

59. Racism and racial discrimination in all their forms had been unequivocally condemned by the United Nations and world public opinion. The international community should now express through action its determination to eliminate those evils completely. To that end, the General Assembly had proclaimed the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and had adopted a broad programme of action, including the holding, in 1978, of the World Conference. His delegation felt that wide publicity should be given to the Programme for the Decade, because it believed that it was essential to mobilize world public opinion. It also in general supported the recommendations contained in the report of the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the Conference because it felt that that report constituted a solid basis for the preparation of the Conference and that it was essential that there should be the widest possible representation and participation in the Conference.

60. In conclusion, he pointed out that Bangladesh, which was one of the least developed countries, appreciated the inability of the Government of Ghana to act as host to the Conference and hoped that it would continue to keep its place in the vanguard of the struggle against racism and racial discrimination.

61. Mr. KARUHIJE (Rwanda) said that the scourge of racism and racial discrimination constituted one of the main obstacles to the implementation of the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, inasmuch as it divided men from birth, throughout their lives, and even after death, since there were separate cemeteries for blacks and whites.

62. Rwanda felt solidarity with the people of South Africa, who were suffering the most perverse form of racism, *apartheid*, and with the Palestinian people, who were the victims of infamy, and it condemned the external aid received by the racist régimes of southern Africa.

63. With regard to the Decade, his delegation paid a tribute to the specialized agencies, and to non-governmental organizations and private organizations for the work they

had done in support of the Decade, and it thanked the Council and all its bodies for the efforts they had made in that connexion.

64. Investigations carried out in the United States of America and France showed that there was destined to be a mingling of the races and that in 2,000 years time the population of the globe would be homogeneous. He hoped that it would not be necessary to wait 20 centuries to see the scourge of racial discrimination disappear from the face of the earth.

65. His delegation considered that the holding of the Conference was necessary and urgent, because it would enable the international community to gain an awareness of the problem of racism. Referring to the reservations set forth in the report of the Preparatory Sub-Committee, he said he hoped that the Council would be able to approve that document by consensus.

66. Mr. DOWNES-THOMAS (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had recommended, in part one of its report (E/5922), that a member of the Division of Human Rights should attend the International Conference in Support of the Peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia to be held at Maputo. That recommendation, if approved by the Council, would entail financial consequences for the Division of Human Rights in the amount of \$2,000 for travel and subsistence expenses.

67. The PRESIDENT said that, if there were no objection, he would take it that the Council accepted the recommendation of the Sub-Committee that a member of the Division of Human Rights should attend the International Conference in Support of the Peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia.

*It was so decided (decision 215 (LXII)).*

*The meeting rose at 5.25 p.m.*

## 2051st meeting

Monday, 25 April 1977, at 3.35 p.m.

*President: Mr. Ladislav ŠMÍD (Czechoslovakia).*

E/SR.2051

### AGENDA ITEM 3

#### Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*continued*) (E/5920, E/5921, E/5922)

1. Mr. WASILEWSKI (Poland) said that racism and racial discrimination were totally incompatible with the basic principles and ideological foundations of the socio-political system in his country. Poland had always attached great importance to United Nations activities aimed at eradicating colonialism, racism, *apartheid* and all forms of racial

discrimination; it was a party to international instruments relating to that subject, including the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*; in March 1977 it had ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; finally, it had been on Poland's initiative that the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity, which classified *apartheid* as a

crime against humanity, had been adopted. In addition, Poland gave constant and unlimited support to the liberation movements in southern Africa, his delegation was a member of the United Nations Council for Namibia and his Government had no relations whatsoever with the racist régimes of southern Africa.

2. For all those reasons, Poland fully supported the goals of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. The World Conference on that topic would be a highly appropriate means of ensuring the full success of the Decade and Poland, which was in favour of holding that Conference in 1978, welcomed the recommendations made by the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the Conference in its report (E/5922), which provided a sound basis for the successful work of the Conference.

3. Miss MANGANARA (Greece) said that her country, in which racial discrimination was unknown, supported the goals of the Decade and for that reason had voted in favour of General Assembly resolution 3377 (XXX), in addition to having ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

4. For the success of the Programme for the Decade sustained efforts by the entire international community would be needed and it must be borne in mind that the elimination of racism and racial discrimination would also require educational action and profound changes of outlook.

