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**NATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN ACHIEVING FAR-REACHING SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC CHANGES FOR THE PURPOSE OF SOCIAL PROGRESS**

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mrs. Ani SANTHOSO (Indonesia)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1987, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the item jointly with items 89, 90, 93, 94 and 141 at its 14th to 22nd, 28th and 32nd meetings on 15, 16, 19 to 23, 29 October and 3 November 1987. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/42/SR.14-22, 26 and 32).

3. The Committee had before it the following documentation:

(a) Report of the Economic and Social Council, chapter V, section B (A/42/3); 1/

(b) National experience in promoting the co-operative movement: report of the Secretary-General (A/42/56-E/1987/7);

1/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/42/3).

(c) National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress: report of the Secretary-General (A/42/57-E/1987/8);

(d) Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/38 entitled "Twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development" (A/C.3/42/L.3);

(e) Letter dated 6 July 1987 from the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/411).

4. At the 14th meeting, on 15 October, the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna and the Director of the Social Development Division of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs made introductory statements (see A/C.3/42/SR.14).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/42/L.3

5. At the 28th meeting, on 29 October, the Chairman called the attention of the Committee to the draft resolution (A/C.3/42/L.3) entitled "Twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development", which had been recommended to the General Assembly by the Economic and Social Council and which was contained in that document.

6. At the 32nd meeting, on 3 November 1987, the representatives of the United States of America and Poland explained their vote before the vote.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/42/L.3 without a vote (see para. 15, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/42/L.23

8. At the 28th meeting, the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (A/C.3/42/L.23) entitled "Achievement of social justice" sponsored by his delegation. By the revision, the words "the work" after the words "major focus of" in operative paragraph 4 were replaced by "activities".

9. At its 32nd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/42/L.23 without a vote (see para. 15, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/42/L.24

10. At the 28th meeting, the representative of Mongolia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/42/L.24) entitled "National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress" sponsored by Afghanistan, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, Hungary, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Poland and Viet Nam.
11. At the 32nd meeting, the representative of the United States of America made an explanation of the vote before the vote.
12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/42/L.24 by a recorded vote of 106 to 1, with 11 abstentions (see para. 15, draft resolution III). 2/ The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

2/ The representatives of the following countries indicated that, had they been present, they would have voted in favour of the draft resolution: Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, El Salvador, Nigeria, Rwanda, Swaziland.

13. The representatives of Austria and Australia made statements in explanation of vote after the vote.

14. At the same meeting, on the advice of the Chairman, the Committee decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "National experience in promoting the co-operative movement" (A/42/56-E/1987/7) (see para. 16).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

15. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on Social Progress and Development based on the Charter of the United Nations and solemnly proclaimed on 11 December 1969 in its resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969,

Recalling also its resolutions 2543 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, 32/117 of 16 December 1977, 34/59 of 29 November 1979 and 41/142 of 4 December 1986 on the implementation of the Declaration,

Convinced of the continuing need to achieve the full realization of the principles and objectives contained in the Declaration, which contribute to peaceful and friendly relations between nations,

Noting that the year 1989 will mark the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration,

1. Reaffirms the lasting validity and importance of the principles and objectives proclaimed in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development;

2. Decides to observe in 1989 the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration;

3. Invites all States, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to take appropriate measures, such as those set out in the annex to the present resolution, which are based on the measures recommended in General Assembly resolution 41/150 of 4 December 1986 on the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and to support appropriate activities aimed at encouraging the promotion of human rights and social justice;

4. Invites all States to inform the Secretary-General of their views and comments concerning the impact of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, since its adoption, on the formulation and implementation of the national policies and measures of their Governments, as well as how the principles, objectives and means and methods set out in the Declaration are taken into account in their policies, plans and programmes and in their bilateral and multilateral relations in the field of development;

5. Invites all States to convey to the Secretary-General their views and comments on possible ways and means of increasing the contribution of the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to achieving the full realization of the principles and objectives contained in the Declaration;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to include the information received pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 5 above in the report requested in paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 41/142, to be submitted to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures for the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration, bearing in mind the recommended possible measures contained in the annex to the present resolution, in order to draw attention to and emphasize the importance of the Declaration, and the role played and the work done by the United Nations to ensure the effective fulfilment of the objectives of the Declaration;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session an item entitled "Twentieth anniversary of the proclamation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development";

9. Also decides to devote one plenary meeting during its forty-fourth session to the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration, which falls on 11 December 1989, and requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary preparations for the programme of that meeting.

