1, 214, 216 and Add.1, 255, 284, 354, 355, 378, 383, 421 and Corr.1, 423, 500, 524, 540, 560, 566, 584, 594, 608, 705; A/C.3/36/3, 7, 10, 11; A/C.3/36/L.60, L.62, L.64, L.70, L.72, L.73/Rev.1, L.81, L.87, L.91)

AGENDA ITEM 129: INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE DRUG TRAFFIC (continued) (A/36/193/ A/c.3/36/L.80)

AGENDA ITEM 30: INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS (continued) (A/36/471 and Add.1 and 2, A/36/363, 491; A/C.3/36/L.79, L.90)

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- (a) WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
- (b) VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN: REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
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AGENDA ITEMS 12 and 129: GENERAL DEBATE (continued)

1. Mr. ABAWI (Afghanistan) said that the scope of illicit drug traffic and use throughout the world constituted a major problem. His Government was more than ever interested in combating it, as a revolutionary duty. His Government was also concerned about the devastating effects of drugs and therefore welcomed the interest that international institutions showed in that regard. In addition, it hoped that the international campaign would result in exchanges of experience and information on the various aspects of that problem.

2. His Government's commitment to take effective measures to combat the illicit production of opium, heroin and cannabis, by fighting the illegal traffic and use of drugs, was consistent with the basic principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. His Government planned to provide substitute sources of income for producers in the context of land reform, to educate farmers and to promote certain handicrafts and small local industries with a view to replacing poppy cultivation and creating greater employment opportunities. However, the success of those

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(Mr. Abawi, Afghanistan)

efforts depended on the provision of sufficient assistance by the international community to compensate for the loss of income suffered by the traditional producers, a large number of whom were poor farmers whose only cash crop was opium. The role of the international community in the implementation of rural development programmes was therefore essential. His Government was prepared to increase its co-operation with the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and was concerned at the fact that the assistance the Fund had provided to Afghanistan had been suspended for unknown reasons. While recognizing the Fund's critical financial situation, the dimensions and urgency of the problem were such that members of the international community must increase their contributions. Lastly, he drew attention to the fact that the efforts of the drug-producing nations to eliminate illicit production were seriously hampered by the incentives created by the ever-increasing illicit demand for drugs and by the expansion of the illicit drug market.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.73/Rev.1

3. The CHAIRMAN announced that the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.73/Rev.1 appeared in document A/C.3/36/L.81.

4. Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.73/Rev.1 was adopted without a vote.

AGENDA ITEM 30: INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS

5. The CHAIRMAN announced that the financial implications of the draft resolution under consideration appeared in document A/C.3/36/L.90.

6. Mr. GILMAN (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote, said that his country had been a sponsor of the resolution in which 1981 had been proclaimed the International Year of Disabled Persons. Moreover, it had demonstrated its interest in and enthusiasm for the activities organized in the context of the Year by carrying out 400 federal projects and organizing 1,800 community groups throughout the United States with a view to attaining the objectives of the Year; the results of those activities had been extremely positive. The United States therefore welcomed the impact the Year had had in the United States and elsewhere in the world, but it was concerned about the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.79 (A/C.3/36/L.90), which compromised the zero-growth target which the United Nations had set for the next biennium. While his delegation accepted the Secretariat's proposal that five working days should be set aside for the fourth session of the Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons, it did not understand why the session should be extended by three days. He intended to raise that objection again in the Fifth Committee during its consideration of draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.79. Lastly, he pointed out that his delegation was accepting paragraph 15 of the draft resolution on the understanding that it did not entail any expansion of the technical co-operation activities financed from the regular budget.

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7. Mrs. DOWNING (Secretary of the Committee), at the request of the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, read out the complete list of countries which had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.79: Barbados, Botswana, Chad, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Federal Republic of Germany, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ireland, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Spain, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zaire.

8. She also informed the Committee of the revisions the sponsors had made to the draft: in the tenth preambular paragraph of the English version, the words "Torre Molinos" should be one word ("Torremolinos"); and the first line of paragraph 15 should read: "Also calls upon the Secretary-General and the heads of specialized agencies to take all necessary measures to ..."

