

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTSSUB-COMMISSION ON THE PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND
THE PROTECTION OF MINORITIESProposal Submitted by Mr. Jonathan Daniels (U.S.A.)Procedures for Handling
"Urgent Problems"

The Subcommittee on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities recommends that the following procedure be approved by the Economic and Social Council for the handling of urgent problems in these fields:

1. Communications alleging the existence of urgent problems in the fields of discrimination and minorities which may be brought to the attention of the Subcommittee by any Member of the United Nations, or by any Principal Organ, (including the Secretariat) * or by any Specialized Agency brought into relationship with the United Nations under Article 63 of the Charter shall be examined by the Subcommittee.

2. The Subcommittee should decide whether any particular case warrants further consideration. In such cases a Small Committee composed of three members, who shall ordinarily be members of the Subcommittee, none of whom shall be nationals of the state or states concerned or of any neighbouring state, should be appointed with authorization to request further information and to tender its assistance informally with the state concerned with a view to reaching an agreed settlement. The Small Committee should work in collaboration with the

* The powers of the Secretariat in this respect should not become effective until such time as the Economic and Social Council has reconsidered its Resolution of 5 August 1947, "Communications concerning human rights".

Secretariat, and should be authorized to delegate any part of its work to the Secretariat. Proceedings of the Subcommission pursuant to the present paragraph should be conducted without publicity unless otherwise specially decided.

3. The Small Committee should be authorized to report to the Subcommission or the Commission, but should be required to report the particulars of its activities only if it decides that further consideration of the case by the United Nations is desirable.

4. If the state concerned in the alleged discrimination or oppression advises the Small Committee that it regards the matter as one essentially within its domestic jurisdiction, the Committee should report this fact, and, pending further guidance from the Commission, or the Subcommission, should refrain from taking any action or making any recommendation in the nature of "intervention".