5. Her delegation considered that the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, whose objectives were set forth in paragraph 13 (a) of the Programme for the Decade, which was annexed to General Assembly resolution 3057 (XXVIII), should not be simply a technical meeting for the study of racism and racial discrimination but should be a political meeting at the highest level which would make it possible to adopt effective measures for the elimination of those evils. In that context, her delegation supported, in its basic aspects, the report of the Preparatory Sub-Committee (E/5922). However, it maintained any reservations which it might have stated on earlier occasions with regard to certain specific points raised in that report. The position which her delegation would adopt in relation to any draft resolution submitted on the item would be determined in the light of the principles which she had just set forth.

6. Mr. SIDDIQ (Afghanistan) said that racial discrimination constituted one of the gravest violations of human rights and that his country, which had enshrined the principle of human dignity, freedom and equality in its Constitution, had always condemned racial discrimination in all its manifestations. The most extreme forms of racism and racial discrimination were those which were practised in southern Africa, but in that region the effort of the peoples to secure respect for their fundamental rights had been given new impetus, as demonstrated by the armed struggle of the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia and the rebellion of the people of South Africa against the *apartheid* régime. Afghanistan, which considered that the situation prevailing in southern Africa constituted a threat to international peace and security, supported the right of the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia to self-deter-

mination and independence and considered that *apartheid* was a crime against humanity. Similarly, it supported the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Programme for the Decade, particularly the World Conference to be held in 1978, which, it was to be hoped, would be held in Africa.

7. In that connexion, he said that his delegation was in agreement with the proposals made by the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the Conference as they appeared in its report. In view of the importance of the decisions taken by the United Nations with regard to the matter, he hoped that all of them would be put into effect by the international community.

8. Mr. SAAD (Sudan) said that under the Constitution of the Sudan all persons were equal before the law, irrespective of origin, race, domicile, sex, language or religion. Moreover, the President of the Sudan had stated in February 1977 that his country's foreign policy with regard to Africa was firmly based on its commitment to the principles of defending the liberation struggle and human rights and of actively combating racism and racial discrimination. The Sudan had ratified the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid* and had acceded to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. It fully supported the oppressed peoples of Azania, Namibia, Palestine and Zimbabwe, who were the victims of racist policies and racial discrimination.

9. Those policies had been condemned by the international community. That condemnation represented a positive step, but it was not enough. Moral support for oppressed peoples gave them hope and inspiration, but the material support given to those who oppressed them rendered those efforts ineffective. If the international community really wished to combat racism and racial discrimination during the Decade, it had but two options: either to withhold the means of strengthening the position of those who were oppressing the peoples of southern Africa and Palestine or to provide those peoples with the material means that would enable them to liberate themselves from racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*.

10. His delegation, which attached great importance to the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, felt that everything possible should be done to ensure that it produced positive results. It therefore hoped that the Council would adopt unanimously the recommendations of the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the Conference.

11. Mr. KANAZAWA (Japan) observed that his country had always opposed all forms of discrimination and that more than half a century earlier it had been among the first to oppose racial discrimination in an international forum, condemning it in the League of Nations. Its present Constitution barred all discrimination and, in the light of those facts, and in the belief that no meaningful social and economic development could be attained by any society where discrimination was widely practised, Japan had supported the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

12. In that same spirit, it supported the convening of the World Conference and considered that the Preparatory Sub-Committee had performed a praiseworthy task. Participation in the Conference should be sufficiently broad to enable it to command the greatest possible support from all countries that opposed racism. The items on the draft provisional agenda for the Conference were well organized and the Conference could achieve important results if it considered those items in a constructive manner and if all the participating States exercised restraint so as to avoid turning the Conference into a forum of political confrontation.

13. In trying to formulate effective measures, the Conference would have to bear in mind, first, that the measures to be adopted should be practical measures that could be implemented in each of the participating countries. In that connexion, greater emphasis should be placed on the importance of long-range educational programmes aimed at inculcating international understanding and respect for human rights and eliminating the ignorance and fear which nourished racism and racial discrimination. Secondly, any measure adopted by the Conference recommending concerted action by the international community should be of a peaceful nature.

