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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON
THE SUPPRESSION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF
APARTHEID

Reports submitted by States parties under
article VII of the Convention

Addendum

ETHIOPIA

[2 July 1986]

1. As a founding member of the United Nations, Ethiopia has been and continues to be a staunch defender of the cardinal principles enshrined in the Charter of the Organization. In demonstration of its commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, Ethiopia has become party to the various important international instruments elaborated and adopted by the Organization. One of these international instruments is the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, the express objective of which is the promotion of concrete measures towards the complete eradication of the heinous system and practice of apartheid.

2. Ethiopia's commitment to the objectives of this Convention can be traced to the very inception of this important international instrument and the various initiatives it took in the course of its elaboration and adoption. Moreover, racism and racial discrimination are not only alien to the nation's history and culture, but its firm stand against them is also demonstrated

through its long-standing resistance against colonialism and racial domination, as well as through its unswerving support to peoples struggling against the abhorrent system of apartheid.

3. Long before the adoption of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, Ethiopia, in its domestic legislation, had prohibited any act of racial discrimination and racism. It has also prohibited all contacts with the racist régime of South Africa.

4. In the past, Ethiopia has consistently and unreservedly condemned acts and policies based on racial segregation as a violation of human dignity, and a threat to human liberty and equality. In the future too it will continue to work actively toward the eradication of racism and racial discrimination in general and apartheid in particular.

5. With regard to assistance to the peoples of southern Africa, the Government of Socialist Ethiopia continues to give its unflagging support to the liberation movements that are fighting for freedom, independence and equality. To that end:

Ethiopia has offered the Organization of African Unity (OAU) the facilities of two short-wave transmitters of Radio Voice of Revolutionary Ethiopia to broadcast special programmes to the region,

Ethiopia gives material, political and diplomatic support to liberation movements fighting against apartheid, racism and colonialism,

On occasions like days of solidarity with the peoples of Namibia and South Africa, public gatherings are convened by mass organizations like trade unions, women's and youth associations, as well as by the Ethiopian Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Committee,

Namibian refugees are given an opportunity to get on-the-job training in various government departments,

Ethiopia actively participates in the work of the OAU Liberation Committee and also makes annual financial contributions to the Committee without delay,

Within its limited resources, Ethiopia grants scholarships to student refugees from South Africa and Namibia in different fields of training within its educational institutions.

6. Ethiopia views apartheid as a crime against humanity and, therefore, believes that any group or nation engaged in activities promoting the practice of racism and apartheid should be criminally liable. That is why Ethiopia not only strongly condemns the racist régime of South Africa for its practice of institutionalized racism but also:

Prohibits goods or materials produced or emanating from South Africa from entering Ethiopia,

Prohibits goods or materials produced in Ethiopia from being exported to South Africa,

Prohibits all banking transactions between Ethiopia and South Africa;

Prohibits South African planes or aircraft coming from or going to South Africa landing rights or permission to fly over Ethiopia's air space;

Denies all vessels flying the South African flag or any ship coming from South Africa access to Ethiopian ports and its facilities;

Prohibits participation in all sports activities involving South African players and athletes;

Scrupulously abides by all Security Council decisions and General Assembly resolutions against the apartheid régime, and condemns its illegal occupation of Namibia as well as its acts of aggression and destabilization against the front-line States of southern Africa;

Makes voluntary contributions, within the limits of its resources, to United Nations funds whose programmes and activities are designed to assist those struggling for equality and justice and against all forms of racism, racial domination and exploitation in southern Africa.

7. After a decade of bitter class struggle, the Ethiopian Revolution has now attained the leadership of the Workers' Party, in whose programme the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and all other forms of oppression and exploitation has become a fundamental guiding principle.

8. The major task with which the Workers' Party of Ethiopia (WPE) is seized at present is the establishment of a People's Democratic Republic in Ethiopia which functions on the basis of democratic centralism, socialist legality and active popular participation in the organs and activities of the State. The programme of WPE, speaking of the new Republic, states the following:

"This State will stand to administer a society based on justice, equality and human relationship, in which no citizen shall be discriminated against on the basis of sex, religion, race or nationality."

9. The Ethiopian Revolution whose fundamental motto is justice and equality has successfully exposed the evils of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid and, therefore, there is no need whatsoever for extra legislation. It is also gratifying to note that the measures so far taken at every stage of the revolutionary struggle have deepened the country's commitment towards the total elimination of racism in all its forms and manifestations wherever it may exist.