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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Thirty-seventh session
Item 21 (b) of the provisional agenda

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE DECADE FOR ACTION
TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Note by the Chairman of the Commission
at its thirty-sixth session

Prepared in accordance with resolution 14 B (XXVI)
of the Commission

1. At its thirty-fourth session, in resolution 34/24 of 15 November 1979, the General Assembly adopted a four-year Programme of activities to be undertaken during the second half of the Decade. Paragraph 13 of the Programme, which was annexed to the resolution, provided, inter alia, that a seminar should be organized in 1981 by the Commission on Human Rights, in co-operation with the Special Committee against Apartheid, in order to study the formulation of effective measures to prevent transnational corporations and other established interests from collaborating with the racist régimes of southern Africa.
2. In resolution 14 B (XXXVI) of 26 February 1980, the Commission on Human Rights decided to organize such a seminar and requested the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights, in co-operation with the Special Committee against Apartheid, to make the necessary arrangements for the organization of the seminar and to inform the Commission at its thirty-seventh session on the steps taken. The present document has been prepared in accordance with that decision.
3. Consultations on the organization of the seminar were held between the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights and the Director of the Division of Human Rights on the one hand and, on the other hand, between the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid, the Director of the Centre against Apartheid and the Director of the Division of Human Rights.
4. The arrangements made for the organization of the seminar are found in the annex. They deal with the following questions: the duration, the date, the venue, the participation, the agenda and the documentation.

ANNEX

Arrangements concerning the organization of the seminar as agreed upon by the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights and the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid

Title of the seminar

"Effective measures to prevent transnational corporations and other established interests from collaborating with the racist régime of South Africa"

Duration

One week

Date

29 June - 3 July 1981

Venue

Palais des Nations, Geneva

Participation 1/

(a) 10 participants from States members of the Commission on Human Rights, including the Chairman

(b) 10 participants from States members of the Special Committee against Apartheid, including the Chairman

(c) 10 participants from States members of the Commission on Transnational Corporations, including the Chairman of the Commission

(d) Three consultants

(e) Three participants from Liberation Movements recognized by the OAU: ANC, PAC and SWAPO

(f) Two representatives of anti-apartheid movements to be designated by the Special Committee against Apartheid

(g) Representatives of various United Nations organs

(h) Representatives of concerned specialized agencies

(i) Representatives of intergovernmental organizations: the Council of Europe, League of Arab States, OAU, OAS

(j) Representatives of concerned non-governmental organizations

1/ The United Nations will pay for the travel expenses and subsistence allowance of participants mentioned in categories (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).

Agenda

1. The nature and extent of the collaboration between transnational corporations and South Africa, including such questions as: Participation of transnational corporations in key economic sectors; collaboration between transnational corporations and South Africa in military and nuclear fields; provision of capital: loans, credits, investments and reinvestments, banking institutions, export of South African capital; transfer of technology; trade: imports of high technology goods and access to world markets for South African exports, particularly mineral commodities; political activities; practices followed by transnational corporations with regard to employment, wages and trade-union activities; and promotional activities and use of mass media.
2. Review of existing measures to prevent collaboration of transnational corporations with South Africa, in particular: Action taken by the United Nations: General Assembly, Security Council, Economic and Social Council, Commission on Transnational Corporations, Commission on Human Rights and other associated agencies; action taken by governments; and action taken by non-governmental organizations.
3. Proposals for action in the areas of energy/oil, uranium, assistance in the military and nuclear fields, and other areas, notably: Proposals for intergovernmental organizations, in particular, the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; proposals for governments; proposals for non-governmental agencies; and proposals for media.

Documentation

- (a) Four documents prepared by the Centre for Transnational Corporations (A/C.10/26, 39, 66 and ST/CTC/12)
- (b) Reports and documents of three seminars organized by the Special Committee against Apartheid -- on nuclear collaboration (February 1979), activities of transnationals (October 1979) and oil embargo (March 1980)
- (c) Relevant publications of the Centre against Apartheid
- (d) "Assistance to racist régimes in southern Africa: impact on the enjoyment of human rights", by Ahmed M. Khalifa, Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (E/CN.4/Sub.2/383/Rev.2)
- (e) Four background papers to be prepared on the following subjects:
 - (i) The nature and extent of the collaboration between transnational corporations and South Africa
 - (ii) Action taken by the United Nations to prevent collaboration of transnational corporations with South Africa
 - (iii) Action taken by governments to prevent collaboration of transnational corporations with South Africa
 - (iv) Proposals for action in the areas of energy/oil, uranium, assistance in the military and nuclear fields, and other areas
- (f) Working papers by participants