



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 12th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. HAMER (Netherlands)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 83: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE SECOND DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION: REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/41/3, A/41/181-E/1986/53 and Corr.1, A/41/550, A/41/551, A/41/552, A/41/571, A/41/607)

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- (a) REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (continued)
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1. Ms. BASNYAT (Nepal) said that, although the United Nations had continued to publicize human rights issues, progress in that area had been very slow because some countries, while paying lip-service to internationally recognized norms of conduct, did not implement them at home. Her country strongly opposed apartheid, racism and racial discrimination all over the world, and was a party to 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. Her delegation had noted with appreciation the reports of the Secretary-General on the agenda items under discussion (A/41/550 and A/41/551), and considered that the Economic and Social Council had done useful work in co-ordinating and evaluating various programmes and activities.

2. Apartheid was a brutal example of the violation of human dignity. In defiance of international public opinion, Pretoria still continued its repression of the innocent black population and its attacks on neighbouring independent States. Mandatory sanctions were the only peaceful way in which South Africa could be made to abandon the abhorrent policy of apartheid. As an original member of the Special

(Mrs. Basnyat, Nepal)

Committee against Apartheid, her country would continue to take an active part in the Special Committee's work until its goal was achieved. Her delegation appreciated the unceasing efforts of the United Nations Council for Namibia to achieve the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South Africa from Namibia. The independence of the country must be achieved on the basis of United Nations resolutions, particularly Security Council resolutions 385 (1976) and 435 (1978).

3. As a party to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, Nepal was convinced that universal accession to that Convention would give strong support to the millions of opponents of racism, racial discrimination and colonialism. Nepal had always co-operated fully with the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD).

4. Mr. KITTIKHOUN (Lao People's Democratic Republic) said that, despite some progress, the right to self-determination of peoples was far from being implemented in practice. There was growing concern in the international community over the persistence of colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid, and in particular over the plight of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia. The apartheid system continued to inflict repression and terror on the black population, provoking a wave of protest and discontent. It had been able to survive because of the all-round support provided by certain Western States. It was encouraging to note, however, that world public opinion had recently persuaded those traditional supporters of apartheid to take some measures against the racist régime of Pretoria. His country called for the immediate eradication of the inhuman and shameful system of apartheid and for an unconditional end to the illegal occupation of Namibia. It supported the commendable efforts of the international community to impose comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa.

5. In the Middle East, Israel continued its policy of aggression and occupation of Palestinian and Arab lands. Recent developments in the region provided clear evidence of the occupying Power's gross violations of international law. His delegation called for the convening of an international conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations and with the participation of all the parties concerned.

6. In the course of the Committee's debate, certain delegations had referred to the right to self-determination of the Kampuchean people. After an era of genocide and terror, the martyred people of Kampuchea had entered an era of rebirth and national reconstruction, with the assistance of the Lao people and other socialist countries. It was strange that the countries which had collaborated with imperialist forces in their war of aggression were now claiming to represent the Kampuchean people's cause, while still supporting the genocidal Pol Pot clique. A political solution to the problems of South-East Asia could be achieved through dialogue and negotiation, but it must be based on the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces and the removal of the Pol Pot clique.

(Mr. Kittikhoun, Lao People's Democratic Republic)

7. At the previous session of the General Assembly, many delegations, including his own, had commented on the re-emergence of Fascist, neo-Fascist, neo-Nazi and other racist organizations in some Western countries. The United Nations should do its utmost to eliminate that ill-omened and anachronistic scourge.

8. Ms. TARA DEVI (India) said that the effort to combat racism and racial discrimination had been one of the foremost challenges facing the United Nations since its inception. However, those evils were still evident in the abhorrent and inhuman system of apartheid in South Africa, where it had been institutionalized as an instrument of State policy. The brazen South African raids into Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Angola had outraged the entire international community, and South Africa continued to enslave Namibia.

9. South Africa had been able to pursue its inhuman policies because of the support of its powerful benefactors. The profit motive was the real reason behind the maintenance of links with the Pretoria régime, which had enabled it to obtain strategic armaments and sophisticated military technology. Without its commercial relations with certain other countries, the racist régime would have collapsed long before. However, the inevitable process of the collapse of apartheid had gained momentum over the past two years, and an unprecedented popular upheaval was rocking the foundations of the régime. The abhorrent system of apartheid was doomed to collapse.