14. Miss BALOGUN (Nigeria) said that Nigeria's position with relation to the question of racism and racial discrimination had been set forth repeatedly in many international forums within and outside the United Nations. Nigeria had no racial problems and therefore the question of discrimination between different races was virtually non-existent in that country. The Constitution of Nigeria included provisions prohibiting discrimination on grounds of sex, race or religion, and Nigeria was a party to both the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*. Throughout the years, Nigeria had always given complete moral, material and political support to the peoples who were victims of racism and discrimination, particularly to those who were struggling to free themselves from oppression and repression in the racist and colonialist régimes of southern Africa. For those reasons, it was in favour of the adoption of political, economic and other sanctions to oblige those régimes to agree without delay to black majority rule.

15. Some Member States, in contravention of United Nations resolutions, continued to collaborate with the racist régime and, in so doing, contributed directly or indirectly to their maintenance. In that context, she recalled that, in his statement in the Security Council debate on the question of South Africa, the Commissioner for External Affairs of Nigeria had said, *inter alia*, that the hesitation of some Members to invoke Chapter VII of the Charter was due to the fear that that would open the door to economic sanctions.<sup>1</sup> It must be recognized that countries which had invested heavily in racist South Africa had invested even more heavily in the countries of black Africa. The time had come for Africans to consider seriously which way they must go in that matter. They

could not continue to deal with institutions which at the same time catered to régimes that held fellow African people in bondage and slavery. Economic sanctions, especially the cessation of new investments in South Africa, was an action that must be taken. In Western countries, there was a school of thought which believed that loans and investments went a long way towards helping the black majority and that their cessation would have devastating effects on the blacks. That reasoning was, however, highly questionable, for the black people did not benefit from the gigantic development in certain sectors of the South African economy and could not sink lower into poverty or live under more humiliating conditions than they currently did, confined in bantustans.

16. It was clear from the words of the Commissioner for External Affairs that the United Nations must invoke Chapter VII of its Charter. Member States must think less of the economic losses that that would entail for some States and think more about the appalling situation of the black peoples oppressed by the racist and colonial régimes in southern Africa.

17. As part of Nigeria's commitment to the implementation of the Programme for the Decade, her delegation had participated in the preparatory work for the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination scheduled for 1978. The Government of Nigeria would, in addition, have the privilege of acting as host to the World Conference for Action against *Apartheid*, to be held at Lagos, arrangements for which had already reached an advanced stage. Nigeria had also been Chairman of the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, the report of which was one of the basic documents currently under consideration. Her delegation believed that the groundwork done by the Sub-Committee would provide a meaningful basis for further action which the Council might see fit to take at the current session. Her delegation therefore hoped that the report of the Sub-Committee would be adopted in the usual manner.

18. In view of the importance which her Government attached to the item under consideration, her delegation had taken the liberty of circulating among members of the Council copies of a statement made by the representative of Nigeria during the Security Council debate on the question of South Africa. That statement included a comprehensive review of the current situation in South Africa and placed the whole question of racism and racial discrimination in the correct political, social, economic and humanitarian perspective.

19. Mr. HERZOG (Observer for Israel), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that in 1973, when the Third Committee had recommended the Programme for the Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Israel had supported it firmly and unequivocally, not only because of its abhorrence of the very notion of discrimination based on race, colour or creed, but also because for centuries the Jewish people had been the classic victim of racism in various parts of the world. The Jews were a multiracial people whose religion could be adopted by anyone without distinction as to race, colour or sex. The fact that young Jewish activists had not waited until the

<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-second Year, 1989th meeting, para. 19.*

1960s to play a prominent role in the fight for black civil rights in the United States clearly demonstrated the Jewish attitude on the question of racial discrimination. As early as 1902, Theodore Herzl, founder of the Zionist movement, had summed up that attitude when he had spoken of the misfortunes of blacks subjected to the horrors of slavery and expressed the desire to assist in the redemption of the black people, once the redemption of the people of Israel had been secured.

20. In Israel's reply to the questionnaire sent by the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 18 of resolution 3057 (XXVIII), it frankly and unreservedly stated that racism and racial discrimination did not exist in Israel. Having regard to the great ethnic, religious and linguistic diversity of its people, the State of Israel had, from its very inception, been guided by the principles of freedom, justice and peace and had done its utmost to ensure equality of social and political rights for all its inhabitants. Given the hostility surrounding it, it was no mean achievement for Israel to have consistently upheld the personal and national rights of its Arab citizens, who were represented in all walks of Israeli life.

