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SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE THIRD DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM
AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Algeria*, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia*, France, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya*,
Madagascar*, Morocco*, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tunisia*
and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade
to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the obligation of States under the Charter of the
United Nations to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human
rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex,
language or religion,

Reaffirming its conviction that racism and racial discrimination
constitute a total negation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of
the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Reaffirming its firm determination and its commitment to eradicate
totally and unconditionally racism in all its forms and racial discrimination,

* In accordance with article 72 of the rules of procedure of the
Economic and Social Council.

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Discrimination in Education adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 14 December 1960,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 3057 (XXVIII) of 2 November 1973 on the First Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and 38/14 of 22 November 1983 on the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Recalling the recommendations of the two World Conferences to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, held at Geneva in 1978 and 1983,

Welcoming the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, and, in particular, the attention given in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action 1/ to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Noting with grave concern that, despite the efforts of the international community, the principal objectives of two Decades to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination have not been attained and that millions of human beings continue to this day to be the victims of varied forms of racism and racial discrimination,

Aware of the importance and magnitude of the phenomenon of migrant workers, as well as the efforts undertaken by the international community to improve the protection of the fundamental rights of migrant workers and members of their families,

Recalling the adoption by the General Assembly, at its forty-fifth session, of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

Aware that indigenous populations are at times victims of particular forms of racism and racial discrimination,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 48/91 of 20 December 1993, whereby the Assembly decided to proclaim a Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, beginning in 1993, and to adopt the Programme of Action proposed for the Third Decade,

1/ A/CONF.157/24.

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/11 on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Stressing the importance of the activities of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

1. Declares that all forms of racism or racial discrimination, whether institutionalized or resulting from official doctrines of racial superiority or exclusivity, such as "ethnic cleansing", are among the most serious violations of human rights in the contemporary world and must be combated by all possible means;

2. Commends all States that have ratified or acceded to the international instruments to combat racism and racial discrimination;

3. Appeals to those States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying, acceding to and implementing the relevant international instruments, particularly the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Discrimination in Education;

4. Urges all Governments to take all requisite measures to combat new forms of racism, in particular by ongoing adjustment of the methods used to combat them;

5. Invites all Governments and international and non-governmental organizations to increase and intensify their activities to combat racism and racial discrimination and to provide relief and assistance to victims of these evils;

6. Invites the Secretary-General to take action to coordinate all the programmes currently being implemented by United Nations bodies with a view to achieving the objectives of the Third Decade;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to accord special attention to the situation of migrant workers and members of their families and to include regularly in his reports full information on such workers;

8. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue the study on the effects of racial discrimination on the children of minorities, particularly those of migrant workers, in the fields of education, training and employment and to submit, inter alia, specific recommendations for the implementation of measures to combat the effects of that discrimination;

9. Calls upon all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families as a matter of priority, so that it can enter into force as soon as possible;

10. Urges the Secretary-General, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, all Governments, intergovernmental organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, in implementing the Programme of Action for the Third Decade, to pay particular attention to the situation of indigenous peoples;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to publish and distribute as soon as possible the model legislation on racism and racial discrimination for the guidance of Governments in the enactment of further legislation against racial discrimination;

12. Invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to expedite the preparation of teaching materials and teaching aids to promote teaching, training and education activities on human rights and against racism and racial discrimination, with particular emphasis on activities at the primary and secondary levels of education;

13. Regrets that some of the activities for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination have not been implemented for lack of adequate resources;

14. Calls upon the international community to provide the Secretary-General with appropriate financial resources for efficient action against racism and racial discrimination;

15. Invites all Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, to participate fully in the Third Decade;

16. Considers that voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Programme of the Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination are indispensable for the implementation of the Programme;

17. Strongly appeals, therefore, to all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Trust Fund, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to continue to undertake appropriate contacts and initiatives to encourage contributions;

18. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary financial resources are provided for the implementation on the activities of the Third Decade during the bienniums 1994-1995 and 1996-1997;

19. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; 2/

20. Recommends that the activities mentioned in the plan of activities to be carried out during the first third of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (1994-1997), as contained in the report of the Secretary-General, should be implemented;

21. Invites the Secretary-General to do his utmost to establish a focal point within the Centre for Human Rights, which will be responsible for reviewing information concerning specific recommendations on activities to be undertaken;

22. Decides to keep the item entitled "Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination" on its agenda and to give it the highest priority at its substantive session of 1996.

2/ E/1995/111 and Add.1.