10. At a time of increasing concern about human rights all over the world, little progress had yet been made in eradicating apartheid, although the international community was fully committed to that goal. Public opinion in many of the countries which had supported South Africa was beginning to influence Governments, as shown by the recent decisions taken by the United States Congress. The European Community was also working on a series of measures to bring home to the South African Government the need for fundamental reform. However, only comprehensive mandatory sanctions could help to intensify international pressure on the régime.

11. Regrettably, racial discrimination persisted in many other parts of the world as well. The Palestinian people and the people of the occupied Arab territories were the victims of grave and dehumanizing discrimination. An entire people had been dispossessed of its homeland, deprived of its means of economic existence and uprooted from its cultural and social background. There could be no peace in the Middle East without the unconditional withdrawal of Israel from the Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable national rights.

12. India had acceded to 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, and fulfilled its obligations under these instruments in good faith. Her country had endeavoured to provide all possible information to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD). Her delegation also appreciated the work done by the Group of Three of the Commission on Human Rights, established under the International Convention on the

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(Ms. Tara Devi, India)

Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. In its latest report (E/CN.4/1985/27), the Group had emphasized the need to increase assistance to national liberation movements and had expressed concern at the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia.

13. The report by Special Rapporteur, Mr. Khalifa, on the nature of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance to South Africa (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1987/8/Add.1) clearly showed that the critical human rights situation in South Africa and Namibia was dependent on the assistance accorded to the racist régime by certain States.

14. Mr. EL FAWWAZ (Jordan) said that the most abhorrent manifestation of racial discrimination in the world, namely the apartheid régime in South Africa, constituted not only a moral problem affecting the consciences of all mankind and an insult to human dignity but also a threat to peace and stability in southern Africa. The General Assembly had been in the forefront of international efforts to persuade the Pretoria régime to abandon its policy of apartheid, which was inconsistent with the principles of the Charter and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. However, the South African régime had persisted in ignoring all the resolutions and specific measures adopted by the General Assembly.

15. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination had carried out painstaking work, and 1973 had seen the adoption of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. The declaration, also in 1973, of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had served to make the international community more aware of the various disagreeable aspects of South Africa's apartheid policy. His delegation was mindful of the progress achieved during that Decade and believed that all necessary measures should be taken in order to ensure implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade, which was proclaimed in 1983.

16. His delegation shared the disappointment of the people of Namibia that neither General Assembly resolution 2145 (XXI) nor Security Council resolution 435 (1970) had led to the independence of that Territory. His country supported all measures recommended by the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations to end the apartheid régime in South Africa and to implement the United Nations plan for Namibian independence and also urged that material and political support should be provided to the front-line States in their opposition to the expansionist policies of South Africa.

17. The beginning of the Namibian problem had coincided with the emergence of the question of Palestine. Everyone was aware of the sufferings which had been inflicted upon the Arab people of Palestine as a result of the continued occupation of their territories by Israel and the deliberate attempts of the Israelis to force the original inhabitants of those territories to give up their lands in favour of Jewish settlers. His country had striven to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the question of Palestine, by urging that an international conference be held under United Nations auspices,

(Mr. El Fawwaz, Jordan)

to be attended by all parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973). Such a conference would provide an appropriate framework for a settlement, which must ensure Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, a guarantee of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their ancestral territories, as well as a guarantee of the right of all States and peoples of the region to live within secure and internationally recognized boundaries. He called upon the United Nations to compel Israel to accept a peaceful, just and comprehensive settlement based on the principle of "land for peace" rather than on a policy of force and imposition of the status quo.

18. Mr. ZARIF (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that, despite the many hours of deliberations in different international bodies, racism in its most degrading form continued to be official State policy and millions of human beings had been denied their most basic human rights solely on the grounds of their race. Colonialism in its most blatant, violent and inhuman form was still present in the world. The many resolutions of the United Nations were being ignored by the racists and their supporters in Palestine, South Africa and Namibia, where racism and colonialism had manifested their evil alliance.

19. While illegally occupying Namibia, South Africa was using that Territory for aggressive purposes against other nations in the region. In addition, the racist régime in Pretoria had been engaged in the rapid exploitation of the natural resources of Namibia with the co-operation and support of the Western Powers and their transnational corporations. The designation of South Africa, like Israel, as a security zone for the United States partly explained the resistance of the West to the imposition of mandatory economic sanctions against Pretoria. Enjoying the political, economic and military support of certain Western countries, South Africa tried to link irrelevant issues to the settlement of its illegal occupation of Namibia, while using extreme coercion and intimidation against the people of that Territory. The continued military co-operation between the United States and certain other European countries with the South African régime, especially in providing Pretoria with nuclear technology, was totally unconscionable.

