

32. Mr. SMID (Czechoslovakia) said that the Programme for the Decade, which his delegation had helped to prepare, contained recommendations and measures that could effectively contribute, if applied conscientiously by Member States, United Nations organs and the specialized agencies, to the rapid eradication of racism and racial discrimination in all its forms. The collective effort to achieve that end was further strengthened by the emphasis placed on it in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order (resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI)), the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (resolution 3281 (XXIX)) and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (resolution 2106 A (XX)), adopted by the General Assembly. In all those documents racial discrimination was recognized as being, not an isolated phenomenon, but one that had economic, social and colonial roots; its eradication was of paramount importance for economic and social development and for the strengthening of peace and security.

33. In defiance of the decisions adopted within the framework of the United Nations and of the principles of the Charter, racist régimes continued to deny to the majority of the population in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia their elementary rights; they could not continue to do so without the political, economic and military support of some Western States members of NATO. Some of those countries even had diplomatic relations with those régimes and were expanding their trade relations with them while their supranational monopolies were increasing their activity; such attitudes were in violation of the Programme for the Decade, which called for the termination of all such support by Member States. Indeed, the Security Council had recently extended the sanctions on trade with Southern Rhodesia to insurance and banking operations connected with the import or export of raw materials or commodities, and had reaffirmed that the

situation in Southern Rhodesia constituted a threat to international peace and security.

34. Among the actions taken by human rights organs, his delegation was especially appreciative of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts on Southern Africa, which was dealt with in the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its thirty-second session, and in particular the appeal contained in paragraph 3 of the related draft resolution (E/5768, chap. I, draft resolution I). His country had been one of the first to respond to the request in paragraph 4 of that draft resolution to ratify the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*.

35. It was clear from the documents before the Council that resolutions had been adopted which should lead to an intensification of the struggle against racism and racial discrimination. General Assembly resolution 3379 (XXX) merited particular attention because it declared zionism to be a form of racism. However, further measures would have to be taken by Governments to implement those resolutions and to institute guarantees against racial discrimination in the legal systems of their States.

36. Racism and racial discrimination were outlawed by the Constitution of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, and the legal safeguards against those practices embodied in his country's Legal Code exceeded the requirements for the adjustment of legislation laid down in the series of legal instruments adopted by the United Nations. His country had no diplomatic relations or other contacts with the racist régimes of southern Africa; it had consistently complied with United Nations decisions on the problem and provided assistance to the national liberation movements in their fight against colonialism, exploitation and racism. His Government welcomed the decision to convene a World Conference on the question in Ghana in 1978 and was prepared to participate in the preparatory work for that Conference.

The meeting rose at 5.20 p.m.

1990th meeting

Friday, 23 April 1976, at 11 a.m.

President: Mr. Siméon AKE (Ivory Coast).

E/SR.1990

AGENDA ITEM 13

Natural resources (*concluded*)* (E/5778 and Add.1)

1. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council), referring to the statement of financial implications in document E/5778/Add.1, said that it had originally been intended to provide a secretary at G-5 level for the Secretary-General of the United Nations Water Conference by using an existing post, but it had been found that all such posts were currently encumbered and would remain so for the next 12 months or so. The other additional expenditure amounted to \$41,700 and could be broken down as follows: rental and maintenance of office space, \$18,500; construction and alteration of office space, \$9,000; furniture and fixtures,

\$13,200; and communications services, \$1,000. The Secretariat had explored the possibility of reducing those costs but there seemed to be no way of doing so.

2. Mr. EL-ASHRY (Egypt) said that his country attached great importance to the United Nations Water Conference and vigorously supported the appointment of a Secretary-General for the Conference, which was only a year away. He urged the choice of a highly qualified person who had already been involved in the preparatory work for the Conference. The benefit to the international community, especially the developing countries, would outweigh any costs involved.

3. Mr. NSUBUGA (Uganda) recalled that the problem of water in the world was very important, as could be seen from the all too frequent droughts, floods and monsoons. He supported the appointment of a Secretary-General for the Conference and said that the ques-

* Resumed from the 1986th meeting.

tion of financing should not prevent the Council from making the appointment.