9. In addition, in paragraph 17 the words "the IYDP Secretariat" should be replaced by the words "the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs". Moreover, a flag to a footnote 3, referring to document A/36/711, should be inserted in paragraph 16.

10. Mr. CORTI (Argentina) said that his delegation wished to co-sponsor draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.79 and proposed a minor amendment, which would be a useful addition and, he hoped, acceptable to all the sponsors, namely, the insertion of a new operative paragraph 15, making the present paragraph 15 paragraph 16, with the subsequent paragraphs renumbered accordingly.

"Invites Member States to promote close and effective co-operation between developed and developing countries through a transfer of technology and of the results of research and exchanges of information on the prevention of disability and the rehabilitation of disabled persons".

11. Mr. ALLAFI (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) expressed his gratitude to all the delegations which had collaborated in the preparation of the draft resolution. He thanked the Argentine delegation for the interest which it had showed in the text; his delegation had no difficulty in accepting the new paragraph.

12. Mrs. WARZAZI (Morocco) said that the prevention of disability and the rehabilitation of disabled persons would be a fruitful area for co-operation between developed and developing countries. She believed that the Committee would have no problem in accepting the amendment submitted by the representative of Argentina; in her view, that addition supplied the one element that had been missing from the draft.

13. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objections, he would take it that the sponsors accepted the proposed amendment.

14. It was so decided.

15. The CHAIRMAN said that it was his understanding that the Committee wished to adopt the draft resolution as amended.

16. Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.79, as amended, was adopted without a vote.

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17. Mrs. AKAMATSU (Japan) said that her delegation had been in favour of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.79 and appreciated the work of the sponsors in producing a finished version acceptable to all delegations. Nevertheless, she had a few comments to make on operative paragraph 6, which requested the Advisory Committee at its fourth session to consider the advisability of proclaiming the period 1983-1992 as the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons. She considered that the objectives of the Decade would needlessly duplicate those of the draft World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons; it would be sufficient to carry out the draft Programme in its entirety. For example, her Government was preparing a national plan of action, in keeping with the draft Programme, which would come into operation in 1982.
18. Miss LORANGER (Canada) recalled that her country had been one of the sponsors of resolution 31/123, in which the year 1981 had been proclaimed International Year of Disabled Persons, and that in the course of 1981 it had adopted numerous measures dealing with the subject.
19. Although it had joined in the consensus on draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.79, her delegation, like that of Japan, had certain reservations concerning operative paragraph 6. Further, as far as paragraph 12 was concerned, since her delegation had not had time to study the detailed financial implications in document A/C.3/36/L.90, it reserved the right to raise the problem in the Fifth Committee in due course.
- AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
- Draft decision A/C.3/36/L.87
20. Mr. MATELJAK (Yugoslavia) proposed, by way of compromise, the addition at the end of the text, after the word "families", of the clause "which would take account of and complement the studies already undertaken by the International Labour Organisation." He hoped that all the sponsors would be able to accept the amendment and that the draft decision could therefore be adopted without a vote.
21. Mr. GILMAN (United States of America) said that his delegation was withdrawing its amendment.
22. Draft decision A/C.3/36/L.87, as amended, was adopted without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.80

23. Mrs. PETERS (Bahamas) proposed a minor amendment to the ninth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.80. In view of a point made by the Danish delegation that certain persons were entitled to be in possession of drugs, she proposed the addition of the adjective "illegal" in front of the word "possession"; although she had not been able to reach all the sponsors concerning the amendment, she was sure that it would be acceptable to all.
24. Mrs. DOWNING (Secretary of the Committee) announced that Australia, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica and Sweden had joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.80.

The CHAIRMAN said that it was his understanding that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.80, as amended by the sponsors, without a vote.

It was so decided.

Mr. GILMAN (United States of America) said that his delegation had joined in consensus on draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.80 because it agreed with the sponsors that there was a need for stronger measures, both nationally and internationally, to eradicate drug trafficking. He welcomed the fact that the draft resolution did not seek to establish any costly new machinery which the United Nations system would have to finance. He also noted with satisfaction that it could be implemented fully under the international drug abuse control strategy prepared by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

The task force which the draft resolution relating to the strategy (A/C.3/36/L.77) proposed to establish should study the problem of drug trafficking, a matter of concern to the whole international community, as part of its activities for implementing the new strategy; that important matter would thus receive the attention it deserved.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 129.

#### ENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

##### Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.62: The situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in El Salvador

1. Mr. MUÑOZ LEDO (Mexico), introducing draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.62 on behalf of the sponsors, said that the text was the outcome of extensive discussions among a group of delegations which had endeavoured to strengthen the United Nations machinery for monitoring respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, for reporting on serious violations in that field and focusing the attention of the international community on those situations.

1. The Third Committee was not the only organ to consider that question; indeed, during the current year, the Commission on Human Rights, the Economic and Social Council, and the Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities as well as many political and humanitarian organizations had already expressed their concern at the situation prevailing in El Salvador.

2. Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.62 reflected the concern of many Governments and democratically-minded people at the tragedy that the Salvadorian people were going through; the seriousness of that situation was confirmed in the Interim Report A/36/608) of the Special Representative for El Salvador appointed by the Commission on Human Rights.

3. El Salvador, as well as the whole Central American region, could be in serious danger if the internal struggles continued indefinitely and if the conflict became increasingly internationalized.

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(Mr. Muñoz Ledo, Mexico)

34. When speaking about the situation in El Salvador, many delegations had expressed their general concern at the maintenance of conditions which favoured massive and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental liberties in that country. They had all expressed the fears of their Governments that the continuation of the crisis would have serious consequences for the people of El Salvador and for peace and stability in the region.

35. The draft resolution before the Committee was clear and unequivocal. Its sponsors reaffirmed their concern for an internal conflict to which only the Salvadorian people could find a just and lasting solution. In order to alleviate the suffering of the people, all States should suspend all supplies of arms and any type of military assistance to that country as long as the current conditions prevailed. The draft resolution once more appealed to all representative political forces in that country to achieve a negotiated solution, taking into account the historical, economic and social factors which were the root causes of the conflict.

36. The sponsors of the draft resolution recognized the inalienable right of the Salvadorian people to choose, without coercion or external interference and through peaceful means, the political system and the type of development which was best suited to its interests. They proposed a genuinely democratic solution to the crisis and appealed for international co-operation so that all States would abstain from intervening in the conflict and allow El Salvador to exercise its sovereignty, live in peace and affirm its independence and freedom.

37. The draft resolution was based on the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and was not directed against anyone. Its sponsors were trying to promote the self-determination of the people of El Salvador and to defend its fundamental rights, thus contributing to the maintenance of peace and security in the region.

38. His delegation hoped that the Committee would approve the text before it and thus respect the highest traditions of the United Nations.

Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.70: Measures to be taken against nazi, fascist and neo-fascist activities and all other forms of totalitarian ideologies and practices based on racial intolerance, hatred and terror.

39. Mr. SCHLEGEL (German Democratic Republic), introducing draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.70 on behalf of the sponsors who had just been joined by the Congo and Zimbabwe, said that the text reflected the profound concern of the international community in the face of the upsurge of activities of groups and organizations which spread and practised nazism, fascism and neo-fascism, co-ordinating their activities more and more closely at the international level.

40. The international community must be vigilant and take steps to prevent that cancer from spreading. It would be dangerous to underestimate the threat that it posed to international peace and security. The prevention of fascism in all its forms and manifestations formed part of the efforts to establish peace and understanding among the peoples of the world and eliminate war and hatred.

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(Mr. Schlegel, German Democratic Republic)

41. Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.70 fully reflected the determination of many delegations to oppose the spread of nazi, fascist, and neo-fascist ideologies and practices based on racial intolerance, hatred and terror. The sponsors once again called upon all States to take legislative, administrative and other measures to prevent the activities of groups and organizations engaged in such practices.

42. The draft resolution was a compromise based on General Assembly resolution 35/200 and resolution 3 (XXVII) adopted by the Commission on Human Rights, both resolutions were the outcome of extensive discussions.

43. The activities of fascist and neo-fascist forces were contrary to the spirit and letter of the standards and principles of international life. They constituted a flagrant violation of the fundamental principles on human rights which were enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. Indeed, ideologies and practices which consisted of spreading hatred among countries, hatching plots, spreading lies and launching attacks, endangered the interests of all States and threatened international peace and security.

44. Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.70 focused the attention of the international community on the danger of neo-fascism and fascism. Being aware of that danger, the United Nations should take measures which were in line with its obligations under the Charter.

Draft decision A/C.3/36/L.91: Situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Guatemala.

45. Mr. ASANTE (Ghana), introducing draft decision A/C.3/36/L.91, said that the text was procedural and that the sponsors had taken note of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Guatemala (A/36/705) and requested him to continue his efforts to establish direct contacts with the Government of Guatemala.

46. In preparing the draft decision, he had carried out extensive consultations, especially with the Guatemalan delegation, which had been remarkably co-operative and had contributed to the drafting of the text.

47. With regard to the question of who should make contact with the Guatemalan Government, the Secretary-General, in carrying out the tasks and responsibilities assigned to him under the Charter, should be able to choose as representatives qualified members of the Secretariat or international experts; those appointed by him would act within his own sphere of competence; that was a basic principle which had been applied effectively by, inter alia, ILO and UNESCO.

48. His delegation hoped, as did the Netherlands delegation, the other sponsor of the text under consideration, that the Committee would adopt draft decision A/C.3/36/L.91 without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.62: The situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in El Salvador.

49. Mr. MATELJAK (Yugoslavia), a sponsor of the draft resolution, said that a state of virtual civil war existed in El Salvador. Thousands of innocent people

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(Mr. Mateljak, Yugoslavia)

were being killed every day in that country. In such a situation, the United Nations could not stand idle. It must help the people of El Salvador to decide freely their economic, social and political system without interference from outside.

50. It was, however, evident that the conditions did not currently exist for the Salvadorian people to exercise their fundamental rights. If the parties to the conflict were to be able to enter into negotiations with a view to establishing a truly democratic government and ensuring respect for human rights, it was first essential that they ceased hostilities and that States refrained from sending arms or providing other military assistance to El Salvador.

51. The main purpose of draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.62 was to help the Salvadorian people establish those conditions and find a solution to their internal problems without outside interference.

AGENDA ITEM 88: UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN: EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE  
(continued)

Documents A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.2, A/C.3/36/L.84, A/C.3/36/L.85 and A/C.3/36/L.86

52. Mr. JOHNSON (United States of America), introducing the amendments to the draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.2 contained in document A/C.3/36/L.86, said that those amendments, like those in documents A/C.3/36/L.76, L.84 and L.85, were necessary to balance and complete the text of the draft declaration in document A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.2. First of all, it was regrettable that the sponsors of the draft resolution under consideration, and particularly the German Democratic Republic, had not followed existing United Nations practice with regard to the adoption of international instruments such as conventions and declarations. The text currently before the Committee was not a draft resolution but a draft declaration. Once submitted, an international instrument of that sort should be thoroughly discussed with all delegations who should have an equal opportunity to consider the text along with the amendments to it and to make relevant observations. However, the sponsors of the text under consideration had ignored the fact that the United Nations was a multilateral forum and had chosen a bilateral approach in considering it. The German Democratic Republic in particular felt that it had the right to accept or reject unilaterally any amendment. The United States delegation believed that it was completely out of place for a sponsor or a group of sponsors of a draft declaration to negotiate privately the proposed amendments to the draft.

53. In any case, even if the amendments contained in documents A/C.3/36/L.84, L.85 and L.86 were adopted, it would still be necessary to make many improvements to the draft declaration, which was still seriously deficient, before one could consider adopting it or, even more importantly, publishing it as one of the United Nations human rights instruments.

54. Furthermore, the Committee would establish an extremely unfortunate precedent if it adopted an international instrument of that type which had not first been

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(Mr. Johnson, United States)

examined by a truly representative drafting or working group or by the Committee on the Status of Women. Such a procedure whereby an international instrument which would be studied in detail by all Governments was adopted without first having been thoroughly considered by all delegations, would seriously damage the credibility and professionalism of the work of the United Nations.

55. The purpose of the amendments proposed by his delegation was to draw the attention of members of the Committee to the inadequacies of the draft declaration and to make them aware that the text was incomplete and adopted a selective approach to women's rights.