20. Of special interest to the international community was the co-operation in the field of military, security and nuclear technology between Pretoria and the racist Zionist régime occupying Palestine. That collaboration in the suppression of popular movements was nothing new. The alliance between zionism and apartheid had even been attested to by some Israelis. Like the people of South Africa and Namibia, Palestinians had been subjected to a most brutal form of racism. The Middle East had suffered instability and insecurity because of the expansionist policies that were inherent in racist régimes. Like the people of Angola and other front-line States, the people of Lebanon had suffered under the boots of Israeli army of aggression.

21. The people of Palestine, Namibia and South Africa, as well as others deprived of their right to self-determination by foreign military occupation, such as the

(Mr. Zarif, Iran)

Moslem people of Afghanistan, had learned that they could not depend on the international community to liberate them from racism, alien domination and foreign occupation. The moral authority of the United Nations had suffered tremendously in that process and would continue to degenerate if the current trend continued.

22. Ms. KUMI (Ghana) said that the evil of racism and racial discrimination had social, political and economic consequences both at the national and international levels. That practice was neither limited to one country nor to one continent - it was universal. At the international level, racial discrimination not only buttressed prejudices against certain States but it often also influenced the course and volume of international economic relations. Discriminatory immigration laws had gained currency in certain countries recently. When such laws were specifically directed against citizens from black and Asian countries, there was considerable cause for concern.

23. Appropriate legislation, unequivocal condemnation and constant educational programmes designed to make people aware of the dangers of racism were positive steps towards its eradication. However, in the particular case of South Africa, where racism was embodied in the very concept of the State, condemnation was not enough and educational programmes would certainly fall on deaf ears. The very foundations of the racist State had to be shaken to rid it of apartheid and, to that end, her Government fervently supported the application of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa. The positive response to the call for sanctions certainly encouraged the universal drive to dismantle apartheid. That drive should be maintained by reinforcing all the factors which contributed to liquidating apartheid, the most important being the moral and material support for the liberation movements in South Africa and economic assistance to the victims of violence in South Africa and the neighbouring front-line States.

24. Her delegation had listened with concern to allegations of commercial links between some Arab States and the Pretoria régime. The evidence so far given indicated that Arab oil found its way to South Africa, presumably through middlemen, with or without the connivance of the Arab States. Ghana strongly urged the Arab States to monitor the movement of their oil and to punish severely those who broke the embargo on the shipment of oil to South Africa.

25. Even though South Africa continued to deny the Namibians their right to self-determination, her Government believed that no amount of oppression could kill the aspirations of the Namibian people. Ghana fully supported Security Council resolution 435 (1978) and was deeply concerned about the obstacles to its implementation. The Palestinian question was of equal concern and her delegation reiterated its warning that, as long as justice was denied to the Palestinian people, the prospects for peace in the Middle East would remain bleak. The Palestinian and Namibian questions were both compounded by the involvement of mercenaries in violent and subversive activities within the Middle East and Southern African regions. Her delegation condemned the presence of those mercenaries and called for serious consideration of the problem by the Third Committee.

26. Mr. VARKONYI (Hungary) said that the right of peoples to self-determination was one of the most important concepts in contemporary international life and one of the cornerstones of international law. That right could be exercised only by giving effect to all its components: national independence, democracy, freedom, economic development and social justice. Regrettably, millions were still deprived of their basic human rights, subjected to military, economic and financial domination, and often forced to abandon their own culture and language. Accordingly, the United Nations should intensify its activities to bring about the final elimination of colonialism.

