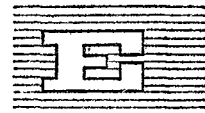


UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

E/CH.4/1448/Add.1
20 January 1981

ENGLISH
Original: FRENCH/
ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Thirty-seventh session
Item 21(b) of the provisional agenda

ANNUAL REPORTS ON RACIAL DISCRIMINATION SUBMITTED BY ILO AND
UNESCO IN ACCORDANCE WITH ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
RESOLUTION 1588 (L) AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTION 2785 (XXVI)

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Commission on Human Rights the annual report on racial discrimination of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, submitted in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1588 (L) and General Assembly resolution 2785 (XXVI).

Tenth annual report of UNESCO on action to combat racial
discrimination, especially in southern Africa, in
UNESCO's sphere of competence
(November 1979 to November 1980)

1. For the period from November 1979 to November 1980, UNESCO's activities in the sphere of action to combat racial discrimination, especially in southern Africa, related essentially to the following:

- I. Normative activities;
- II. Operational activities;
- III. UNESCO's participation in meetings, seminars and round-tables;
- IV. Studies and research.

I. NORMATIVE ACTIVITIES

2. For the period under consideration, UNESCO's normative activities in respect of action to combat racial discrimination centred largely on efforts to secure implementation of three main instruments, namely:

Convention against Discrimination in Education, adopted by the General Conference at its eleventh session, Paris, 14 December 1960

Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice, adopted by the General Conference at its twentieth session, Paris, 27 November 1978

Declaration on Fundamental Principles concerning the Contribution of the Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion of Human Rights and to Countering Racialism, Apartheid and Incitement to War, adopted by the General Conference at its twentieth session, Paris, 22 November 1978.

A. Implementation of the Convention against Discrimination in Education

3. During 1980, UNESCO concerned itself mainly with completing the third consultation of Member States, begun in 1975, concerning implementation of the above-mentioned Convention. In this connection, it will be recalled that the initial results of the consultation were submitted to the General Conference at its twentieth session in document 20C/40, to which reference was made in UNESCO's preceding annual report.

4. The results of the consultation were set out in a report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations that was submitted to the General Conference at its twenty-first session in document 21C/47. This document contains a consolidated analysis of the information transmitted up to and including 30 August 1979 by nine Member States (of which six are Parties to the Convention) in response to a reminder addressed by the Director-General on 21 February 1979 to 80 Member States which had not yet prepared their reports for the third consultation on implementation of the Convention. It also takes into account the reports which two other Member States (of which one is a Party to the Convention) transmitted to the secretariat before the reminder was sent, but too late for use in drafting the Committee's preceding report (20C/40). Lastly, it contains information supplementing the report which a Member State prepared in September 1976 and was taken into consideration in drafting document 20C/40.

5. At the end of the third consultation exercise, it is regrettable to note, as the General Conference has done, that of a total of 134 States members of UNESCO when the third consultation exercise began, only 69 (of which 49 are parties to the Convention) participated in the consultation. However, it will be noted with satisfaction that, according to their reports, there are no laws or regulations which imply any form of discrimination, as defined in article 1 of the Convention, in any of the States which participated in the third consultation. Furthermore, it is evident that the States are particularly concerned by the continuing inequality of opportunities in the field of education, and some of them report on measures taken on behalf of less-advantaged regions or population groups.

B. Implementation of the Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice adopted on 27 November 1978

6. It will be recalled that, at its twentieth session, the General Conference supplemented the above-mentioned Declaration by a resolution on its implementation in which, inter alia, it invited the Director-General "to prepare a comprehensive report on the world situation in the fields covered by the Declaration, on the basis of the information supplied by Member States and of any other information ... which he may have gathered ...". It is in the light of that provision that the Director-General of UNESCO sent a circular letter dated 7 May 1980 to the 150 States members of UNESCO and to governmental and non-governmental organizations, inviting them to submit to him information on the implementation of the Declaration, in accordance with a pre-determined format.

7. As of 1 September 1980, only 26 member States, four international governmental organizations and 16 non-governmental organizations had responded to the Director-General's invitation. The various replies made it possible to prepare the comprehensive report of the Director-General on the world situation in the fields covered by the Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice (Document 21C/78) which was submitted to the General Conference at its twenty-first session. This document mostly contains summaries of the replies received, as well as general comments and recommendations.