56. The new title proposed in document A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.2 broadened the scope of the draft declaration. That title was no longer limited to peace, security, racism, colonialism, and so forth, but also referred to "other vital national and international problems". There was therefore good reason to believe that the German Democratic Republic could no longer claim that the amendments submitted had nothing to do with the subject under consideration insofar as they related to the situation of individual human rights with respect to women.

57. He introduced, one by one, the amendments proposed by his delegation (A/C.3/36/L.86), reading them aloud and making comments on a number of them. In the ninth preambular paragraph he proposed that the phrase, "threats or use of force, armed intervention in sovereign States" should be added after the words "arms race" and that the phrase "and racist" should be replaced by the words "racist and totalitarian".

58. His delegation felt that the eleventh preambular paragraph should certainly refer to the threat or use of force, the denial of equality of women with men before the law, arbitrary arrest and detention, denial of freedom of peaceful assembly and association and chemical and biological warfare. The eleventh preambular paragraph should also include such items as totalitarianism, recolonization, sexism, zionism, genocide, armed intervention in sovereign States, and the systematic denial of human rights, which had all been included by the delegation of Pakistan in document A/C.3/36/L.84.

59. With regard to the thirteenth preambular paragraph, the United States delegation proposed that the phrase "Solemnly proclaims the following Declaration" should be replaced by the phrase "Invites Member States to consider the question of a draft declaration on". The first part of the first sentence of article 2 of the draft declaration, "In accordance with their obligation to maintain peace" should be replaced by the following phrase, "In accordance with the obligation of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations". That amendment was proposed to reflect the wording of Article 2, paragraph 4, of the Charter. The two other amendments to article 2 contained in document A/C.3/36/L.86 were equally justified, since the scope of the draft declaration had been widened to include the solution of other vital national and international problems.

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(Mr. Johnson, United States)

60. Article 3 set forth a number of scourges which should be eliminated as important obstacles to the achievement of peace and the happiness and welfare of women. The list was, however, selective and the three amendments to that article proposed by the United States delegation were aimed at completing it.

61. The first paragraph of article 4 was an improvement on the original text; however, new modifications were required. The paragraph contained a list of several forms of oppression and inhuman treatment of women who advocated certain causes. That list was not exhaustive therefore and it would be useful to include the additional elements which were the subject of the first four amendments to article 4 in document A/C.3/36/L.86 and which were inspired by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The second paragraph of article 4 called for solidarity and assistance to be rendered to those women who were victims of various forms of oppression. That enumeration too should be completed and it was for that reason that his delegation had proposed two amendments to that part of the article.

62. With regard to Part II of the draft declaration, attention should be drawn to the fourth paragraph, the purpose of which was to promote the exchange of experience at the national and international levels with respect to the role of women. Unfortunately, that paragraph did not specify how such an exchange was to take place, it did not provide States with sufficiently specific guidelines and it did not set the standards with which States should comply in order to facilitate such exchanges. In addition, the list of fields in which women should struggle was incomplete. The four amendments to that paragraph were intended to correct those short-comings.

63. The fifth paragraph concerned giving effective publicity to the active role that should be played by women in different fields. There, too, the enumeration of those fields should be completed in order to include other causes for which women, as well as all peoples, must struggle. The elements which his delegation proposed to add to that paragraph were taken from international instruments on human rights.

64. In the most recent version of the sixth paragraph, the sponsors had decided to replace the words "the struggle for" by "the struggle against". He had doubts regarding the timeliness of that amendment because it deleted positive elements for which women must struggle. In any event, the matter should be studied in a drafting group or a working group.

65. The scope of the seventh paragraph also was too restricted and did not reflect reality in most of the countries of the world. The field of application of that paragraph should therefore be widened. The new paragraph proposed by his delegation was a more detailed and thorough approach to the question of the participation of women in non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations.

66. Part III of the draft declaration had again been amended. In the opinion of his delegation, it was not certain that that amendment was really justified, but that was a question that should be studied in consultation with all delegations in a truly representative working group. The amendments proposed by his delegation

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(Mr. Johnson, United States)

in that connexion related to the text in Part III of document A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.1. His delegation would not therefore submit them at that stage. However, it reserved the right to submit them at a later stage in the event that the text in document A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.2 was again amended.

67. He believed that the German Democratic Republic and the other sponsors of the draft declaration should have no difficulty in adopting all the amendments he had just submitted.