27. The right to self-determination was still being denied to the peoples of South Africa and Namibia, where officially instigated violence and lawlessness were a feature of daily life. In addition, the inhuman régime of apartheid in South Africa had been carrying out armed attacks against neighbouring States in flagrant violation of existing norms of contemporary international law. Hungary strongly condemned the continuing illegal occupation of Namibia and deeply deplored those manoeuvres. The Hungarian people supported the struggle of the peoples of southern Africa led by the South West Africa People's Organization and the African National Congress. Hungary believed that a lasting solution of the problem could be found only by taking into consideration the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

28. More than a million Arab people in the Middle East were suffering from discrimination and oppression. Israel's denial of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination was demonstrated by practices such as arbitrary arrests, restriction on freedom of movement, interference with local rights and customs and violation of basic human rights. Israel's policy aimed at the gradual absorption of the West Bank and Gaza further aggravated the situation and constituted an obstacle to the search for a just solution. A comprehensive settlement should be based on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories and recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the integrity of every State in the region.

29. The sad history of the Middle East conflict showed that one-sided approaches did not work. A just and lasting solution could be found only through collective endeavours. An international conference on the Middle East to be held under United Nations auspices, with the participation of all parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, would contribute to a comprehensive settlement.

30. Hungary fully supported the struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia, the Palestinian people and the national liberation movements for self-determination, independence, and the exercise of their human rights, in accordance with the principles laid down in the relevant international instruments. His delegation was confident that United Nations activities would contribute further to the termination of colonialism, oppression and mass violations of fundamental freedoms, not only by adopting important resolutions, but also by implementing them.

31. Mr. BROWNE (Fiji) said that a major objective of the United Nations was to achieve international co-operation in the promotion of respect for the rights and

(Mr. Browne, Fiji)

freedom of human beings everywhere. However, despite efforts by the world community at the national, regional and international levels, racism showed few signs of diminishing. Millions still suffered under intolerable conditions of oppression, torture and the flagrant violation of their rights because of their colour, ethnic origin or religion.

32. The international community could not claim to have made much progress in eliminating racism while the abhorrent system of apartheid practised by the minority Government of South Africa continued. Apartheid violated most human rights and its existence mocked the very basis on which the United Nations was founded. Collective action and international co-operation were basic to any effort to combat that scourge and to restore dignity and pride to the South African black population.

33. The international community had been thwarted in its efforts to achieve self-determination for the peoples of Namibia by South Africa's continued illegal occupation of that Territory. In addition, very little, if any, progress had been made to free Kampuchea and Afghanistan from occupation by foreign troops. His Government deplored the action of any State that threatened the integrity of others. Fiji therefore called for the withdrawal of foreign forces from those countries in order to allow the people to determine their own destiny through the process of fair and free elections. Due recognition must be given to the right of free and safe existence of all peoples. His Government fully supported the right of the Palestinian people to a homeland and that of Israel to a secure existence.

34. His Government commended the exemplary manner in which New Zealand was administering Tokelau in keeping with the Pacific way of dialogue and consensus. Fiji was confident that full respect would continue to be given to the wishes of the Tokelau community. In that same spirit, his delegation hoped that France would co-operate fully with the United Nations in New Caledonia and respect the wishes of its people.

35. The question of racism was a humanitarian one to which no country should remain indifferent. Fiji was committed to building a multiracial and multicultural society through policies, plans and programmes which had been formulated and implemented for all its people regardless of race, colour or creed. Fiji therefore exhorted people all over the world to respect human rights in their entirety so that all could live without fear or oppression.

36. Mrs. EGZIABHER (Ethiopia) said that the United Nations had set the necessary standards and advanced the process of the final elimination of racism and racial discrimination. While taking note of the various activities undertaken to implement the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, her delegation believed that much remained to be done by both Member States and the Organization to increase the awareness of the international community and strengthen its public information endeavours. Studies and seminars, such as the Seminar on International Assistance and Support to Peoples and Movements Struggling against Colonialism, Racism, Racial Discrimination and Apartheid, in which Ethiopia had participated, were useful in that regard.

(Mrs. Egziabher, Ethiopia)

37. As a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, Ethiopia was fulfilling its reporting and financial obligations towards the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and believed that it was the duty of all States Parties to the Convention likewise to facilitate the Committee's important work.

38. The struggle against the intolerable evil of apartheid, from which the people of South Africa continued to suffer, must be intensified. Comprehensive mandatory sanctions offered the only peaceful path to the elimination of the system.

39. The unconditional and speedy implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) would enable the Namibian people to exercise its inalienable right to self-determination. The Palestinian people must likewise be allowed to exercise that right and to establish a State of its own, for which the holding of an international peace conference on the Middle East would provide a useful forum.