4. Mr. MARSHALL (United Kingdom) said that his delegation also attached great importance to the United Nations Water Conference and to the appointment of its Secretary-General. His delegation therefore favoured the adoption by the Council of draft resolution II recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources in its report on its first special session (E/5778, chap. I). However, the issue was not the content of document E/5778 but the information provided by document E/5778/Add.1. Referring to the statement just made by the Secretary of the Council, he asked if the Secretariat intended to submit further estimates at a later stage.

5. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said that it was not possible at that time to envisage any reduction in the estimates.

6. Mr. VOLOSHIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation would not object to the adoption of draft resolution II but wished to restate the consistent policy of the Soviet Union that it was necessary to make maximum use of existing Secretariat personnel and to avoid creating new posts. The facilities available in existing departments, such as the secretariat of the Committee on Natural Resources, should be used to the full.

7. Mr. MYERSON (United States of America) reaffirmed the importance which his country attached to the United Nations Water Conference but hoped that the Secretariat would make every possible effort to economize on expenditure to the extent consistent with the efficient servicing of the Conference.

8. Mr. OLIVERI LOPEZ (Argentina) expressed satisfaction that the Council intended to adopt draft resolution II and appoint a Secretary-General for the Conference, as that would give new impetus to the preparatory work. He also announced that a technical exhibition would probably be held at Buenos Aires simultaneously with the Conference.

9. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution II recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources (E/5778, chap. I).

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 1983 (LX)).

10. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council decided to take note of the decision of the Committee on Natural Resources contained in paragraph 2 of its report and of the Committee's report on its first special session (E/5778 and Add.1).

It was so decided (decision 144 (LX)).

AGENDA ITEM 3

Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*continued*) (E/5759 and Add.1, E/5760 and Add.1, E/5763, E/5799)

11. Mr. COVACI (Romania) said that the Romanian Government and people continued to give full support to international action directed against racism and racial discrimination, as those phenomena were anachronistic and incompatible with the need to establish and develop friendly relations and co-operation among countries and peoples. It was the obligation of the

United Nations to take resolute action to eliminate any manifestation of exploitation, discrimination, racism and *apartheid* and to reject firmly any attempt to re-establish such evils. His delegation was in favour of new practical and concrete measures to support national liberation movements, which should be adequately represented in the United Nations. In particular, the Romanian people welcomed the victory of the peoples of the former Portuguese colonies as a victory for progressive forces the world over.

12. In support of the goals of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, the Romanian Government had organized various activities in 1975 and 1976 to support the struggle of peoples still under the domination of colonialism and racism. In order to achieve the objectives of the Decade, the world community should progress with more determination beyond mere declarations of principle to the implementation of practical measures. The struggle against policies of domination, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism would be more effective if the United Nations Charter itself were to state clearly the need to abolish those practices completely and definitively. More States should be encouraged to become parties to the relevant international legal instruments, in particular the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX)).

13. The maintenance of inequality between races in certain territories of southern Africa constituted an obstacle to the establishment of perfect equality among countries and peoples and threatened international peace and security. In that connexion, Romania warmly supported the proposal to organize a world conference to combat racial discrimination and welcomed the discussions between the Secretary-General and the Government of Ghana on holding the Conference in that country (E/5763).

14. Mr. BARCELO (Mexico) said that his country supported and indeed was a leader in the fight against the scourges of racial discrimination and colonialism; that struggle was especially important because of the impact of those evils on the international economic situation as described in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX)). His delegation welcomed the offer of the Government and people of Ghana to act as host to the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which would certainly be one of the culminating points of the Decade. With regard to the agenda for the Conference, he hoped that some new forms of racial discrimination arising from economic discrimination would be discussed. The problem of migrant workers, for instance, was of increasing importance to a number of countries.

15. Mr. SCHUPPUS (Togo) said that, while the scourges of racism and racial discrimination had still not been eliminated from the planet, it could nevertheless be said that some progress was being achieved. All States must become more profoundly aware of the iniquity and injustice of those evils and implement all the General Assembly resolutions on the subject. He recalled that the United Nations Charter called upon all nations to develop friendly relations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, which implied a respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, colour or religion. The international community must be especially on its guard against institutionalized

systems of oppression and repression in the service of retrograde policies based on the negation of human equality and dignity.

16. The main reason for the failure of the world community to influence the Governments of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia to abandon their criminal course was that those Member States which were able to give force to the General Assembly resolutions were supporting the racist régimes in violation of those resolutions. Confronted with the hypocritical and cynical actions of some major Powers and the arrogant South African disregard for world opinion and United Nations resolutions, the international community must remain vigilant against carefully orchestrated diversionary tactics on the part of certain countries which had themselves contributed to a great extent through the values of their religion or their humanism to the development of human relations.