21. Israel was eager to participate in the Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. On 10 November 1975, the General Assembly had adopted resolution 3379 (XXX), which would live in infamy and which had discredited the United Nations and provoked a storm of revulsion throughout world opinion. As a result, Israel had been obliged to withdraw its support for the Decade and the World Conference which was scheduled to be held in 1978, as long as that outrageous slander was associated with the Programme. It was clear from the report of the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the Conference (E/5922) what the intentions of the sponsors of resolution 3379 (XXX) were. Item 11 (a) of the draft provisional agenda called for the full and universal implementation of United Nations decisions and resolutions on racism, racial discrimination, etc. Since the adoption of the anti-semitic resolution 3379 (XXX), equating the national liberation movement of the Jewish people with racism, the unqualified language of item 11 (a) of the provisional agenda for the Conference could only be construed as embracing that pernicious resolution as well; that had been understood at the sixty-first session of the Council.

22. Despite the reservations expressed by some delegations, the Preparatory Sub-Committee had recommended that the Secretariat should prepare a compilation of United Nations resolutions and decisions relevant to combating racism and racial discrimination, a move calculated to include resolution 3379 (XXX) and thus enable the forces of anti-semitism to raise the Zionist issue at the Conference. Lest any doubt should remain about those intentions, it had been proposed that the documentation for the Conference should include the report of the so-called symposium on zionism held at Baghdad in November 1976, which had been referred to in paragraph 41 of the Sub-Committee's report as a "symposium of racial discrimination". Attention should also be drawn to the recommendation that the so-called Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People should be invited to participate in the Conference. That Committee had no connexion whatsoever with the Conference, unless

the intention was to drag the Zionist issue into its deliberations. Having prepared the ground so thoroughly, it was obvious that some Arab States and their satellites would not let slip the opportunity to monopolize the Conference as they had done on previous occasions.

23. If Iraq wished the Conference to embrace the common struggle of all peoples for national liberation, as the Iraqi representative had stated at the previous meeting, then it would certainly be necessary to include in the agenda for the World Conference an item on the long and bitter struggle of the Kurdish people against Iraqi oppression. The Conference would then be able to discuss the evidence recently presented by various United Nations bodies and international agencies charging Iraq with grave violations of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, demonstrated by systematic attempts to destroy the political, economic, cultural and linguistic identity of the Kurdish ethnic group, as well as executions, instances of torture, and the detention and deportation of tens of thousands of Kurds. If, in the words of the Iraqi representative at the previous meeting of the Council, the right of peoples to self-determination was an inalienable right which could not be denied, he would surely have no objection to the question of the struggle of the Kurdish people for self-determination being placed on the agenda for the World Conference.

24. It was rather odd that the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the Conference should consider including the report of the Baghdad symposium on zionism—a symposium whose ideological unanimity was known to all—in the documentation for the Conference, and yet ignore the evidence of Iraqi violations of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination presented to various United Nations committees. It should be recalled that that evidence formed part of the official records of the Economic and Social Council.

25. If the recommendations in the report were accepted, the Conference would undoubtedly become a Conference against zionism. However, there was still time to insulate the Conference against that form of abuse and restore it to its original conception. The Council had yet to decide whether or not to accept the recommendations. It could exclude resolution 3379 (XXX) from the documentation for the Conference; it could exclude the report of the Baghdad symposium on zionism; it certainly could exclude participation by the "Palestine Committee" in the Conference. In brief, the Council should ensure that the World Conference was not diverted from its original purposes by the intrusion of narrow, reactionary and anti-semitic overtones. It should ensure that the Conference's terms of reference were made to conform to the aims and intentions of the resolution adopted in 1973 which had inspired it. In other words, the choice before the Council was between a Conference genuinely devoted to combating racial discrimination and one held under United Nations auspices that would become an instrument for the partisan aims of the Arab States in their unrelenting political warfare against the Jewish State and for the sinister forces of reactionary anti-semitic racism.

