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## ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

Report of the Third CommitteeRapporteur: Mrs. Ani SANTHOSO (Indonesia)

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1987, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
2. The Committee considered the item jointly with items 99, 100, 101, 102, 106 and 107 at its 39th to 41st, 43rd, 46th, 51st and 53rd meetings, from 9 to 13, 18 and 20 November 1987. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/42/SR.39-41, 43, 46, 51 and 53).
3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Economic and Social Council, chapter V, Section A (A/42/3). 1/
4. At the 39th meeting, on 9 November, the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights made an introductory statement.

## II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.3/42/L.52

5. At the 51st meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Ireland introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/42/L.52) entitled "Elimination of all forms of religious

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1/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/42/3).

intolerance'@, sponsored by Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Samoa, Senegal, Sweden, the United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

6. At the 53rd meeting, on 20 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/42/L.52 without a vote (see para. 7).

### III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

7. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

#### Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

##### The General Assembly,

Conscious of the need to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, **language** or religion,

Reaffirming its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, in which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of **intolerance** and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Recalling its resolution 41/112 of 4 December 1986, in which it requested the Commission on Human Rights to **continue** its consideration of measures to implement the Declaration,

Encouraged by the effort; being made by the Commission on Human Rights and by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and **Protection of Minorities** to study relevant developments affecting the implementation of the Declaration,

Noting Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/15 of 4 March 1987 and Economic and Social Council decision 1987/143 of 29 May 1987, whereby the mandate of the Special Rapporteur appointed to examine incidents and governmental actions in all parts of the world that are incompatible with the **provisions** of the Declaration and to recommend remedial measures as **appropriate**, was extended for one year,

Noting with satisfaction that the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection on Minorities examined at its thirty-ninth session the study concluded by Mrs. Elizabeth Odio Benito, **2/** the Special Rapporteur, in accordance with Sub-Commission resolution 1983/31 of 6 September 1983, on the current dimensions of the problems of intolerance

and of discrimination on **grounds** of religion or belief and laid the foundation in **resolution 1987/33** for future in-depth study of aspects of the issues raised in the study,

Emphasizing that non-governmental organisations and **religious** bodies and groups at every level have **an** important role to play **in** the promotion of tolerance and the protection of freedom of religion or belief,

Seriously concerned that intolerance and discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief continue to occur in **many** parts of the world,

Believing that further efforts are therefore required in order to **promote** and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief and to eliminate all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief,

1. Reaffirms that freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is **a** right guaranteed to all without discrimination)

2. Urges States, therefore, in accordance with their respective constitutional systems and with such internationally accepted instruments as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 3/ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 4/ and the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief to provide, where they have not already done so, adequate constitutional and legal guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief, including the provision of effective remedies where there is intolerance Or discrimination based on religion or belief;

3. Stresses, in this connection, the value of the work in progress in the Commission on Human Rights on the preparation of a compendium of the national legislation and regulations of States on the question of freedom of religion or belief and invites States to provide the necessary information to the Secretary-General, with particular regard to the measures taken to **combat** intolerance or discrimination in **this field;**

4. Urges all States to take all appropriate measures to combat intolerance and to encourage understand<sup>4</sup>ng , tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief and, in this context, to examine where necessary **the** supervision **and** training of their civil servants, educators and other public **officials** to ensure that, in the **course** of their official duties, they respect **different** religions and beliefs and do not **discriminate** against persons professing other **religions** or beliefs,

5. invites the United Nations University and other academic and research institutions to undertake **programmes** and studies on the encouragement

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3/ Resolution 217 A (III).

4/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

of understanding , tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief;

6. Considers it desirable to enhance the promotional and public information activities of the United Nations in matters relating to freedom of religion or **belief**;

7. Invites the Secretary-General to **cont inue** to give high priority to the dissemination of the text of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, in all the official **languages** of the United Nations, and to take all appropriate measures to make the text available for use by United Nations information centres as well as by other interested bodies)

8. Requests the Secretary-General in this context to invite interested non-governmental organizations to **consider** what further role they could envisage playing in the implementation of the Declaration and in its dissemination in national and local **languages**;

9. Urges all States to **consider** disseminating the text of the Declaration in national languages and to facilitate its dissemination in national and local languages;

10. Welcomes the renewal of the mandate of the Special **Rapporteur** appointed by the **Commission** on Human Rights!; to examine incidents and governmental actions in all parts of the world that are incompatible with the provisions of the Declaration and to **recommend** remedial measures as appropriate!

11. Requests the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-fourth session to consider the study of the current dimensions of the problems of intolerance and of discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief in the light of the observations transmitted to it by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities!

12. Notes that the Commission on Human Rights!; intends to consider also at its forty-fourth session the question of a binding international instrument in this field and **emphasizes**, in this connection, the relevance of General Assembly resolution 41/120 of 4 December 1986 entitled "Setting international standards in the field of human **rights**";

13. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to continue its consideration of measures to implement the Declaration and to report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-third session;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-third session the item entitled "Elimination of all forms of **religious** intolerance" and to consider the report of the Commission on Human Rights under that item.