17. It was essential that international action against racism be intensified and publicized so as to alert public opinion to the scourges of racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*. That action must be truly international and humanitarian and must be supported by all States Members of the United Nations.

18. His delegation was very grateful to the Government and people of Ghana for their generous offer to act as host to a world conference to combat racism in 1978. It was important that every effort be made to ensure the success of the Conference and his delegation supported the Ghanaian Government's request that the United Nations defray one half of the expenses to be incurred by holding the Conference away from Headquarters. He also supported the proposal of the representative of Portugal to include the problem of migrant workers on the provisional agenda for the Conference.

19. Mr. MALIK (Pakistan) said that much had been accomplished since the beginning of the Decade. He had noted with satisfaction the statement of the Director of the Division of Human Rights that 43 Governments had replied to the questionnaire prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 18 (e) of the Programme for the Decade (General Assembly resolution 3057 (XXVIII)).

20. Pakistan's position on the question of racial discrimination was well known. It had been one of the first States to ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and had complied with all the United Nations resolutions and decisions on the question. It extended bilateral and multilateral assistance to the victims of racial discrimination and contributed to the United Nations Fund for Namibia and the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa and participated in the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Racial discrimination did not exist in Pakistan because national policies, legislation and the Constitution prohibited it. Pakistan did not maintain any kind of relations with the racist minority régimes in Southern Rhodesia and South Africa and would continue to do everything possible to ensure the elimination of racial discrimination throughout the world. In that connexion, he referred to the statement of the Prime Minister of Pakistan on the occasion of the commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which had been read out in the Special

Committee against *Apartheid* by the representative of Pakistan.¹

21. He commended the efforts being made by United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, in relation to the Decade. His delegation was particularly interested in the outcome of the International Seminar on the Eradication of *Apartheid* and in Support of the Struggle for Liberation in South Africa to be held at Havana from 24 to 28 May 1976. His delegation would await the consideration of the report of the Commission on Human Rights under agenda item 7 before stating its views on the Commission's recommendation at its thirty-second session concerning the report of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts (E/5768, chap. I, draft resolution I).

22. He expressed appreciation for the Ghanaian Government's offer to act as host to the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and supported Ghana's request that the United Nations defray half the additional expenditure involved. The advantages of holding the Conference in an African country would far outweigh the additional costs, which could be met partly through voluntary contributions and partly from the United Nations regular budget.

23. Mr. DIRAR (Organization of African Unity), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that OAU had always maintained a strong and uncompromising stand against racial discrimination and *apartheid*, and adopted varying tactics in order to co-ordinate the activities of African countries to isolate colonialist and racist régimes and increase public awareness of the crimes perpetrated by those régimes.

24. OAU maintained close and fruitful co-operation with the United Nations, particularly in assisting liberation movements and campaigning to eradicate *apartheid* and racial discrimination. The two organizations had held various joint conferences, including the International Conference of Experts for the Support of Victims of Colonialism and *Apartheid* in Southern Africa, held at Oslo from 9 to 14 April 1973, and the International Conference on Namibia and Human Rights, held at Dakar from 5 to 8 January 1976, and OAU would co-operate fully in the organization of the forthcoming world conference to combat racism.

25. OAU also provided financial, material and moral support for liberation movements and victims of *apartheid* in southern Africa. Financial support was provided through various funds. It should be noted that in its resolution 3412 (XXX) the United Nations General Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to co-operate with OAU in assisting victims of colonialism and *apartheid* in southern Africa. The OAU Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees co-operated with UNHCR, UNESCO and OAU member States in finding educational and work opportunities for African refugees. OAU published bulletins and press releases on the struggle against *apartheid* and on crimes and atrocities committed by racist régimes, and radio and visual means of disseminating information were being developed.

26. The success of the liberation struggles in Mozambique and Angola increased the isolation of *apartheid* régimes and helped the struggle against *apartheid*. That fact had been recognized at the session of the OAU Council of Ministers held in February 1976, at which the Council had adopted a resolution reiterating its

¹ See A/AC.115/SR.320.

condemnation of *apartheid*, rejecting the so-called independence of the bantustans and urging OAU member States to campaign against international recognition of the bantustans. In that resolution OAU had also reiterated its support for the struggle by SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organization) in Namibia and for the growing resistance of the peoples of South Africa and Zimbabwe, and its resolve to increase financial and material assistance to liberation movements in South Africa.