26. Before concluding, it should be stressed that the Jewish world was following closely the decisions which



would be taken on that issue, since it was one on which the Jewish people everywhere were solidly and fearlessly united. How nations had voted on resolution 3379 (XXX) in 1975 had been taken as the touchstone of their attitude towards the Jewish people. Jewish people throughout the world would use the same measure when decisions were taken regarding the attempt which was currently being made to inject into the World Conference false and wicked allegations based on that most blatant form of racial discrimination, anti-semitism.

27. Mr. YANKOV (Bulgaria) said that ideologies and practices of racism and racial discrimination were historically alien to the Bulgarian people. Bulgaria itself had waged a protracted struggle for survival, for national and social liberation, for the full realization of its right to self-determination and for the preservation of its national identity. The Bulgarian people therefore identified with peoples which were struggling against imperialism, colonialism, foreign domination, racism and racial discrimination. Together with other socialist countries, Bulgaria had been providing assistance to those peoples and their national liberation movements and, as an active member of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, it had made a financial contribution to the forthcoming Maputo Conference.

28. His delegation welcomed the positive contributions made by various United Nations organs and by some specialized agencies towards the attainment of the goals and objectives of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, as described in the report of the Secretary-General (E/5920). In that connexion, he pointed out the important role played by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and expressed the hope that the Commission on Human Rights would effectively carry out the function assigned to it of applying the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*. Mention should also be made of the efforts of UNESCO in that field and of the contributions of the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Special Committee against *Apartheid* and the United Nations Council for Namibia.

29. Document E/5921, which provided an account of various government activities related to the Programme for the Decade, reflected the full awareness of Governments throughout the world of the fact that colonialism, racism and racial discrimination continued to pose a threat to international peace and security and were serious impediments to progress and international co-operation in the economic, social and humanitarian fields, and of the need to intensify efforts to achieve the complete elimination of those evils.

30. In contrast to the positive will and concerted action of the vast majority of States Members of the United Nations, the negative attitude or intentional inaction of certain States was all the more conspicuous. The efforts of the Security Council to apply effective measures, in accordance with the United Nations Charter, against the racist régimes

had been repeatedly blocked by that group of States. Efforts were being made to undermine the role of the forthcoming World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination or to create disagreements among different countries or groups of countries. Recent events in Africa, and in particular the assassinations of President Ngouabi of the Congo and the Lebanese political leader Kemal Jumlat, as well as public statements at the current session of the Council, revealed the intentions behind such tactics. It was ironic that, at the same time, appeals were being made for constructive and concerted action and a zealous campaign had been initiated in defence of human rights. In that connexion, his delegation shared the hope of other delegations, in particular, that of Algeria, that such tactics would be reconsidered. While the struggle against colonialism and racism required sacrifices of all nations and institutions, it should be remembered that the most painful and the greatest sacrifices were made by the victims of those evils. The pain and suffering experienced by mankind today, especially in southern Africa, were the price paid for the attainment of freedom and justice.

31. The Great October Socialist Revolution had ushered in a new era for the world in which peoples had ceased to be passive objects of history and had become the masters of their destiny. The Decree on Self-Determination and Equality of Nations had been among the first legislative acts of the first socialist State. The right of peoples to self-determination was now enshrined as a fundamental human right in the Charter of the United Nations. The very membership of the Organization was a living example of the historic significance of the principles and rights proclaimed by the Great October Socialist Revolution.

32. His delegation believed that the report of the Preparatory Sub-Committee (E/5922) provided a good basis for subsequent preparations for the World Conference and that the Council should recommend it for approval by the General Assembly, in view of the fact that it had been adopted by the Preparatory Sub-Committee by consensus. In addition, he suggested that the resolution which the Council would adopt should indicate that the Conference should concentrate on the struggle against racism and racial discrimination throughout the world and, in particular, in southern Africa. Finally, he suggested that, pending the appointment of a Secretary-General of the Conference, the crucial task of co-ordination and supervision of the preparations for the Conference might be entrusted to the President of the Economic and Social Council.

33. Mr. OULD SID'AHMED (Mauritania) said that the daily suffering and sacrifices of the peoples of Palestine, Namibia, Azania and Zimbabwe and the torture, deprivation and terror on which the policies of the illegal régimes of those Territories were based were problems that were sufficiently concrete—and potentially dangerous—for the international community to go beyond expressions of solidarity with their peoples.

