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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Thirty-seventh session
2 February-13 March 1981

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The thirty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 2 February to 13 March 1981. The first meeting will be convened at 11 a.m. on Monday, 2 February 1981.
2. The provisional agenda for the thirty-seventh session is reproduced below. It is drawn up in accordance with rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. At its thirty-sixth session the Commission took note 1/ of a draft provisional agenda prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1394 (LVII). The provisional agenda reproduced below contains the following additional items: new item 12, "Review of the draft medium-term plan for the period 1984 to 1989" (in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/9 of 3 November 1980), new item 29, "Election of members of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities". At its thirty-fourth session, the Commission elected 26 members of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities for a three-year term. The Commission will accordingly hold a new election of the members of the Sub-Commission at the thirty-seventh session.
3. It will be noted that item 8 has been reworded in accordance with the decision of the Commission as contained in resolution 6 (XXXVI).
4. The thirty-seventh session of the Commission will be preceded by meetings of four groups, which will take place from 26 to 30 January 1981:
 - (a) In connection with item 10 (a), and in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/32, an open-ended working group will convene to complete the work on a draft convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
 - (b) In connection with item 14, and in accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 1980/133, an open-ended working group will convene to facilitate the completion of the work on a draft convention on the rights of the child;

1/ Decision 19 (XXXVI) of 14 March 1980.

*/ The provisional agenda has been revised by the deletion of item 25 entitled "Question of international legal protection of the human rights of individuals who are not citizens of the country in which they live" which had been included in the original version of the provisional agenda in error.

(c) In connection with item 13 (b), and in accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 1980/134, a working group composed of five members of the Commission will meet to examine such particular situations as might be referred to the Commission by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities under Economic and Social Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII) of 27 May 1970 and those situations which the Commission has decided to keep under review;

(d) In connection with item 17, and in accordance with Commission resolution 13 (XXXVI), the group of three members of the Commission appointed in accordance with article IX of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid will convene to consider reports submitted by States parties in accordance with article VII of that Convention.

5. The Economic and Social Council, by decision 1980/139, endorsed Commission decision 14 (XXXVI) by which the session of the Ad Hoc Committee on Periodic Reports, which was scheduled to take place prior to the thirty-seventh session of the Commission, would be postponed and would take place prior to the thirty-eighth session of the Commission.

6. In connection with item 11, the Commission decided, in resolution 28 (XXXVI), to establish at the very beginning of the thirty-seventh session an open-ended working group to continue the over-all analysis of "Further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms" as indicated in that resolution.

7. In connection with item 19, the Commission decided, by resolution 35 (XXXVI), to establish again the open-ended working group at its thirty-seventh session and to allot more time to the working group during the thirty-seventh session in order that it might complete its task at that session.

8. Any decisions or resolutions affecting the provisional agenda of the Commission which may be taken by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session or by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session in February 1981 will be brought to the attention of the Commission in an addendum to the present document. The annotations to the items listed in the provisional agenda will be issued in another addendum.

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Organization of the work of the session
4. Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine
5. Question of human rights in Chile
6. Violations of human rights in southern Africa: report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts
7. The 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
8. Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights, including:
 - (a) Problems related to the right to enjoy an adequate standard of living; the right to development
 - (b) The effects of the existing unjust international economic order on the economies of the developing countries, and the obstacle that this represents for the implementation of human rights and fundamental freedoms
9. The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation
10. Question of the human rights of all persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment, in particular:
 - (a) Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
 - (b) Question of missing and disappeared persons
11. Further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the question of the programme and methods of work of the Commission, alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
12. Review of the draft medium-term plan for the period 1984 to 1989

13. Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories, including:
 - (a) Question of human rights in Cyprus
 - (b) Study of situations which appear to reveal a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights as provided in Commission resolution 8 (XXIII) and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1235 (XLII) and 1503 (XLVIII): report of the Working Group established by the Commission at its thirty-fifth session
14. Question of a convention on the rights of the child
15. Measures to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers
16. Human rights and scientific and technological developments
17. Implementation of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid
18. The role of youth in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the question of conscientious objection to military service
19. Draft declaration on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief
20. Periodic reports on human rights
 - (a) Periodic reports on freedom of information
 - (b) Periodic reports on civil and political rights and question of the right of everyone to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country (Economic and Social Council resolution 1788 (LIV))
21. (a) Study in collaboration with the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of ways and means of ensuring the implementation of United Nations resolutions bearing on apartheid, racism and racial discrimination
 - (b) Implementation of the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination
22. Status of the International Covenants on Human Rights
23. Report of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on its thirty-third session
24. Rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities

25. Question of measures to be taken against ideologies and practices based on terror or incitement to racial discrimination or any other form of group hatred
 26. Advisory services in the field of human rights
 27. Communications concerning human rights
 28. Election of members of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities
 29. Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission
 30. Report to the Economic and Social Council on the thirty-seventh session of the Commission.
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