



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/35/348
28 August 1980

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-fifth session
Item 12 of the provisional agenda*

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights

Report of the Secretary-General

1. At its thirty-fourth session, the General Assembly had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/34/359 and Add.1) on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights. In resolution 34/171 of 17 December 1979, the Assembly noted that a United Nations Seminar on the Establishment of Regional Commissions on Human Rights with Special Reference to Africa had been held at Monrovia from 10 to 21 September 1979 and adopted the Monrovia Proposal for the setting-up of an African Commission on Human Rights (A/34/359/Add.1, annex I), as well as other conclusions and recommendations (*ibid.*, annex II). The Assembly expressed the hope that the recommendations of the Seminar would be given due consideration by the Governments and organizations concerned; it reiterated its appeal to States in areas where regional arrangements in the field of human rights did not yet exist to consider agreements with a view to the establishment within their respective regions of suitable regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights; it requested once again that the Secretary-General, under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, explore with the States in the regions concerned the possibility of holding a seminar as soon as possible for the purpose of discussing methods for the promotion and protection of human rights; and further requested the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session.
2. The present progress report has been prepared in compliance with the request contained in resolution 34/171.
3. The Secretary-General has maintained contacts with the secretariat of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) with a view to making available any possible assistance the organization might wish to request of the United Nations in connexion with the establishment of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in Africa.

* A/35/150.

4. The Secretary-General has also followed closely the efforts of governmental and non-governmental organizations to encourage the establishment of regional human rights arrangements in various regions or subregions of the world, including those in Africa, Asia, the Arab region and the Caribbean region. Representatives of the Secretary-General have participated as observers in some of the meetings held by those organizations.

5. As regards paragraph 3 of resolution 34/171, the Secretary-General wishes to inform the General Assembly that he is engaged in informal consultations with certain States in the regions concerned with a view to exploring the possibility of holding a seminar as soon as possible under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, for the purpose of discussing methods for the promotion and protection of human rights.

6. In this connexion, the Secretary-General wishes to point out that the provision of specific financial resources will be required for the seminar to enable the programme of advisory services to discharge this additional request as well as its existing mandate in terms of seminars, training courses and fellowships.