34. The words of condemnation adopted by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council to encourage the racists of Tel Aviv and southern Africa to reflect and to convince them of the anachronistic and dangerous nature of their repressive systems had resulted only in the perfection of their police

and military machinery and in even more barbarous oppression.

35. United Nations resolutions continued to go unheeded because the régimes of Tel Aviv, Salisbury and Pretoria understood only the language of force. The liberation movements of Palestine, Azania, Namibia and Zimbabwe, which enjoyed the unswerving support of all peace-loving peoples, were more determined than ever to obtain through struggle what they could not achieve by peaceful means, and their political maturity, their spirit of sacrifice and the justice of their ideals ensured that they would be triumphant. The most sacred duty of every Government which was concerned with the preservation of peace and justice in the world was not only to assist those oppressed peoples but also scrupulously to avoid any act which might impede their progress towards victory.

36. His delegation believed that in evaluating the progress made in eliminating racism and racial discrimination, the Council must take concrete and concerted measures towards that end.

37. It was unnecessary to describe in detail Mauritania's position on racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*, as it was sufficiently clear and consistent. That position was based on the principles set forth in General Assembly resolution 3057 (XXVIII) and was reflected in complete and unconditional support for the peoples struggling against racism and racial discrimination. As a militant supporter of Africa as a whole and of the Arab world, Mauritania would make every effort to promote awareness of the threat posed by those evils.

38. His delegation attached the greatest importance to the implementation of the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and welcomed the convening of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

39. Finally, his delegation was in agreement with the report of the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the Conference (E/5922) and hoped that, despite the reservations of some delegations, the Council would adopt it in its current form. As to participation in the Conference, all organs and committees of the United Nations should be allowed to make a contribution to its work.

40. Mr. SHER (Pakistan) said that Pakistan had been one of the first States to sign and ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and that it did not maintain relations of any kind with the racist minority régimes of Southern Rhodesia and South Africa. The Government of Pakistan had consistently extended moral and material assistance to peoples struggling against racial discrimination and would make every effort to ensure the elimination of those evils.

41. On 21 March Pakistan had joined the world community in observing the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and commemorated the martyrdom of the innocent victims of Sharpeville and Soweto. On that day, the Prime Minister of Pakistan had reiterated Pakistan's determination to work actively in solidarity with the liberation movements and the "front-

line" African States, for the liberation of southern Africa. He had said also that the heroic liberation struggle of the peoples of Mozambique, Angola and Guinea-Bissau illustrated that not only the balance of justice but the logic of history itself was arraigned against the last bastions of colonialism and that the peoples of Azania, Zimbabwe and Namibia could no longer be diverted from their destiny by the illusion of nationhood under colonial tutelage and the installation of puppet régimes in their territories. It was no accident that the colonial régimes had survived because their exploitative and aggressive designs had been abetted directly or indirectly by those who continued to place greater value on policies of power and commercial interests than on the ideals of human dignity, equality and freedom enshrined in the United Nations Charter. Each victory against colonialism and racism in southern Africa was a victory for the third world and for the uninhibited political and economic freedom of all peoples.

42. His delegation would support any resolution or decision by the Council which called for the total and unconditional elimination of racism and racial discrimination.

43. His delegation whole-heartedly supported the report of the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the Conference and the draft provisional agenda for the Conference itself. With regard to the draft provisional rules of procedure of the Conference contained in annex II to the report of the Preparatory Sub-Committee (E/5922), his delegation considered that in rule 1, concerning composition of delegations, there should be no limit to accredited and alternate representatives. With regard to rule 6, concerning the election of officers, the number of vice-presidents should be left blank, to be decided by regional groups after consultation.

44. His delegation favoured the early appointment of the Secretary-General of the Conference and, given the impossibility of holding the Conference on African soil, as would have been desirable, it would prefer the venue to be United Nations Headquarters, where the cost would be least.

45. Miss RWABAZAIRE (Uganda) said that, although many peoples had managed to liberate themselves from racism and racial discrimination, those evils still affected those living under the minority régimes in southern Africa and the Palestinians in the Middle East. Her delegation paid tribute to all those who had made efforts to contribute to the elimination of those crimes against humanity, and it appealed to all those States who continued to do so to stop giving moral or material support to the racist régimes.