27. He pledged OAU support for United Nations efforts to organize a world conference to combat racism and racial discrimination. The momentum of the struggle against racism must be maintained and every effort made to eradicate that inhuman policy from the world. All decisions and recommendations of the United Nations and its bodies must therefore be implemented, and he appealed to those Member States which had not already done so to ratify the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*.

28. Mrs. MAIR (Jamaica) said that her delegation had been a sponsor of General Assembly resolution 3057 (XXVIII) which had brought the Programme for the Decade into being, because it had felt that a sustained effort over a period of years was required to combat racism and racial discrimination. During the past year, the international community had given high priority to the subject of the Decade and a study of the factors involved showed that the only effective strategy against racism and racial discrimination was political action. That was borne out by the majority of the relevant resolutions adopted at the thirtieth session of the General Assembly. Specific political decisions were also requested of Member States in relation to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid* (General Assembly resolution 3068 (XXVIII)) and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Those instruments could ensure that Member States paid more than lip service to the goals of the Decade. The emphasis was on the exercise of political will at national and international levels, and useful work had been done by United Nations organs, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations.

29. The most effective and inspiring example for the Decade had been provided by the national liberation movements of Africa in such countries as Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Angola. The Decade could achieve in collective global terms what the liberation movements had achieved nationally. The essential elements for further action were contained in United Nations resolutions, particularly Security Council resolutions 385 (1976) to 388 (1976), which demanded that the racist Governments in Salisbury and Pretoria release their stranglehold over Zimbabwe and Namibia. There had been an overwhelming consensus in the Security Council that time had run out for such racist policies.

30. Although it was still living with some of the legacies of past racist policies, Jamaica's national and foreign policies reflected its determination that the problem would never recur within its borders. They also reflected Jamaica's sense of responsibility for ensuring that racism and racial discrimination were brought to an end throughout the world. At the international level, Jamaica continued to work towards a just and equitable international economic order as the

only solid foundation for a world free of inequalities among men, including those imposed by racial prejudices, and was aware that the economic division of the world into privileged and less privileged nations carried significant ethnic implications. Jamaica had maintained strict observance of diplomatic and economic boycotts against South Africa and Southern Rhodesia and gave diplomatic and material support to the African liberation movements. Special praise was due to Mozambique for the policy it had recently adopted against Southern Rhodesia.

31. Her delegation was grateful to the Government and people of Ghana for their generous offer to act as host to the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination in 1978. The Conference should be action-oriented and should identify the kind of educational programmes required to remove the deeply rooted mental distortions which produced racial prejudices even after the colonial infrastructures of racial discrimination were destroyed. Ghana had been in the vanguard of the anti-colonial and anti-*apartheid* struggle, and the Jamaican Government would approve any proposals made by the Council to ensure that Ghana received the necessary resources to fulfil its responsibilities as host country.

32. Mr. GROS (France) said that his country had always unswervingly supported the Programme for the Decade, the aims of which were in harmony with its own dedication to the cause of human rights. *Apartheid* and racial segregation deprived millions of men and women of the free exercise of their human rights and, in pursuing such policies, South Africa was contravening Articles 55 and 56 of the United Nations Charter. France had consistently condemned such policies, in so far as such condemnation did not constitute interference in the internal politics of States. It had also contributed more than \$500,000 since 1971 to the various funds set up to assist victims of *apartheid*.

33. However, his country had adhered to the Programme for the Decade in order to combat not only *apartheid* but also racism, which went far beyond the geographical frontiers of *apartheid*. Although his country rejected the assertion that NATO was indirectly implicated in preserving racist régimes, it had in general supported texts drawn up by both the Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, relating to the Programme. Furthermore, pursuant to that Programme and in the spirit of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, his Government had in 1972 adopted a special law against racism, based on principles of national law which made no distinction between citizens. The scarcity of convictions for violations of that law demonstrated that racial discrimination was not a characteristic of his country and his fellow countrymen.

34. Regarding the situation of migrant workers, he wished to point out that French law regarding employment and social security was among the most liberal in the world. It was unjust to single out failings in that system as a means of attacking French policy in that field.

