

ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL

GENERAL

E/CN.4/Sub.2/138  
2 October 1951

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION  
AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES  
Fourth session  
Item 9

CONTENTS OF THE YEARBOOK ON HUMAN RIGHTS RELATING TO  
PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION  
OF MINORITIES

(Memorandum by the Secretary-General)

1. At the 58th meeting of its third session the Sub-Commission considered a proposal which had been made at its second session, that a Year-book on Minorities be published by the Secretariat once every three years.<sup>1/</sup> In view of comments made by several members, the Sub-Commission decided that the item "Yearbook on Minorities" might usefully be deferred and the proposal was withdrawn on the understanding that it would be considered again at the Sub-Commission's fourth session.
2. In this connexion the Secretary-General respectfully draws the attention of the Sub-Commission to the Yearbook on Human Rights published under the authority of the Economic and Social Council, of which four issues - those for the years 1946, 1947, 1948 and 1949 - have so far appeared. The published volumes of the Yearbook include numerous constitutional and legislative provisions, administrative regulations, provisions in international treaties and agreements, and decisions, resolutions and recommendations of United Nations bodies and bodies of specialized agencies which are of relevance to the study of the problems of prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities.
3. Resolution 303 H (XI) (of 9 August 1950) of the Economic and Social Council provides for a certain change in the structure of the Yearbook which is also relevant to the presentation of the problems of prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities in future Yearbooks.

<sup>1/</sup> See document E/CN.4/358, paras. 62 and 63

4. Resolution 303 H (XI) provides that beginning as soon as possible but not later than with the Yearbook for 1951:

(a) Each volume of the Yearbook shall contain a compilation concerning the application, and so far as necessary, the evolution in as many countries as possible of one of the rights or of a group of closely related rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This compilation shall be prepared from information supplied by Governments and may include digests of this information prepared by the Secretary-General and shall be documented by reference to legislative enactments and other authoritative sources;

(b) For this purpose, the Secretary-General shall draw up a plan for the consideration of the Commission on Human Rights indicating, for a number of years ahead, which right or group of rights should be treated in each year.

5. Pursuant to this resolution the Secretary-General submitted to the seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights a plan for future Yearbooks on Human Rights in Document E/CN.4/522 of 9 March 1951. The Yearbook on Human Rights, however, was one of the items of the agenda of the Seventh Session of the Commission on Human Rights which, as stated in its Report to the Economic and Social Council (document E/1992) the Commission found impossible to consider during that session, due to lack of time.

6. In suggesting a plan for future Yearbooks, the Secretary-General prepared two lists for the years 1951 - 1955, one enumerating personal and political rights, the other economic, social and cultural rights, with the understanding that priority should be accorded either to List 1 or to List 2, or that the two lists may be combined in some way so as to indicate a scheme of work for the ten-year period from 1951 to 1960.

7. The following rights or groups of rights which are especially relevant to the work of the Sub-Commission appear in the two lists:

Personal and Political Rights

1951

Equality before the law, equal protection of the law without any discrimination, equal protection against any discrimination in violation of the Universal Declaration, and equal protection against any incitement to such discrimination.

1953

Freedom to choose a spouse, marriage to be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses, the right to marry and found a family without discrimination due to race, nationality or religion; equal rights of husband and wife as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution; protection of the family by society and the State.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

1951

Special care for and assistance to motherhood and childhood; the same social protection for all children whether born in or out of wedlock.

1953

Right to education, availability of technical and vocational education, equal accessibility to secondary and higher education on the basis of merit, prior right of parents to choose the kind of education for their children.

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