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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION
OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION
OF MINORITIES
Fourteenth session
Agenda items 7 and 8

PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

Statement submitted by the International Humanist and Ethical Union,
a non-governmental organization in consultative status, Register

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is circulated in accordance with paragraphs 28 and 29 of the Economic and Social Council resolution 288 B (X).

Dated: 23 January 1962

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MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR THE CESSATION OF ANY ADVOCACY OF NATIONAL,
RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS HOSTILITY THAT CONSTITUTES AN INCITEMENT TO
HATRED AND VIOLENCE, JOINTLY OR SEPARATELY

PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

1. The implications for good and evil in Item 7 are manifold. Relations of people to people are undergoing upheavals. Those that were dominant are becoming subservient and those that were subservient are becoming dominant. Reversals in position are following one upon another swiftly, with little time for thoughtful, calm, deliberate action.
2. Measures must be taken to prevent these changes in human relationships, these evolutions in the social structures, and the experiments in evolving social systems from causing cataclysms. Peoples coming out from oppression must be prevented from becoming oppressors themselves.

3. Science has revealed the causes and motivations that underlie hostilities and has analysed ways and means of channelling these forces into constructive paths.

4. Social scientists, anthropologists, psychiatrists, and others in related professions have formulated the problems that cause incitement to and expression of all manner of hostilities and have suggested remedies for and means of alleviating them. Educators, economists, and historians have supplemented this knowledge from their own disciplines.

5. UNESCO, the World Mental Health Organization, and many experts have contributed studies pertinent to the subject of our concern.

6. It remains for someone to synthesize the knowledge we already have and to place it in the hands of peoples, governments, and non-governmental organizations.

7. The International Humanist and Ethical Union respectfully suggests that the Sub-Commission appoint a rapporteur to make this contribution, calling upon governments, non-governmental organizations, and experts to contribute the necessary data. A study of this kind would be a monumental contribution to the prevention of the rise and advocacy of hostilities and to the protection of minorities.