40. Mr. GOLEMANOV (Bulgaria) said that universal respect for the right of peoples to self-determination was of vital importance for the full observance of all human rights, the maintenance of peace and the establishment of a comprehensive system of international security. It implied the obligation of all States to refrain from any activities which might jeopardize a country's chosen course of development and to support the efforts of peoples struggling for independence, freedom, democracy and social progress. The elimination of the vestiges of colonialism, racism and apartheid, the cessation of neo-colonial exploitation and of economic and political pressure constituted urgent tasks for the international community.

41. Unfortunately, despite the energetic efforts of the overwhelming majority of Member States, some peoples continued to be denied their right to self-determination. For example, the Namibians were prevented from exercising that right by the racist South African régime and by its foreign supporters. Bulgaria declared its firm support for the just struggle of the Namibian people for self-determination and freedom under the leadership of SWAPO, its sole and authentic representative, and called for the immediate implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions, including Security Council resolution 435 (1978).

42. Immediate and effective measures should also be taken to put an end to the criminal apartheid system, the main impediment to the exercise by the people of Namibia of its right to self-determination and the primary source of unceasing aggression against African countries, particularly Angola and the other front-line States. His country accordingly supported the decisions of the World Conference on Sanctions Against Racist South Africa and the International Conference on the Immediate Independence of Namibia, and called for their full implementation.

43. His delegation reaffirmed its full support for the heroic Palestinian people and its just struggle for self-determination. Bulgaria called for the withdrawal of Israel from all Arab territories occupied since 1967 and for the recognition of

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(Mr. Golemanov, Bulgaria)

the legitimate right of the Arab people of Palestine to create an independent state of its own. The convening of an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, would be conducive to achieving a comprehensive political settlement of the Middle East problem and to ensuring a lasting and just peace in the region.

44. There was also a continuing need to ensure the full realization of the right to self-determination of the peoples of a number of so-called small territories. The use of such territories as military bases, nuclear test sites and a springboard for threatening demonstrations of force against neighbouring, independent, developing countries was in no way an acceptable substitute for the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the final elimination of the last vestiges of colonialism.

45. The adoption and implementation to a very considerable extent of that historic Declaration had led to the participation of dozens of young independent States in the management of international relations for the greater benefit of all nations of the world. The complexity of an increasingly interrelated world had made it vital for all peoples freely to choose their own paths of development. Unfortunately, outdated attitudes continued to be used to justify the imposition of patterns of political development based on the experience of a few nations which had once considered themselves the "civilized world" and had led to the emergence of a new breed of "freedom-fighters", who would not fight for freedom unless generously paid. Such policies and practices denied the new realities of the present-day world as embodied in the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

46. The Nicaraguan and Lebanese situations bore witness to the striving of the forces of reaction to impede social progress and preserve the power of wealth and might over the destiny of the world, reviving a past which for many brought memories of suffering and humiliation.

47. His delegation joined others in asking the Secretariat why resolution E/1986/43, by which the Economic and Social Council had requested a report on the use of mercenaries, had been ignored.

48. In conclusion, he said that Bulgaria would continue actively to contribute to the efforts of the international community to ensure the universal respect and observance of the right of peoples to self-determination.

49. Mrs. CHIMELA (Botswana) said that the question of racism would continue to be on the Committee's agenda as long as the apartheid system was not dismantled in South Africa and Namibia. Botswana was opposed to any discrimination on grounds of race, colour or sex and regretted that the racist régime of South Africa had not observed what neighbouring States had to offer their people. Instead, it had maintained repressive laws such as those concerning the setting up of bantustans.

(Mrs. Chimela, Botswana)

50. The South African régime was totally unacceptable and must be forced to change. Regrettably, the white minority Government had chosen not to negotiate with its black compatriots to construct a new democratic and non-racial régime in South Africa. It was not, however, too late for the leaders of South Africa, both black and white, to negotiate in a spirit of reconciliation a non-racial and democratic future for the country. The pre-conditions for such negotiations must be the release of Nelson Mandela and all other political prisoners, the lifting of the ban on the African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania, the ending of the state of emergency, the removal of troops from black townships and the return of exiles.

51. In regard to the continued occupation of Namibia by South Africa, Botswana called upon South Africa to implement Security Council resolution 435 (1978). It totally rejected the linking of the independence of Namibia to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

52. She expressed appreciation for the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. She particularly welcomed the increased emphasis on the education of oppressed peoples, which would minimize the problem of a high illiteracy rate at the time of independence. It was also gratifying to note the efforts of non-governmental organizations in eliminating apartheid. The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities was to be commended for the many channels it had used for disseminating information on apartheid.