68. In addition, his delegation supported the amendments submitted by Pakistan and by Australia and New Zealand in documents A/C.3/36/L.84 and A/C.3/36/L.85 respectively, which contained several extremely important suggestions and which had nevertheless been unilaterally rejected by the sponsors of the draft declaration.

69. The draft declaration under consideration was far from being the subject of a consensus and it was not possible for the time being to contemplate its adoption. He reserved the right to comment in detail on some of the amendments which he had proposed and, if need be, to state why they were necessary if some delegations doubted their usefulness.

70. Finally, he again requested the Committee to consider what a bad precedent would be set if the draft declaration was adopted without all delegations having had an opportunity to participate fully in the discussion on it.

71. Mr. FURSLAND (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of the member countries of the European Community, said that the representatives of those countries took an active interest in the United Nations Decade for Women and were prepared to consider favourably any constructive proposal aimed at promoting its main objectives: equality, development and peace. However, the draft declaration under consideration, in its original version (A/C.3/36/L.48), did not appear to lead to the strengthening of peace or the elimination of inequality between men and women. On the contrary, its likely effect would be to perpetuate that discrimination. It should not be forgotten that in principle, women enjoyed all the rights enshrined in the international instruments on human rights. Having the same rights as men, women also shared the same responsibilities. Yet, the draft declaration was based on the idea that women could not claim rights which were not specifically acknowledged as theirs. In addition, it attempted to dictate to women the objectives which they should pursue and gave the impression that the strengthening of peace had not so far been a matter for women.

72. The members of the European Community requested that the draft declaration, which had not been recommended by the competent body in that field, be referred to the Commission on the Status of Women for a study of its merits.

73. Speaking on behalf of the United Kingdom delegation, he noted with satisfaction that the sponsors of draft declaration A/C.3/36/L.48 had indicated their readiness to include some amendments in their original text: such a spirit of co-operation augured well for broad support of the draft. He, however, had

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(Mr. Fursland, United Kingdom)

certain reservations regarding the principle and the details of the amended text (A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.2). He noted that the sponsors had been unable to accept some of the amendments. Every proposed amendment should be studied in detail because the draft declaration, if adopted, would be as important as the other international instruments on human rights already adopted by the United Nations.

74. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) said that a thorough study should be made of all the points raised in connexion with the draft Declaration on the Participation of Women in the Struggle for the Strengthening of International Peace and for the Solution of Other Vital National and International Problems (A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.2). The sponsors of the draft had been good enough to accept some amendments to the text, which was now more precise and more appropriate, although still imperfect. Nevertheless, his delegation would not categorically oppose the draft being put to the vote at the current session. It would be prepared to withdraw the amendments to the draft in document A/C.3/36/L.48 which it had submitted in document A/C.3/36/L.84, some of which had already been included in the revised text in document A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.2, and wished to propose, in a spirit of compromise, some other amendments which the sponsors of the draft might perhaps find more acceptable and which, he was convinced, would give the draft declaration an even more solid base.

75. He read out the following amendments:

Eighth preambular paragraph.

In the fourth line, after the words "alien domination", insert ", externally imposed régimes, suppression of right to self-determination".

Add the following two paragraphs after the eighth preambular paragraph:

"Notes with profound concern the recent instances of resort to use of force in many parts of the world, as a result of which colonial and sovereign peoples and nations have been denied their right to self-determination and the right to choose their own socio-economic and political systems without outside coercion, intervention or interference in any form whatsoever,

"Also deeply concerned over the increasing number of situations resulting from acts including aggression, intervention and interference in the internal affairs of States which have caused the outflow of millions of refugees in various regions of the world; most of these refugees are women and children who are facing great hardship and suffering,".

Existing 11th preambular paragraph

After the words "foreign occupation" in the third line, add the following: "subjugation or domination, imposition of alien ideologies".

Article 2

In the third line, delete the words "against the arms race and".

/...

(Mr. Fareed, Pakistan)

In the fourth line, after the word "disarmament", insert "and for halting and eliminating the arms race, particularly in its nuclear aspect."

In the sixth line, insert a full stop after the word "countries" and delete the rest of the sentence.

Article 3

In the second line, replace the word "mass" by "massive" and replace the words "and flagrant" by "flagrant and systematic".

