



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 11th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. HAMER (Netherlands)

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/C.3/41/SR.11  
16 October 1986

The meeting was called to order at 6.15 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 83: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE SECOND DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION: REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/41/3, A/41/550, A/41/551, A/41/552, A/41/571, A/41/181-E/1986/53 and Corr.1; A/41/607)

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1. Mr. NABIEL (Afghanistan), speaking on agenda item 84, said that the abhorrent policy of apartheid was an affront to the human conscience and a violation of international law. The many United Nations resolutions condemning apartheid and the provision of assistance to the Pretoria régime by major Western countries and Israel had been defied by those very countries, particularly the United States of America. He consequently noted with satisfaction that the heroic struggle of the South African people, under the leadership of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), was taking on new dimensions, and that military, political, financial and moral support from the United Nations and all peace-loving and progressive nations was increasing daily.

2. At their recent summit meeting at Harare, Zimbabwe, the Heads of State or Government of non-aligned countries had expressed their indignation and dismay at the fact that South Africa continued to receive assistance from certain Western countries. Such assistance clearly had adverse consequences. He therefore urged all members of the international community that supported the cause of the people of South Africa and Namibia to continue to exert pressure on the Pretoria régime to implement all United Nations resolutions and decisions that would lead to the ending of apartheid and the liberation of Namibia. Likewise, support for Namibian independence under the terms of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) had been strongly reiterated at both the International Conference for the Immediate Independence of Namibia and the fourteenth special session of the General Assembly. It was now time for the Pretoria régime and its supporters to respond.

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(Mr. Nabel, Afghanistan)

3. Afghanistan had consistently expressed its support for the just struggle of the South African people to rid the world of the horrendous phenomenon of apartheid, which it considered to be the primary cause of conflict in southern Africa. He drew attention in that connection to the Fundamental Principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which expressed support for the struggle of various nations and peoples of the world for peace and freedom and against oppressive ideologies. His delegation also supported the imposition of comprehensive sanctions proposed by the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa. As a State party to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, Afghanistan had incorporated the provisions of that instrument in its national legislation. Because his country also attached great importance to the dissemination of information about the dangerous consequences of prejudicial and segregationist practices, it had launched a nation-wide public-awareness programme consisting of lectures, seminars, broadcasts and the holding of conferences at educational institutions and places of work.

4. Mr. ABUSHAALA (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that the agenda items before the Committee were of particular importance since they were directly related to the right of colonial peoples to self-determination, a prerequisite for the enjoyment of all human rights. Numerous international instruments had been drafted to eliminate racism, racial discrimination and apartheid, one of the greatest evils of the contemporary world. However, all efforts to implement those instruments were being disregarded by the racial minority in power in South Africa. Every day saw new outrages being perpetrated against the majority population there, depriving Blacks of their fundamental human rights. Not content with the status quo, the racist régime had enacted alleged "constitutional reforms" simply to strengthen the apartheid system by legally entrenching ethnic distinctions in both South Africa and Namibia.

5. Persisting in its illegal occupation of Namibia, the racist régime continued to carry out acts of oppression and terrorism while exploiting the Territory's natural resources. In the latter instance it was being helped by Western countries. The front-line States also suffered from South Africa's acts of aggression and attempts to subvert their own Governments. Yet despite reiterated calls for the imposition of sanctions against South Africa, many Western countries, led by the United States of America, maintained close relations with the Pretoria régime and assisted it in collaboration with transnational corporations in order to protect their economic interests in South Africa and Namibia.

6. It was ironic that the United States Administration, which imposed trade boycotts against small non-aligned countries such as his own that opposed its domination, refused to enact a similar boycott against Pretoria. Even though the United States Congress had voted to impose sanctions against South Africa, it was unlikely that the current Administration would allow that policy to be implemented. It should be recalled that the United States consistently exercised its veto in the Security Council when voting on resolutions calling for sanctions.

(Mr. Abuhaala, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

7. The struggle of peoples for self-determination, to which his delegation attached great importance, was part of the world-wide struggle to eliminate such phenomena as racism, colonialism and zionism. Yet while the international community had recognized the rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination as being inalienable, the Zionist enemy, supported by the United States Administration, had contemptuously defied all resolutions of the United Nations and other international organizations that sought to protect those rights. The history of the Palestinian people only confirmed the Zionists' stubborn refusal to accept such resolutions and the moral principles for which they stood. The reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories testified to the oppressive nature of the Zionist enemy, as did the Zionists' annexation of Palestinian territory and their invasion of Lebanon. It was obvious that the Zionist movement had its basis in expansionism, murder and the violation of human rights.

8. The expansionist policies of the Zionist and South African régimes would never end until all collaboration with them, particularly on the part of the United States, was halted and they were denied protection both within and outside the Security Council. The struggle against racism, racial discrimination and zionism came naturally to the Libyan people, which, inspired by the principles of Shariah law, had given its endorsement to 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 and would continue to pursue its full boycott of South Africa.

9. Mr. ALLAGANY (Saudi Arabia), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the Zionist representative had sought to defend his Government's racial policies by stating that any attacks on zionism were attacks on Judaism. In that case, he was out of order, since the items before the Committee concerned discrimination on the basis of race. It appeared that the Zionist representative had been trying to label Arabs, the foremost Semitic people, as being anti-semitic.

10. The fact that any Jew was entitled to Israeli citizenship upon arriving in occupied Palestinian territory while Palestinians whose families might have owned land there for thousands of years were denied access to the same land was surely evidence of racism. Israel could hardly be called "an oasis of democracy in the Middle East" when its treatment of Ethiopian Falashas had led a number of them to suicide. It was clear from the reports of both the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories and the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People that Israel's actions had in some cases exceeded the atrocities perpetrated by the Nazis. It appeared that the Zionist representative's intervention had been based on the notion that the best defence lay in a good attack; under the circumstances, however, that premise was false.

11. Ms. NGUYEN THI NHA (Viet Nam), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said her delegation categorically rejected the vicious slander raised against Viet Nam by the representative of Malaysia. In fact, Malaysia had served as a

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(Ms. Nguyen Thi Nha, Viet Nam)

satellite of imperialism during the war of aggression against Viet Nam, when it had supplied instruments of torture to be used against the Vietnamese people. Malaysia was currently serving as a spawning ground for the so-called Coalition of Democratic Kampuchea, an anomalous hybrid created as a cover for the Pol Pot clique with a view to fostering renewed genocide in Kampuchea. Consequently, Malaysia had no right to lecture her delegation on the right to self-determination. There was no longer time for acrimonious debate among the countries of South-East Asia; what was needed was a constructive exchange of views.

The meeting rose at 6.55 p.m.