53. Discrimination against persons belonging to minority groups was unacceptable in countries claiming to have a democratic system of government. Programmes should be drawn up, as they had been in her country, to incorporate such groups into the system, without destroying their specific culture and beliefs. Enjoyment of the right to self-determination by the Palestinians in a country of their own was also overdue. Botswana's position on that question was that there should be an independent State for the Palestinian people, withdrawal by Israel from Arab territories and recognition of the State of Israel by the Arab States. The Arab-Israeli conflict could thus be ended and lasting peace could be established in that part of the world. Botswana would continue to support those in southern Africa and elsewhere in the world who were fighting for self-determination.

54. Mrs. M.IVEYEVA (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that, despite international efforts to combat racism, the phenomenon persisted, and most notably in the loathsome form of apartheid practised by a racist régime that was intensifying its repression of an indigenous population in an attempt to overcome its deepening internal crisis. Her country accordingly participated actively in the work of the Special Committee against Apartheid, which had an important role to play in hastening the end of apartheid and it stressed the importance of ending all political, military and economic help to South Africa and of applying sanctions against it.

(Mrs. Matveyeva, Ukrainian SSR)

55. Israel's attempt, under the banner of zionism, to impose its hegemony over the population of its occupied territories was yet another manifestation of racism and a violation of the right of self-determination of the Arab peoples. Its activities, like those of South Africa, not only caused great human suffering but also threatened international peace and security. Racism was a characteristic of societies based on exploitation and colonial oppression and was even used in developed Western countries to reduce domestic tension by channelling discontent against such groups as foreign workers and blacks. The recrudescence of Nazi and Fascist ideologies and organizations in the West was a cause of concern and could not in the light of international instruments condemning and prohibiting propaganda and organizations that promoted national, racial or religious hatred be explained away by references to freedom of speech and association.

56. The socialist countries condemned racism and were themselves free of it because they had eliminated the exploitation which might give rise to it and had taken the necessary legal and educational measures to combat it. Her own country effectively guaranteed equal rights to all citizens without discrimination and had established a political and social system in which there was no room for national discord and racism. It had been among the first to ratify the international instruments designed to combat racism and apartheid and was faithful in implementing them, as its periodic reports to the relevant monitoring bodies indicated. Racism and racial discrimination must be fought with deeds and not just words, and domestically that meant that racist organizations and propaganda must be prohibited and internationally that all must join the international boycott against South Africa and combat the expansionism of Israel.

57. Mr. SANCHEZ (Philippines) said that the continuing survival of the United Nations reflected the resolve to further international co-operation in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. While its achievements had primarily been in standard-setting activities, exposure of human rights violations and moral pressure on those who perpetrated them had had an impact. People must be treated with decency and respect for their uniqueness as individuals. Tragically, racism and racial discrimination and denial of the right to self-determination still existed in many places and had to be fought by all available means.

58. While some progress had been made in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, much remained to be done, particularly in the field of education and public information. There was also a need to strengthen measures to promote and protect the rights of minority groups, indigenous populations and migrant workers who were victims of racial discrimination. The Working Group of the General Assembly on the drafting of an International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families was to be commended for the progress it had made and should be given all necessary support.

59. From his country's own recent experience, his delegation took the view that it was the moral responsibility of governments towards those they governed to pursue policies directed towards preventing evil, promoting good, and establishing an

(Mr. Sanchez, Philippines)

environment of peace and stability. In that context, South Africa represented the greatest moral issue confronting the General Assembly. Apartheid was universally censured and yet all appeals to the South African Government had failed. Since Pretoria had no intention of dismantling apartheid or establishing a non-racial democratic system, comprehensive and mandatory sanctions in accordance with Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter must be adopted, and all must co-operate to create an environment for change in that part of the world. His delegation reiterated its support for all actions taken by the international community to hasten the advent of peace and freedom in South Africa and show solidarity with its oppressed people.

60. The people of the Philippines strongly believed that no government could indefinitely suppress a people determined to be free and choose its own destiny. The hapless Namibian people must take its rightful place in the family of nations. His delegation reaffirmed its support for the people of Namibia, and urged the immediate independence of Namibia on the basis of Security Council resolutions 435 (1978) and 439 (1978).