In the fourth line, after the words "foreign occupation", insert "and domination and political".

In the fifth line, insert the words "including the conditions resulting in massive flow of refugees" after the word "thereof".

Article 4

In the third line, insert the adjective "full" before "respect" and delete "full enjoyment of".

In the fourth line: insert "all" before "peoples", insert a comma after "self-determination" and replace "without" by "opposition to".

Fifth line: replace "such as" by "genocide".

Seventh line: insert "profound" before "concern".

Tenth line: after "colonialism," insert "all new forms of colonization".

Twelfth line: replace the word "and" after "totalitarian ideologies" by "as well as".

Article 5

Fifth line: after "all forms of" insert "intervention and".

Part II, fourth paragraph

In the first line, after "international levels", insert ", ensure to women complete access to national and international mass media".

In the fifth line, insert "and domination" after "occupation" and "international and" after "foreign".

76. His delegation considered that those amendments would considerably improve the draft declaration and would enable a large number of delegations to support it; they were the result of intensive consultations. His delegation was confident that the delegation of the German Democratic Republic would be able to accept them.

/...

(Mr. Fareed, Pakistan)

77. He withdrew the amendments submitted by his delegation in document A/C.3/36/L.84.

78. Mr. ASANTE (Ghana) said that he had raised the question of the practices, procedures and methods followed in drafting international instruments. It appeared from consultations with the Office of Legal Affairs and from his own investigations that they had formerly been drafted by joint committees, but that the practice had lapsed. Nowadays, the Main Committees of the General Assembly were more sure of themselves and more jealous of their spheres of competence and tended to set up their own working groups to consider complex questions and draft international instruments. However, his delegation was not making a formal proposal to set up a joint committee, since none of the sponsors of the draft declaration in document A/C.3/L.48/Rev.2 supported the idea.

79. The sponsors should in fact consider postponing consideration of the draft declaration until the following year.

80. Mr. SCHLEGEL (German Democratic Republic) said that every delegation had the right to submit amendments to a proposed text and accordingly, in a spirit of compromise, the sponsors of the draft declaration in document A/C.3/36/L.48 had considered all the suggestions made to them in good time and had incorporated some of them in their text in the course of the revisions.

81. However, the United States delegation had just submitted an avalanche of last-minute amendments in document A/C.3/36/L.86. Far from being submitted in a spirit of compromise, with a view to achieving a text that would be acceptable to the majority of delegations, those amendments were in no way consistent with the general trends that had emerged in the Third committee's discussions. The sponsors of the draft, far from ignoring the views expressed in the Committee, a multilateral forum, had considered all the proposals submitted to them. According to the provisions of rule 130 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/520/Rev.13), the amendments proposed by the United States of America were not amendments, but were in fact a new draft declaration, which would mean the end of the present draft (A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.2). The purpose of the draft declaration was to raise the question of the participation of women in the struggle for the strengthening of international peace and for the solution of other vital national and international problems. It was not a new Declaration of Human Rights nor a new United Nations Charter. He wondered why certain delegations were proposing that the draft should be postponed to the next session, particularly when a decision on the subject had already been postponed once. The United States delegation had in fact revealed its real intentions; it wanted to delay adoption of the draft declaration, divert it from its main purpose and avoid taking a stand on the question. For all those reasons the sponsors of the draft declaration in document A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.2 categorically rejected the so-called amendments submitted by the United States of America in document A/C.3/36/L.86 and urged the other members of the Committee not to follow the United States delegation's example.

82. The sponsors also asked to be given time to study the amendments submitted orally by the representative of Pakistan and the ideas put forward by the representative of Ghana.

OTHER BUSINESS

83. Mr. LUNGU (Zambia), speaking on behalf of the representatives of Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia, requested the Committee's permission to submit a draft resolution under agenda item 12 entitled "Assistance to refugee students in southern Africa", which they had been unable for a number of reasons to submit within the time-limit.

84. The CHAIRMAN said that although the time-limit for submitting draft resolutions had expired, the present one was concerned with a substantive question which was in fact a continuing problem, and it was a draft resolution which had no administrative or financial implications. If there were no objections, therefore, he would take it that the Committee agreed that the draft resolution should be submitted.

85. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 6.15 p.m.