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Agenda item 86IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE SECOND DECADE
TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATIONReport of the Third CommitteeRapporteur: Mr. Grzegorz POLOWCZYK (Poland)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1984, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination: report of the Secretary-General" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
2. The Third Committee considered this item jointly with items 84, 87 and 88 at its 4th to 15th, 30th and 34th meetings, on 8, 9, 12 to 18 October and 5 and 8 November. An account of the discussion of the Committee is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/39/SR.4-15, 30 and 34).
3. The Committee had before it the following documentation:
 - (a) Report of the Economic and Social Council, chapter III, section A (A/39/3 (Part I)); 1/
 - (b) Draft plan of activities for the period 1985-1989 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/14: report of the Secretary-General (A/39/167-E/1984/33 and Add.1 and 2);

1/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/39/3).

(c) Letter dated 15 March 1984 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final declaration and resolutions adopted at the Fourteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Dhaka from 6 to 10 December 1983 (A/39/133-S/16417);

(d) Letter dated 15 October 1984 from the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the resolutions and other documents of the Third Conference of Ministers of Labour of Non-Aligned Countries and Other Developing Countries, held at Managua from 10 to 12 May 1984 (A/39/581-S/16782);

(e) Letter dated 16 October 1984 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the resolutions adopted by the 72nd Inter-Parliamentary Conference, held at Geneva on 29 September 1984 (A/39/390 and Corr.1);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General prepared in accordance with paragraph 18 (f) of the Programme for the first Decade and with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 38/14 (E/1984/56 and Add.1).

4. At the 4th meeting, on 8 October, the Assistant Secretary-General of the Office for Field Operational and External Support Activities made an introductory statement.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.3/39/L.17

5. At the 30th meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Ethiopia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the African Group introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/39/L.17) entitled "Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination".

6. At the 34th meeting, on 8 November, the Assistant Secretary-General of the Office for Field Operational and External Support Activities made a statement on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, subsequently circulated in document A/C.3/39/L.23.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.17 by consensus (see para. 8).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

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

Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its objective contained in the Charter of the United Nations to

achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Reaffirming its firm determination and its commitment to eradicate totally and unconditionally racism in all its forms, racial discrimination and apartheid,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 2/ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 3/ the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid 4/ and the Convention against Discrimination in Education adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 14 December 1960, 5/

Recalling also its resolution 3057 (XXVIII) of 2 November 1973, on the first Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and its resolution 38/14 of 22 November 1983, on the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Recalling further the two World Conferences to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, held at Geneva in 1978 and 1983, respectively,

Noting once again the Report of the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, 6/

Convinced that the Second World Conference represented a positive contribution by the international community towards attaining the objectives of the Decade, through its adoption of a Declaration and an operational Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racial Discrimination,

Noting with concern that, despite the efforts of the international community, the first Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination did not attain its principal objectives and that millions of human beings continue to this day to be the victims of varied forms of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid,

2/ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

3/ General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

4/ General Assembly resolution 3068 (XXVIII).

5/ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Records of the General Conference, Eleventh Session, Resolutions, p. 119.

6/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.XIV.4 and corrigendum.

Emphasizing the necessity of attaining the objectives of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Convinced of the need to take more effective and sustained international measures for the elimination of all forms of racism and racial discrimination and the total eradication of apartheid in South Africa,

1. Resolves once again that all forms of racism and racial discrimination, particularly in their institutionalized form, such as apartheid, or resulting from official doctrines of racial superiority or exclusivity, are among the most serious violations of human rights in the contemporary world and must be combated by all available means;
2. Decides that the international community, in general, and the United Nations, in particular, should continue to give the highest priority to programmes for combating racism, racial discrimination and apartheid and to intensify its own efforts, during the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, to provide assistance and relief to the victims of racism and all forms of racial discrimination and apartheid, especially in South Africa and Namibia and in occupied territories and territories under alien domination;
3. Appeals to all Governments and to international and non-governmental organizations to increase and intensify their activities to combat racism, racial discrimination and apartheid and to provide relief and assistance to the victims of these evils;
4. Appeals to all Governments to review their laws and enact appropriate legislation with a view to ensuring that any victim of racism or racial discrimination has adequate protection, avenues of recourse and assistance;
5. Invites the concerned organs of the United Nations system, in particular the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Commission on Human Rights and its Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, as well as the relevant specialized agencies, to continue exercising vigilance in identifying actual or emergent situations of racism or racial discrimination, to draw attention to them where discovered and to suggest appropriate remedial measures;
6. Invites the Secretary-General to proceed immediately with the implementation of the activities outlined in his report; 7/
7. Requests the Secretary-General to give the highest priority to actions to combat apartheid in the implementation of the plan of activities;
8. Further requests the Secretary-General, in implementing the plan of activities contained in the above-mentioned report, to take fully into account the following elements:

(a) Universal recognition and implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination 3/ and other related international instruments;

(b) Assistance from the United Nations and its specialized agencies to States in their efforts to embark on concrete programmes to eradicate racial discrimination;

(c) Study of the effects of racial discrimination in the field of education, training and employment as it affects the children of minorities, in particular, those of migrant workers;

9. Calls upon the Secretary-General to maintain close contacts with the Special Committee against Apartheid, the United Nations Council for Namibia and other relevant United Nations committees and international and regional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, as to their respective roles in implementing the plan of activities;

10. Requests Governments to forward a report every two years on the action taken under the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, 8/ on the basis of a questionnaire circulated by the Secretary-General, which reports shall be transmitted to the Economic and Social Council for its consideration;

11. Requests the Economic and Social Council, during the period of the Decade, to submit an annual report to the General Assembly, containing, inter alia:

(a) An enumeration of the activities undertaken or contemplated to achieve the objectives of the Second Decade, including the activities of Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international and regional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations;

(b) A review and appraisal of those activities;

(c) Its suggestions and recommendations;

12. Invites the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. Decides to keep the item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination" on its agenda throughout the Second Decade and to consider it as a matter of the highest priority at its fortieth session.

8/ General Assembly resolution 38/14, annex.
