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Chairman: Mr. Eugeniusz KULAGA (Poland).

AGENDA ITEM 34

The policies of *apartheid* of the Government of South Africa: report of the Special Committee on the Policies of *Apartheid* of the Government of the Republic of South Africa (continued) (A/7538 and Add.1 and 2, A/7625, A/7715)

1. Mr. EREN (Turkey) expressed his deep sympathy to the representative of Yugoslavia, a country with which Turkey had long-standing bonds of friendship, following the earthquake which had occurred in his country.

2. He felt constrained to speak on the question of *apartheid* in order to voice once again his country's stand against that inhuman practice. Turkey, which had been in the mainstream of world history for more than a millenium, had traditionally renounced religious and racial discrimination, and had allowed Moslems, Christians and Jews to live side by side enjoying the same protection. That principle and that custom still survived in the statutes and in the national behaviour of most of the eighteen States which had previously formed part of the Ottoman Empire. Turkey had condemned *apartheid* from the first day the issue had come before the attention of the world. It had voted for the resolutions adopted on the matter. It had no diplomatic relations with South Africa, it had stopped its trade with Southern Rhodesia, and it was a member of the United Nations Council for Namibia.

3. The results of the international efforts against *apartheid* must not be underestimated. While it was true that the practice continued, international resistance to it was growing. That resistance had been expressed in various ways: the world community had been exceptionally united in condemning *apartheid*; it was no longer being condemned only as a system but as a threat to peace as well; abstract condemnation had been succeeded by concrete measures; international concern had been as it were institutionalized by the establishment of the Special Committee on the Policies of *Apartheid* of the Government of the Republic of South Africa; an international campaign to isolate South Africa had taken shape; United Nations efforts had been

extended to the economic and social organs; all the other international agencies shared the concern of the United Nations, including the International Olympic Committee; the Security Council had called for an embargo on the sale of arms to South Africa. All that was reassuring and held out the hope that in the long-run, the United Nations efforts would bear fruit.

4. The Organization should therefore redouble its efforts to put an end to the anachronistic practice of *apartheid*. In the report before the Committee (A/7625), the Special Committee clearly and concisely had already provided the general guidelines for further action. The problem should continue to be attacked on three fronts: the pressure of world opinion should be increased by intensifying the campaign against *apartheid*; greater unity should be sought in the political field in order to translate previous resolutions into effective action; moral and material support of the victims of *apartheid* should be strengthened. However, in order to make decisive action possible, the draft resolution to be submitted at the present session should be immediately feasible rather than ultimately desirable. The unity that was evident in the condemnation of *apartheid* must be preserved in action.

5. Mr. JAKOBSON (Finland) said that during the twenty years in which the United Nations had adopted resolutions on the question of the policies of *apartheid* of the Government of South Africa, it had advanced from exhortations and appeals to protest and condemnation. Unfortunately, that escalation of words had had no visible impact on the reality of life in South Africa.

6. However, he did not share the view that the United Nations had made no progress in the struggle against *apartheid* or that it had nothing more to offer to that cause. The United Nations had in fact succeeded in alerting international opinion; today, it was almost universally recognized that the policy of *apartheid* had international implications, and the great majority of Member States was prepared to apply to the question of *apartheid* the principle that States must be responsible to the international community for their actions when they had serious international implications. Such a change constituted remarkable progress. Nevertheless, public opinion in many countries was still not sufficiently conscious of the need for concerted international action to eliminate *apartheid*. Accordingly, his delegation welcomed the fact that the Special Committee, in its report (A/7625), had emphasized the need for the dissemination of information and had made a number of interesting proposals on the subject.

7. In addition to disseminating information, the General Assembly had repeatedly emphasized the growing need for humanitarian assistance to the victims of *apartheid*. The

Finnish Government had decided to increase its contribution to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa from \$10,000 to \$15,000 in 1970; it had also pledged a contribution of \$10,000 for the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa for 1970. Unfortunately, the list of contributors to those two funds remained very short; it was to be hoped that the Member States which had condemned *apartheid* would respond to the appeal of the Special Committee for increased contributions to those two programmes.

8. From an over-all point of view, the United Nations must, along with its pragmatic approach, keep before it a

broad vision of the kind of society that it wished to see in South Africa. His delegation did not think that the struggle against *apartheid* should be regarded as part of a world-wide war between the races; on the contrary, every effort must be made to gain the support of the members of all races, in South Africa and elsewhere, to form a society where everyone would enjoy equal rights. He was pleased that the Manifesto on Southern Africa¹ confirmed that view.

The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 106, document A/7754.