ANNEX

Recommended possible measures for the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development

1. The following measures are recommended for possible action at the national level:

(a) Formal proclamation of 11 December 1989 as Social Progress and Development Day;

(b) Issuance of special messages on 11 December 1989 by heads of State or Government or other prominent civil personalities;

/...

(c) Special meeting of parliamentary and other public and private institutions on Social Progress and Development Day;

(d) Establishment or strengthening of national or local institutions for the promotion of social progress and development and social justice, and the encouragement of teaching programmes on social progress and development at various educational levels;

(e) Dissemination of the text of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development in national languages;

(f) Issuance of social progress and development postage stamps, first-day covers and special cancellations during 1989;

(g) Participation by non-governmental organizations in the observance of the anniversary, and the organization of activities by such organizations;

(h) Organization of activities within the framework and in support of current United Nations decades and international years being prepared on social development.

2. It is recommended that the following measures, among others, should be taken by the Secretary-General at the United Nations level:

(a) Issuance by 11 December 1989 in all official languages of the United Nations of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development;

(b) Organization of commemorative events, according to standard practice, at United Nations Headquarters, at the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna, as well as at United Nations information centres, on or around 11 December 1989.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Achievement of social justice

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the pledge of States Members of the United Nations under the Charter of the United Nations to take joint and separate action to promote higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development,

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, 3/ social progress and development shall be founded on respect for the dignity and value of the human person and shall ensure the promotion of human rights and social justice,

Taking into account recommendations by the Secretary-General on some perspectives on the work of the United Nations in the 1990s, contained in the annex to the note on the preparation of the next medium-term plan, 4/

1. Considers that the common purpose of the international community must be to forge from varied economic, social and political conditions a global environment of sustained development, full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, social justice and peace;
2. Recognizes that social justice is one of the most important goals of social progress;
3. Reaffirms the importance of co-operation among countries in promoting a climate conducive to the achievement by individual countries of the goals of development and social justice and progress;
4. Considers that such co-operation should continue to be a major focus of activities of the United Nations in accordance with the principles of the Charter;
5. Calls upon Member States, in elaborating their national policy in the field of social development, to take into consideration the importance of achieving social justice for all.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress

The General Assembly,

Guided by the desire to promote a higher standard of life, full employment and conditions for economic and social progress and development,

Recalling its resolutions 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, and 35/56, annex, of 5 December 1980,

Recalling also its resolutions 3273 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, 31/38 of 30 November 1976, 36/19 of 9 November 1981, 38/25 of 22 November 1983 and 40/23 of 29 November 1985, in which it reaffirmed the importance for every State to carry out fundamental social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress and the necessity of studying national experience in this field,

4/ See A/42/512.

Noting with concern the findings on the economic and social situation in many parts of the world, contained in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Highlights of the world social situation 1987: recent developments and current issues", 5/

Desirous of securing a speedy and complete removal of major obstacles to the economic and social progress of peoples, as defined in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, 6/

Noting the proposal of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to host an interregional seminar on the national experience of developing and developed countries in carrying out far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress, called for in paragraph 3 of resolution 38/25,

1. Reaffirms that further exchange of national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress would contribute to the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade; 7/

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress; 8/

3. Appreciates that the Secretary-General is making arrangements for holding in 1988 the interregional seminar called for in paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 38/25, within the resources allotted to the programme for sectoral and regional advisory services;

4. Invites Member States to submit to the Secretary-General national reports on their experience in carrying out far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States, a report on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress, taking into account the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 36/19, 38/25 and 40/23, and to submit it to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council;

5/ E/CN.5/1987/2.

6/ Resolution 2542 (XXIV).

7/ Resolution 35/56, annex.

8/ A/42/57-E/1987/8.

6. Requests the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council to consider at their next sessions the question of national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress".

* * *

16. The Third Committee * so recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

The General Assembly decides to take note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "National experience in promoting the co-operative movement". 9/
