

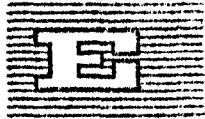
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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Eleventh session  
Agenda item 3

REVIEW OF PROGRAMME AND ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIORITIES

Texts of resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights  
on 18 and 20 April 1955

I.

The Commission on Human Rights,

Bearing in mind that the Commission has completed its work on item 7, Yearbook on Human Rights, and on item 8, Report of the Seventh Session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Decides to give priority at the remainder of the eleventh session to the following items on its provisional agenda (E/CN.4/707):

- Item 4. Recommendations concerning international respect for the rights of peoples and nations to self-determination
- Item 5. Development of the work of the United Nations for wider observance of, and respect for, human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout the world
- Item 6. Annual Reports
- Item 17. Local human rights committees
- Item 9. Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations interested in the Eradication of Prejudice and Discrimination
- Item 12. General Assembly resolution 644 (VII) on racial discrimination in Non-Self-Governing Territories
- Item 20. Communications
- Item 13. Draft declaration on the rights of the child.

## II.

### The Commission on Human Rights,

Considering that in accordance with the provisions of the Charter and its terms of reference, its task has been to submit to the Economic and Social Council proposals, recommendations, reports and projects concerning the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the covenant on civil and political rights, the covenant on economic, social and cultural rights, and other questions connected with the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that in accordance with the Charter, United Nations action relating to human rights should be directed towards the earliest possible completion of work on the draft Covenants on Human Rights, which is the main task of the United Nations in this field,

Conscious that the drafting of the covenants marks the completion of a highly important stage in its activities; and that it is now called upon to proceed with other tasks for the application, promotion and extension of human rights,

Bearing in mind its functions and terms of reference, the questions outstanding on its agenda, and the need to formulate a programme with a view to establishing priorities and concentrating efforts and resources,

Noting that the adoption of a concrete programme of work for future sessions does not preclude a broader programme dealing with such other matters as may be raised by the Commission or referred to it, in conformity with the United Nations Charter,

Desiring to maintain and strengthen within the framework of its general responsibility the work of the United Nations for universal and effective observance of, and respect for, human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Having considered the memorandum of the Secretary-General on "Review of the Human Rights Programme" (E/CN.4/710) and the other relevant documents cited therein,

Adopts the following programme of work for future sessions:

(A) Covenants on Human Rights and other Conventions:

Continuation of efforts to promote all the human rights proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the draft Covenants on civil and political rights and on economic, social and cultural rights.

Any action that the Commission may be authorized or requested to take pursuant to measures of implementation under the Covenants on Human Rights or other conventions on human rights and fundamental freedoms which may be concluded under United Nations auspices.

(B) Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities:

Consideration of the reports and recommendations of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and of any proposals or recommendations which may in future be transmitted to the Sub-Commission and any matter connected with the subjects covered by this heading.

(C) International Respect for the Right of Peoples and Nations to Self-Determination:

Consideration of measures for the promotion of international respect for the right of peoples and nations to self-determination, as this right is mentioned in the Charter and in the draft covenants on human rights, and of measures for its implementation, together with consideration of progress made in the achievement of that right, with such recommendations as may be necessary.

(D) Consideration of General Developments and Action Taken to Ensure Wider Observance of, and Respect for, Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms throughout the World:

Consideration of general developments and progress achieved in the field of human rights and measures taken to safeguard human liberty on a world-wide basis, taking into account information furnished for publication in the Yearbook on Human Rights, and additional reports from Member States and from specialized agencies pursuant to the terms of any further specific resolution with respect to reports adopted by the Commission; also, consideration of other methods of promoting wider observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms including provisions for technical assistance and for local human rights committees.

(E) Consideration of Specific Rights or Groups of Rights:

The undertaking of studies of specific rights or groups of rights on a world-wide basis, stressing general developments, progress achieved, and measures taken to safeguard human liberty, with such

recommendations as may be necessary, in addition to studies being undertaken by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities or by specialized agencies, the selection of the topics of study and the method of study to be determined by further specific resolutions of the Commission.

- (F) Wider Dissemination of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Assessment of its Effects and Influence:

Consideration of further measures as may be necessary for the wider dissemination of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with the co-operation of governments and the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations concerned.

- (G) Yearbook on Human Rights:

Review, at the thirteenth session and at later sessions as necessary, of the form and content of the Yearbook on Human Rights.

- (H) Communications:

The taking note at each session of the lists of communications prepared by the Secretary-General and consideration as necessary of any proposals concerning the present procedures, under resolution 75(V), as amended, of the Economic and Social Council, for the handling of communications with regard to human rights.

- (I) Any agenda items not completed at a previous session, and any new items that may be introduced.