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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Report of the Second Committee (Part II)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin WALTER (Czechoslovakia)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 12 (see A/43/750), at its 10th to 15th meetings, on 11, 13 and 14 October 1988. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/43/SR.10-15).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/43/L.10 and L.12

2. At the 16th meeting, on 19 October, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on behalf of Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Venezuela, subsequently joined by Austria, Belgium, Djibouti, the German Democratic Republic, Ireland, Jamaica, Malta and Mauritania, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/43/L.10) entitled "Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)", which read as follows:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in three parts (see also A/43/750 and Add.2).

"Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency
syndrome (AIDS)

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 42/8 of 26 October 1987, Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/55 of 27 July 1988, World Health Assembly resolution WHA 41.24 of 13 May 1988 and other relevant resolutions,

"Recalling also the London Declaration on AIDS prevention, adopted by the World Summit of Ministers of Health on Programmes for AIDS Prevention on 28 January 1988, 1/

"Noting with satisfaction the development and implementation of the global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS prepared by the World Health Organization, including the establishment of appropriate inter-agency mechanisms, and noting with appreciation the efforts of the World Health Organization, other United Nations agencies and funds and national Governments,

"1. Reaffirms the established leadership and the essential role of the World Health Organization in the global direction and co-ordination of AIDS prevention, control, research and education, commends those Governments that have initiated action to establish national programmes for the prevention and control of AIDS in line with the global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS, and urges other Governments to take similar action;

"2. Takes note of the World Health Organization Global Programme on AIDS, and stresses the continued need for adequate resources for its implementation and the corresponding need to continue to share the pool of world-wide medical and scientific knowledge and experience in the control and prevention of the disease;

"3. Notes that the World Health Organization has declared 1 December 1988 World AIDS Day, and stresses the importance of the appropriate observance of this occasion;

"4. Affirms that the struggle against AIDS should be consistent with and not divert attention from other national public health priorities and development goals;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General, in view of all the aspects of the problem, in particular the socio-economic and humanitarian aspects, to continue to ensure, in close co-operation with the Director-General of the World Health Organization and through the appropriate existing mechanisms, a co-ordinated response by the United Nations system to the AIDS pandemic;

1/ A/43/341-E/1988/80, annex, appendix I.

"6. Urges all appropriate organizations of the United Nations system, including the specialised agencies, bilateral and multilateral agencies and non-governmental and voluntary organisations, in conformity with the global strategy, to continue to support the world-wide struggle against AIDS;

"7. Invites the Director-General of the World Health Organisation to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on further developments in the global AIDS pandemic, and requests the Economic and Social Council to consider the report in accordance with its mandate."

3. At the 20th meeting, on 21 October, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. José Fernandes (Philippines), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/43/L.12) entitled "Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)", submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/43/L.10, and orally revised it by inserting after operative paragraph 5 the following new operative paragraph:

"6. Invites the World Health Organisation to continue to facilitate the exchange of information on and promotion of national and international research for the prevention and control of AIDS through the further development of Collaborating Centres of the World Health Organisation and similar existing mechanisms".

Subsequent paragraphs were renumbered accordingly.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see para. 6).

5. In light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/43/L.12, draft resolution A/C.2/43/L.10 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

6. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned that acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) has assumed pandemic proportions affecting all regions of the world and represents a threat to the attainment of health for all,

Recalling its resolution 42/8 of 26 October 1987, Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/55 of 27 July 1988, World Health Assembly resolution WHA41.24 of 13 May 1988 and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the London Declaration on AIDS Prevention, adopted by the World Summit of Ministers of Health on Programmes for AIDS Prevention on 28 January 1988, 2/

Noting with satisfaction the development and implementation of the global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS prepared by the World Health Organisation, including the establishment of appropriate inter-agency mechanisms, and noting with appreciation the efforts of the World Health Organisation, other United Nations agencies and funds, and national Governments,

Recognising the urgent need to pursue multilateral efforts to promote and improve human health, control disease and extend health care in order to accomplish the objective of health for all by the year 2000,

1. Reaffirms the established leadership and the essential role of the World Health Organization in the global direction and co-ordination of AIDS prevention, control, research and education, commends those Governments which have initiated action to establish national programmes for the prevention and control of AIDS in line with the global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS, and urges other Governments to take similar action;

2. Takes note of the World Health Organisation Global Programme on AIDS, and stresses the continued need for adequate resources for its implementation and the corresponding need to continue to share the pool of world-wide medical and scientific knowledge and experience in the control and prevention of the disease;

3. Notes that the World Health Organization has declared 1 December 1988 World AIDS Day, and stresses the importance of the appropriate observance of that occasion;

4. Affirms that the struggle against AIDS should be consistent with and not divert attention from other national public health priorities and development goals or divert international efforts and resources needed for overall health priorities;

5. Calls upon all States, in addressing the AIDS problem, to take into account the legitimate concerns of other countries and the interests of inter-State relations;

6. Invites the World Health Organization to continue to facilitate the exchange of information on and promotion of national and international research for the prevention and control of AIDS through the further development of Collaborating Centres of the World Health Organization and similar existing mechanisms;

7. Requests the Secretary-General, in view of all the aspects of the problem, in particular the socio-economic and humanitarian aspects, to continue to ensure, in close co-operation with the Director-General of the World Health Organization and through the appropriate existing mechanisms, a co-ordinated response by the United Nations system to the AIDS pandemic;

8. Urges all appropriate organizations of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, bilateral and multilateral agencies and non-governmental and voluntary organizations, in conformity with the global strategy, to continue to support the world-wide struggle against AIDS;

9. Invites the Director-General of the World Health Organization to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on further developments in the global AIDS pandemic, and requests the Economic and Social Council to consider the report in accordance with its mandate.