35. His country shared with those which actually suffered from racism a great concern to eliminate racism irrevocably. It had demonstrated that concern at the thirtieth session of the General Assembly by attempting to keep the possibility of a dialogue open until the last moment, and he hoped that that attitude would be duly appreciated.

36. Mrs. LUNAMA lu NIMY (Zaire) said that Zaire attached the highest importance to the Decade and had supported all the relevant General Assembly resolutions. As an African country and a member of OAU, Zaire had participated in the work of the OAU Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa and supported all the liberation movements recognized by OAU. She recalled that the President of the Republic of Zaire, in a statement made on 4 October 1973, at the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly,² had condemned the racism and racial discrimination of which the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa were the victims. In Zaire, all the information media had been mobilized to inform the population of the danger to the world, and to Africa in particular, of allowing the *apartheid* régime in South Africa to continue. Racism and all forms of discrimination—for example, tribalism—were strongly condemned in Zaire. Her Government welcomed the action taken by the Government of Mozambique against Southern Rhodesia. Furthermore, Zaire had just deposited its instrument of accession to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

37. Her delegation was pleased to note that the United Nations, its expert bodies, the specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and Governments were working to implement the Programme for the Decade. It was to be hoped that racism and racial discrimination would soon be banished from the world for ever.

38. Her delegation supported the Ghanaian Government in its request (see E/5763, chap. II) that the General Assembly make an exception to the rule established in General Assembly resolution 2609 (XXIV), paragraph 10, and agree to defray half the additional costs incurred for the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, since it should be held on the African continent where the problem of racism and racial discrimination was most acute.

² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 2140th meeting.

39. Mr. VON KYAW (Federal Republic of Germany) said that, in its reply to the questionnaire from the Secretary-General in pursuance of paragraph 18 (e) of the Programme for the Decade, the Federal Republic of Germany had omitted to mention that it continued to contribute to the various funds established by the United Nations to alleviate the sufferings of the victims of racial discrimination in southern Africa, in addition to its pledge to contribute \$100,000 to the establishment of the Institute for Namibia.

40. In accordance with article 1 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Federal Republic of Germany continued to condemn the policies of *apartheid*, racism and racial discrimination, and the Government of South Africa was fully informed of that position. His country had recently stated that it expected urgent measures to be taken for the full application of the principle of self-determination based on majority rule and guarantees for the minorities in Southern Rhodesia and Namibia. Those problems should be solved speedily in order to prevent foreign intervention in Africa, and particularly southern Africa, which might impair the sovereign right of the African people to determine their own destinies freely and independently. The steps taken by his country bilaterally and with its partners in EEC should be seen in that context.

41. A new element had been introduced into the Programme for the Decade by the adoption of General Assembly resolution 3379 (XXX), which had compelled the Federal Republic of Germany to vote against the resolutions concerning the Decade adopted at the thirtieth session. Similarly, it had voted against resolution 9 (XXXII) of the Commission on Human Rights. The measures taken with regard to the Decade at the thirtieth session of the Assembly and subsequently had been counter-productive, and there should be a general reassessment of the situation if the damage to the Programme for the Decade was to be repaired.

The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.

1991st meeting

Tuesday, 27 April 1976, at 3.35 p.m.

President: Mr. Siméon AKE (Ivory Coast).

E/SR.1991

AGENDA ITEM 3

Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*continued*) (E/5759 and Add.1, E/5760 and Add.1, E/5763, E/5799)

1. Mr. HELOU (International Association of French-Speaking Parliamentarians), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that he welcomed the opportunity to address a meeting dedicated to the struggle against racism and racial discrimination and to speak of the contributions of his organization, whose very existence, structure, statutes and activities testified to its dedication to that struggle. His organization represented over 200 million people from rich countries and poor, developed and developing, each attached to its own identity but also sharing a common language. They were united, not in spite of their differences, but

rather because of them. Many members of the Economic and Social Council also belonged to his organization, which shared and contributed to the Council's goals.

2. As an association of parliamentarians elected by the peoples of their respective countries, of interpreters and leaders of public opinion, the Association was a natural intermediary between the highest international bodies and the people, as well as between international assemblies and the national assemblies it represented. It therefore felt well equipped to help the Council in the sphere of information as well as in that of action, and had effectively done so in the past.

3. In promoting such common ideals as the struggle against racism, his organization felt that progress consisted essentially in changing the way human societies