61. His delegation also took the view that the right of self-determination and the full enjoyment of that right necessarily required the holding by States of free, fair and regular elections to ensure a fully representative government of the people. The will of the people had to be given free expression.

62. The occupation by foreign forces of Kampuchea, Afghanistan and some Arab Territories, together with the remaining colonies and Non-Self-Governing Territories were violations of the right to self determination. That right must be restored to those peoples as a fundamental element in the maintenance of a stable and peaceful world.

63. Mr. FAROUQUE (Sri Lanka) said that unfortunately the United Nations had so far been unable to eliminate the scourge of racism in South Africa, whose apartheid régime still practised colonial repression in total disregard of world public opinion and the Charter of the United Nations. That régime had extended its repression beyond its borders by violating the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the front-line States and by its illegal occupation of Namibia.

64. His delegation therefore supported the liberation efforts of the African National Congress (ANC), the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) and the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) and called for the immediate release of all South African political prisoners. It further totally rejected any linkage between the granting of independence to the Namibian people and the withdrawal of the Cuban presence from Angola. It consistently supported all international action to combat apartheid, including the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions.

65. His country also consistently upheld the rights of the Palestinian people and recognized the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as its sole and legitimate representative. Peace and security in the Middle East could be achieved only through a conference of all the parties concerned, in which the PLO would sit as an

(Mr. Farouque, Sri Lanka)

equal partner. Peace in that area must also recognize the heterogeneous character of the people involved and the right of all States in the region to live in peace and harmony.

66. The heterogeneous nature of his own country had engendered a long tradition of tolerance that was reflected in its Constitution, which guaranteed that no citizen should be discriminated against on grounds of race, religion, language, sex, political opinion or place of birth, and a commission was being established to redress the grievances of alleged victims of discrimination. People everywhere should have a forum for redress against discrimination and his delegation therefore strongly hoped that the work of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination would not be interrupted by the current financial crisis.

67. Mr. HWANG (Observer for the Republic of Korea) said that the Government of his country, in the firm belief that the right to self-determination was the fundamental human right, fully supported the legitimate struggle of the people of Namibia for independence under the leadership of the South West Africa People's Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the people of Namibia. It was his Government's consistent position that South Africa had no right to occupy Namibia since its mandate over that country had been terminated by the General Assembly in 1966. Namibia's independence should be implemented immediately in accordance with Security Council resolutions 385 (1976) and 435 (1978).

68. Since its creation in 1948, the Republic of Korea had pursued a strict policy against all forms of racial discrimination. It accordingly, strongly condemned South Africa's inhumane policy and practice of apartheid and reaffirmed its determination to support the efforts of the international community to eradicate all forms of racial discrimination including apartheid.

69. Since 1978, his Government had contributed to various United Nations trust funds and programmes for Southern Africa, including recent contributions of \$20,000 for 1985, and was considering increasing the amount of those contributions. The visit by the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid to the Republic of Korea in November 1985 had helped to make the Korean people more aware of the need to take firm action against apartheid.

70. His country, an active party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination since 1979, had submitted its fourth periodic report on the implementation of the Convention, and deplored the fact that the thirty-fourth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination could not be held mainly because of arrears in contributions. His delegation shared the view that comprehensive reports should be submitted on a four-year rather than a two-year basis, subject to the possibility of requesting supplementary reports every two years.

71. Mr. NAMERYE (Director, Centre for Human Rights), replying to a question raised by the representative of Bulgaria, said that notes verbales had been sent to Governments and letters to non-governmental organizations and specialized agencies

(Mr. Nyamekye)

on 24 March 1986, pursuant to paragraph 17 of General Assembly resolution 40/25, requesting information for the submission to the General Assembly. On 23 May 1986, the Economic and Social Council had adopted its resolution 1986/43 on the use of mercenaries which, in paragraph 8, had requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on that question. Pursuant to that resolution, the Secretary-General had sent a note verbale to all Governments on 31 July 1986, requesting additional information for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 40/25. Since the two reports concerned the same subject, the Secretary had chosen to avoid duplication by presenting a unified report in document A/41/433 and its addendum, which included the information submitted by States in accordance with both resolutions. The attention of Member States had been specifically drawn to that point in the note verbale of 31 July 1986. In fact, the replies of Bolivia and the German Democratic Republic in document A/41/433/Add.1 did refer to Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/43.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.