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ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN
RIGHTS OF POLITICAL, MILITARY, ECONOMIC AND OTHER
FORMS OF ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO COLONIAL AND RACIST
REGIMES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The item entitled "Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to colonial and racist régimes in southern Africa" was placed on the provisional agenda of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly as a result of a recommendation of the Economic and Social Council, contained in resolution 1864 (LVI) of 17 May 1974.
2. The present note relates to consideration of the question by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the Commission on Human Rights.
3. The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, in paragraph 2 of resolution 5 (XXIV) of 18 August 1971, decided to consider at its twenty-fifth session the question of the consequences for the effectiveness of human rights of the aid which in some cases might be given to the racist and colonial régimes of southern Africa. In resolution 6 (XXV) of 30 August 1972, the Sub-Commission requested the Secretary-General, with a view to permitting the consideration of all aspects of the question, to prepare, in co-operation with relevant United Nations bodies and other interested organizations, and on the basis of United Nations documents, a survey presenting data on political assistance and support given to the racist and colonial régimes of southern Africa, economic aid, in particular through direct and indirect investments of foreign capital, military aid, details of the labour practices of foreign-owned or controlled firms in these countries and territories, trade in arms, and data on other relations which help to strengthen those régimes.
4. At its twenty-sixth session the Sub-Commission had before it the above-mentioned survey (E/CN.4/Sub.2/336 and Corr.1) and an addendum containing information received by the Secretary-General under Sub-Commission resolution 6 (XXV).

5. On 19 September 1973, the Sub-Commission adopted resolution 3 (XXVI). In paragraph 1 of that resolution, the Sub-Commission recommended that the Commission on Human Rights direct the Sub-Commission to appoint a special rapporteur to evaluate urgently the adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of assistance, in particular through investments of foreign capital and military aid, given to the racist régimes in southern Africa. In paragraph 2, it further recommended that the Commission on Human Rights include in its agenda the item entitled "The adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to colonial and racist régimes in southern Africa", and consider it as a high priority item at its thirtieth session with a view to making appropriate recommendations to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. The Sub-Commission also requested the Secretary-General to update comprehensively his report (E/CN.4/Sub.2/336) on assistance and support given to the colonial and racist régimes of southern Africa, and decided to keep this item on its agenda and to consider it at its sessions as one of the priority items.

6. On 14 February 1974, the Commission on Human Rights by its resolution 3 (XXX) authorized the Sub-Commission to appoint a special rapporteur to evaluate urgently the importance and the sources of political, military, economic and other assistance given by certain States to the racist and colonial régimes in southern Africa, as well as the direct or indirect effects of such assistance on the perpetuation of colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid. On the recommendation of the Commission, the Economic and Social Council, on 17 May 1974, adopted resolution 1864 (LVI) in which, among other actions, it confirmed this authorization and recommended that the General Assembly include this topic in its agenda with a view to considering it at its thirtieth session.

7. At its twenty-seventh session, the Sub-Commission had before it a document (E/CN.4/Sub.2/348) updating comprehensively the Secretary-General's report (E/CN.4/Sub.2/336), as requested in paragraph 3 of its resolution 3 (XXVI). By resolution 2 (XXVII) of 16 August 1974, the Sub-Commission appointed Mr. Ahmed M. Khalifa as Special Rapporteur for the preparation of a study on the subject.

8. At its twenty-eighth session, the Sub-Commission had before it a preliminary report submitted by the Special Rapporteur (E/CN.4/Sub.2/L.624). It discussed the report at its 716th to 718th meetings, on 26 and 27 August 1975, and, as part of its decision on agenda item 19 entitled "Consideration of the future work of the Sub-Commission, including the drawing up of a five-year programme of work (Commission on Human Rights resolution 10 (XXXI)", decided that the Special Rapporteur would submit his final report to the Sub-Commission in 1976.