



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
LIMITED

E/CN.4/2003/L.10/Add.8  
16 April 2003

Original: ENGLISH

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Fifty-ninth session  
Agenda item 21 (b)

**REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ON THE  
FIFTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION**

**Draft report of the Commission**

**Rapporteur: Mr. Branko SOCANAC**

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\* Documents E/CN.4/2003/L.10 and addenda will contain the chapters of the report relating to the organization of the session and the various items on the agenda. Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission, as well as draft resolutions and decisions for action by, and other matters of concern to, the Economic and Social Council, will be contained in documents E/CN.4/2003/L.11 and addenda.

### **VIII. QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PALESTINE**

1. The Commission considered agenda item 8 at its 19th meeting, on 27 March, at its 21st meeting, on 28 March, at its 22nd meeting, on 31 March, and at its 48th meeting, on 15 April 2003.
2. For the documents issued under agenda item 8, see annex VI to the present report. For a list of all resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission and Chairperson's statements, by agenda item, see annex V.
3. At the 19th meeting, on 27 March 2003, Mr. John Dugard, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, introduced his report (E/CN.4/2003/30).
4. During the interactive dialogue the representatives of Algeria, the Syrian Arab Republic and the United States of America, as well as the observers for Greece, Switzerland and Palestine, addressed questions to the Special Rapporteur, to which the Special Rapporteur responded.
5. In the general debate on item 8, statements were made by members of the Commission, observers and representatives of non-governmental organizations. For a detailed list of speakers, see annex III to the present report.

#### **Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan**

6. At its 48th meeting, on 15 April 2003, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/2003/L.3, sponsored by Algeria, Bahrain, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Zimbabwe. Indonesia and Togo subsequently joined the sponsors and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya withdrew as sponsor.
7. Statements in connection with the draft resolution were made by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic and the observer for Israel.
8. Statements in explanation of vote before the vote were made by the representatives of Canada, Guatemala and the United States of America.
9. At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution, which was adopted by 31 votes to 1, with 21 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Brazil, Chile, China, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, India, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

*Against:* United States of America.

*Abstaining:* Australia, Austria, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, France, Germany, Guatemala, Ireland, Japan, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.

10. A statement in explanation of vote after the vote was made by the representatives of Brazil and Ireland (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Commission - Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; the associated country which is a member of the Commission - Poland - aligned itself with the statement).

11. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 2003/5.

**Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine**

12. At the same meeting, the representative of Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Conference) introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/2003/L.12, sponsored by Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Egypt, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe. Indonesia, Jordan, Malaysia and Togo subsequently joined the sponsors.

13. Statements in connection with the draft resolution were made by the observers for Israel and Palestine.

14. Statements in explanation of vote before the vote were made by the representatives of Canada, Guatemala and the United States of America.

15. At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution, which was adopted by 33 votes to 5, with 15 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, India, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Germany, Peru, United States of America.

*Abstaining:* Austria, Belgium, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Croatia, France, Guatemala, Ireland, Japan, Mexico, Paraguay, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.

16. Statements in explanation of vote after the vote were made by the representatives of Argentina and Ireland (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Commission - Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; the associated country which is a member of the Commission - Poland - aligned itself with the statement).

17. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 2003/6.

**Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories**

18. At the same meeting, the observer for Greece (on behalf of the European Union) introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/2003/L.18, sponsored by Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Andorra, Cyprus, Egypt, Estonia, Hungary, Japan, Jordan, Norway, Latvia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey subsequently joined the sponsors.

19. Statements in connection with the draft resolution were made by the observers for Israel and Palestine.

20. A statement in explanation of vote before the vote was made by the representatives of Algeria, Australia, Canada and the United States of America.

21. At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution, which was adopted by 50 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, France, Gabon, Germany, Guatemala, India, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

*Against:* United States of America.

*Abstaining:* Australia, Costa Rica.

22. A statement in explanation of vote after the vote was made by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic.
23. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 2003/7.

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