46. Her delegation attached great importance to the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and therefore commended the work of the Preparatory Sub-Committee and approved, in particular, the draft provisional agenda, the draft provisional rules of procedure and the proposals to appoint a Secretary-General of the Conference and to invite all States, as well as other entities, to participate in it as recommended in the Sub-Committee's report.

47. Her country fully appreciated the Government of Ghana's inability to act as host to the World Conference

and hoped that some other Member State would offer to do so. If no offer to that effect was received, her delegation would in due time consider whether the Conference should be held in New York or Geneva. It agreed in principle to the date recommended by the Preparatory Sub-Committee, subject to any change which might be necessary should an offer from another country to act as host be forthcoming.

48. Mr. KUBBA (Iraq) said that the representative of the Zionist entity, condemned by the General Assembly and world public opinion, had said that his Government was opposed to any form of racism and racial discrimination. Nevertheless, that representative seemed to have forgotten the real position of the régime which he represented. The annals of the United Nations showed perfectly clearly the racist nature of the Zionist entity. Furthermore, on 25 June 1969, Golda Meir had said that what her Government wanted was to ensure the existence of a Jewish State with a clear Jewish majority. The Prime Minister of South Africa, for his part, had stated that what his Government proposed was to guarantee the survival of a white South Africa, which implied domination, control and supremacy of the white population. If the word "Jewish" was interchanged with the word "white" or vice versa, the similarities between the South African and the Zionist régimes could be clearly appreciated.

49. The Council had just witnessed a new attempt to assimilate Judaism, as a religious faith, with zionism, which was a racist ideology. That was another example of the way in which the Zionist régime endeavoured to use the Jewish faith, which as such merited all respect, for its own ends. The denunciation of zionism by the United Nations showed that the Organization was fully aware of what were true racist ideas.

50. His delegation maintained that it was out of order to mention the Kurdish question, since that question no longer existed, because the Government of Iraq had resolved it successfully. It was well known that all Iraqis now lived in peace and that, furthermore, they were preparing diligently to struggle for the just cause of the Palestinian people.

51. Mr. TERZI (Observer for the Palestine Liberation Organization), who was invited by the President to speak under rule 73 of the rules of procedure and decision 129 (LIX) of the Council, fully supported the report of the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and awaited the convening of the Conference with great interest.

52. When hearing the representative of the Zionist racist régime, the Council had been witness to a new attempt at discrimination. That representative had maintained that the Conference had to adopt a selective attitude regarding the documentation which it would consider and should not concern itself with General Assembly resolution

3379 (XXX). In his view, all that the representative of the Zionist régime had to do was to come before the Conference and convince the world that zionism was not a form of racism and racial discrimination. He himself was convinced that that representative would be unable to do so because the facts spoke more clearly than his words.

53. Furthermore, it was not true that zionism wanted the liberation of the black population of the world. In General Assembly resolution 31/6 E, which, it should be noted, was not quoted in paragraph 14 of document E/5920, the General Assembly condemned Israel's collaboration with the racist régime in South Africa, and, moreover, it was known that entry to Tel Aviv had been refused to black north American Jews.

54. Nor should it be forgotten that Herzl himself, who, according to the representative of the Zionist régime, had wanted the liberation of the blacks, was the person who had proposed the expulsion of the Palestinians from their home.

55. It was significant that the Political Declaration<sup>2</sup> adopted by the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo in 1976, after expressing full support for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, had supported General Assembly resolution 3379 (XXX). The Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States, meeting at Cairo in March 1977,<sup>3</sup> had also condemned imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, zionism and *apartheid*, as well as all other forms of racism and racial discrimination and segregation, particularly in Africa, Palestine and the occupied Arab territories.

56. He recalled that the previous March, the National Council of Palestine had reaffirmed the importance of maintaining relations and ensuring co-ordination with progressive democratic Jewish forces, both within and outside the occupied homelands, which were struggling against the Zionist ideology and its practices.

57. Mr. PETROV (Bulgaria) said that, during the debate which had just taken place, various questions had been put with regard to the documentation which the Council had before it, in particular with regard to document E/5922. Since the documentation had not been submitted at the outset of deliberations on the item, he suggested that the Council should give the representative of the Division of Human Rights an opportunity to make observations regarding the documents and to answer some of the questions raised by various speakers.

*The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.*

<sup>2</sup> See A/31/197.

<sup>3</sup> See A/32/61.