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ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

/Original: Russian/

/28 September 1973/

The Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, in its unalterable pursuit of the Leninist principles of proletarian internationalism, freedom, equality and friendship among peoples, has always firmly opposed, and continues to oppose, all forms of colonialism, racism and racial discrimination, as well as apartheid, which the United Nations has declared to be a crime against humanity.

The programme for the struggle for peace, international co-operation, and the freedom and independence of peoples adopted by the Twenty-fourth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1971 states that "United Nations decisions calling for the elimination of the remaining colonial régimes must be fully implemented. Manifestations of racism and apartheid must be universally condemned and boycotted".

In consistent implementation of this policy, the Byelorussian SSR has provided and continues to provide assistance and support to the national liberation movements of the peoples of Africa, and to all those struggling against colonialism, apartheid and racism in all its manifestations.

In conformity with this position, the Byelorussian SSR supports the proposal that a Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination should be proclaimed in 1973. Representatives of the Byelorussian SSR have, at previous sessions of the General Assembly and of the Commission on Human Rights, spoken many times to this effect.

In general, the Byelorussian SSR supports the draft Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which was approved at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights and at the fifty-fourth Session of the Economic and Social Council.

For the success of the Programme and the success of the struggle against racism and racial discrimination as a whole, it is essential to ensure that all progressive decisions and resolutions adopted at various times by the United Nations, its organs and other international organizations are implemented and that all States, without exception, strictly apply their provisions.

In this connexion, additional steps must be taken to ensure that all decisions of the Security Council, the General Assembly and other bodies which are aimed at combating colonialism, racism and racial discrimination are put into effect by all countries. In the implementation of the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, the efforts of the United Nations should be concentrated on this goal. In this context, the earliest possible adoption by the General Assembly of the draft Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, which was approved by the Commission on Human Rights at its twenty-ninth session and by the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-fourth session, would be of great importance.

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While supporting the draft Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the basic provisions of the Programme in principle, the Byelorussian SSR has doubts about some points in the Programme, and specifically the paragraph concerning the establishment of a Special Committee to assume responsibility for co-ordinating the programmes and evaluating activities under the Decade. There already exist within the United Nations system a number of representative bodies which have adequately dealt with matters connected with the struggle against racism and racial discrimination on several occasions and are fully competent to settle any questions concerning the implementation of the Programme for the Decade.

Paragraph 5 of the draft Programme also gives rise to some objections.

In our view, it would be desirable for the draft Programme to be supplemented by provisions for the granting of assistance on a bilateral basis to peoples that have been the victims of racial discrimination.

The Byelorussian SSR reaffirms its full support for the struggle of all peoples against racial and colonial oppression. The adoption and effective implementation of the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination would play an important role in the total and final eradication of racism and racial discrimination.

#### KUWAIT

/Original: English/

/28 September 1973/

The competent authorities in the State of Kuwait took note of the draft programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which they considered to be in agreement with the letter and spirit of the Constitution of Kuwait, the laws which are in force in Kuwait and the traditions and way of life of the Kuwaiti people, who consistently condemn racism and racial discrimination in all their forms.

The competent authorities in the State of Kuwait will avail themselves of the opportunity to make further comments on the draft programme in the future.

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