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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE DECADE FOR ACTION TO
COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In his report of 30 August 1982 (A/37/338), the Secretary-General submitted an analysis of replies received from six Governments.
2. The present addendum contains an analysis of the reply received from the Government of Suriname.

II. INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY GOVERNMENTS PURSUANT TO
PARAGRAPH 18 (e) OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE DECADE*

- A. Legislative, judicial, administrative and other measures adopted to prohibit or prevent any manifestations of racism and racial discrimination, regardless of whether or not discriminatory practices prevail

3. The Government of Suriname refers to legislative provisions which ensure that "Nobody may be discriminated against on the grounds of birth, sex, race, language, religion, origin, education or economic or social status or any other status".

* The full text of the reply received from the Government of Suriname is available for consultation in the files of the United Nations Secretariat.

- B. Legislative, administrative and other measures which have been, or are being, taken to guarantee the right of everyone to equality before the law without distinction as to race, colour, or national or ethnic origin

4. The Government of Suriname indicates that "All Surinamers are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection". It adds that Suriname is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 19 December 1966.

- C. Legislative, administrative and other measures which have been, or are being, taken to guarantee the right of everyone to equality in respect of economic, social and cultural rights without distinction of any kind or on grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin

5. The Government states that the economic, social and cultural rights of the Surinamese people are embodied in articles 11 to 20 of the Statute of Basic Rights and Duties of the People of Suriname. It adds that Suriname is a party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 19 December 1966.

- D. Specific machinery and recourse procedures of a judicial and/or administrative character which can be effectively resorted to by individuals complaining of racial discrimination

6. The Government states that it has not established specific machinery and recourse procedures of a judicial and/or administrative character for victims of racial discrimination.

- E. Measures which have been, or are being, taken to include in school curricula questions relating to racism and racial discrimination

7. The Government reports that the school curricula have not included any questions relating to racism and racial discrimination.

- F. Legislative, administrative and other measures which have been, or are being, taken to declare an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred and to prohibit the establishment of organizations based on racial prejudice

8. The Government states that the Penal Code of Suriname provides for sanctions on manifestations of racism and racial discrimination.

G. Initiating or participating in regional and international activities in line with the goals and objectives of the Programme for the Decade, such as international and regional seminars, conferences and other similar activities

9. The Government reports that it has participated in the regional seminar entitled "Recourse procedures and other forms of protection available to victims of racial discrimination and activities to be undertaken at the national and regional levels" held at Managua, Nicaragua, from 14 to 21 December 1981.

H. Steps taken with a view to ensuring the prohibition of any kind of racial discrimination in laws and in administrative and other measures regulating immigration

10. The Government indicates that its general policy is directed towards preventing and prohibiting racial discrimination. In this context, all activities of other States related to racial discrimination, especially apartheid, are condemned by Suriname, and the Government, therefore, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, restricts immigration of citizens of South Africa.

I. Steps taken to ensure that migrant workers and their families are given treatment which is no less favourable than that accorded to nationals of the host country in matters such as education, employment, the acquisition of property, health and housing facilities, travel within and outside the country, etc.

11. The Government refers to the steps which have been taken to ensure that migrant workers and their families are given treatment which is no less favourable than that accorded to nationals of the host country in matters such as education, employment, the acquisition of property, health and housing, such as: the Act on Collective Agreements (Gouvernements blad 1962, No. 106, art. 2) in which it is not allowed to enlist labourers on the basis of race, religion, or political faith; the Act on Labour Intercession (G.B. 1965, No. 10) in which it is forbidden to make a distinction on the basis of religion, political, or social faith; and Decree E-26 (G.B. 1981, No. 163) which contains arrangements relating to migrant labourers in Suriname. It adds that Suriname has ratified the Convention No. 112 of the International Labour Organisation concerning equal treatment of its own nationals and foreigners in relation to social security.

- J. Co-operation of parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination with the Committee operating under the Convention, in particular in the preparation of full and comprehensive reports under article 9 of the Convention; consideration of the possibility of making the declaration envisaged in article 14, paragraph 1, of that Convention, by which a State party to the Convention recognizes the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to receive and consider communications from individuals or groups of individuals within its jurisdiction claiming to be victims of violations by the State party of any of the rights set forth in the Convention

12. The Government reports that Suriname, before its independence on 25 November 1975, was, as a part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and had accepted the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to consider complaints of individuals. As yet, the Government of Suriname has not made a specific notification of succession with regard to the said Convention. It adds that, by way of general notification of succession made by the Prime Minister of Suriname on 29 November 1975, Suriname considers itself, in principle, bound by the provisions of the Convention.

- K. States parties to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid

13. The Government reports that Suriname became a party to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid on 3 June 1980.

- L. Assistance provided to peoples who are victims of racial discrimination

14. The Government indicates that it does not give financial assistance to victims of racial discrimination.

- M. Denial of support to Governments or régimes which practise racial discrimination, with a view to isolating them and preventing them from perpetuating racist policies and practices

15. The Government states that support to Governments or régimes which practise racial discrimination with a view to isolating them and preventing them from perpetuating racist policies and practices will always be denied by the Surinamese Government. It adds that in international forums Suriname will always principally vote against all racist policies and practices.

- N. Support and assistance provided in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant United Nations declarations and resolutions, to liberation movements struggling against colonialism and racial discrimination, and/or support to Governments that wish to embark on concrete programmes to eradicate racial discrimination

16. The Government states that it will support and assist, in accordance with the United Nations Charter and the relevant United Nations declarations and resolutions, liberation movements struggling against colonialism and racial discrimination, and will extend support to Governments that wish to embark on concrete programmes to eradicate racial discrimination.

- O. Measures that have been, or are being, taken to initiate and support campaigns aimed at mobilizing national public opinion against the evils of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid such as:

- (a) Adequate programmes in the mass media, publishing activities, research seminars, students' and youth organizations, trade unions, employers' organizations and religious and professional organizations;
- (b) The dissemination of educational material against racism and racial discrimination;
- (c) Consideration of ways and means through which communication media and non-governmental organizations may be encouraged to propagate the goals and objectives of the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the relevant resolutions of United Nations organs on racism

17. The Government indicates that, in general, no specific measures have been taken, but the Suriname Constitution and the Suriname Act on Collective Labour Agreements contain arrangements precluding racism and racial discrimination although not specifically against apartheid.

- P. Other information relating to the objectives set out in the Programme for the Decade which Governments wish to communicate, and observations and suggestions concerning ways and means of achieving these objectives

18. The Government states that the objectives set out in the Programme of the Decade fully coincide with those of the Government of Suriname as embodied in its new draft Constitution with regard to establishing a new national humanitarian order.