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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection
of human rights

Report of the Secretary-General

1. At its thirty-third session, the General Assembly, following consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (A/33/219), adopted resolution 33/167 of 20 December 1978 in paragraph 2 of which it requested once again that the Secretary-General, under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, give priority to the consideration, in regions where no regional commission on human rights existed, of seminars for the purpose of discussing the usefulness and advisability of the establishment of regional commissions for the promotion and protection of human rights and that at least one such seminar should be organized during 1979. In paragraph 3, the Assembly further requested the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the resolution to the Assembly at its thirty-fourth session and also to include in his report to the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-fifth session, in accordance with paragraph 4 of Commission resolution 24 (XXXIV) of 8 March 1978, such information as he might already possess on the implementation of resolution 33/167.
2. The present progress report has been prepared in compliance with the request contained in resolution 33/167.
3. In implementation of the above-mentioned resolution, the Secretary-General submitted a report on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (E/CN.4/1322) to the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-fifth session and drew the attention of the Commission to the adoption of the resolution by the General Assembly.

* A/34/150.

4. As requested in General Assembly resolutions 32/127, of 16 December 1977, and 33/167 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 24 (XXXIV), the Secretary-General has also maintained contacts with the Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity with a view to making available any possible assistance the organization might wish to request of the United Nations in connexion with the establishment of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in Africa.
5. The Secretary-General has also followed closely the efforts of governmental, as well as non-governmental organizations to encourage the establishment of regional human rights arrangements in various regions or subregions of the world, including those in Africa, Asia, the Arab region and the Caribbean region. Representatives of the Secretary-General have participated as observers in some of the meetings held by those organizations.
6. As regards paragraph 2 of resolution 33/167, the Secretary-General wishes to inform the General Assembly that he has accepted an invitation from the Government of Liberia to organize, under the programme of advisory services, a regional human rights seminar at Monrovia, on the subject of the establishment of regional commissions on human rights with special reference to Africa. The seminar will be held at Monrovia from 10 to 21 September 1979.
7. All members of the Economic Commission for Africa have been invited to attend the seminar. Specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies having an interest in the subject-matter have been invited to send representatives.
8. The following regional intergovernmental organizations have been invited to send observers: the Council of Europe, the League of Arab States, the Organization of African Unity and the Organization of American States.
9. Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, whose purposes and programmes are closely connected with the subject-matter of the seminar, have been invited to send observers.
10. The liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity have also been invited to send observers.