8. It will be noted that it has not been possible to undertake a precise and comprehensive survey on the basis of the replies received, which were limited in number and which generally provided little specific information on the implementation of the Declaration. The States which participated in the survey stress the absence of legal provisions establishing forms of racial discrimination in their territory. However, it is regrettable that the States, with but a few exceptions, paid more attention in their replies to formal legal structures than to economic, social, political and cultural conditions which could give rise to acts of racial discrimination.

9. In view of the limited number of replies received and their very general nature, the Director-General felt that it would be appropriate to renew the invitation addressed to Member States and organizations involved in action to combat racism and racial discrimination, requesting them to report on any specific measures they had taken to implement the Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice. He also emphasized the specificity of the Declaration and invited Member States and the organizations concerned to take that into account in their replies, with a view, particularly, to avoiding duplication with the consultation procedures of other agencies within the United Nations system. Lastly, he reminded Member States, in accordance with

paragraph 1(a) of the resolution for implementation of the Declaration, of their undertaking "to consider the possibility of ratifying, if they have not yet done so, the international instruments designed to aid in countering and eliminating racial discrimination, and in particular the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Convention on the Suppression and punishment of the Crime of Apartheid and the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education".

C. Implementation of the UNESCO Declaration on Fundamental Principles concerning the Contribution of Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion of Human Rights and to Countering Racism, Apartheid and Incitement to War, adopted on 22 November 1978

10. The adoption of this UNESCO Declaration constitutes a clear-cut statement of mass media's readiness and willingness to counter racism and racial discrimination. In its very first article the Declaration assigns a "leading role" to the mass media in this regard.

Programme-actions designed to implement the Declaration at the national, regional and international level can be said to make definite contribution to the over-all efforts to combat racism and racial discrimination.

Actions implemented in 1979-1980

11. (a) Translation and publication into the respective national languages of UNESCO Member States, in addition to the six official languages of the United Nations. So far 16 Member States have completed this project. Others are in the process of doing so.
- (b) National-level seminar in Turkey, sponsored by Hacette University in Ankara, brought together professionals from the press and broadcasting and experts from teaching and research institutions to examine ways to implement the principles of the Declaration.
- (c) Three regional seminars were organized with UNESCO support by the Latin American Federation of Journalists (FELAP) in Mexico City, the Press Foundation of Asia (PFA) in Manila and the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ).
 - The annual meeting of FELAP brought together all regional professional organizations of journalists (Asia, Arab States and Africa) and the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ). The meeting, which was convened in Mexico City, fully endorsed the Declaration and agreed to work towards its full implementation.
 - The PFA meeting brought together leading newspaper editors in the region. They fully endorsed the Declaration and called upon professional organizations, media institutions, Government policy-makers, etc. to all work together to implement its principles.
 - A third regional colloquium was organized by the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ), in collaboration with UNESCO in Bamako, Mali, from 1 to 3 October 1980. The subject of the colloquium was how the mass media in general and the press in particular could

contribute towards greater international understanding by implementing the principles of the Declaration, which includes fighting against racism. The African and the Malian Unions of Journalists also participated in the colloquium.

- (d) An international consultation was convened at Headquarters in May 1979 to look into ways to include the Declaration in the curricula of communication teaching and training institutes. The meeting's recommendations were distributed to all concerned institutions in the world.
- (e) A study on "Images of foreign countries" as portrayed by national mass media is now in the final stages of completion. This study took particular note of the racial stereotypes which are sometimes projected in the mass media and which give birth to prejudice, bias and negative images about nations, cultures, and peoples.
- (f) A small consultation of international experts was organized in 1979 to define the notions of responsible, comprehensive, and objective reporting of international news and to foster greater international understanding through international reporting. In early 1981, a much broader meeting will be organized with the participation of all the major non-governmental professional organizations, to suggest ways to improve the current level and nature of international reporting. Respect for cultural identity of nations and ways of reflecting them in international reporting form a part of the deliberations of this meeting.

Major actions foreseen in 1981-1983

- 12. (a) A series of five regional seminars, which will bring together media professionals, researchers, policy-makers, etc. to see how the Declaration has been implemented and will devise ways to bring about greater adherence to its principles by all concerned. These seminars will naturally examine the role mass media is playing in combating racism and racial discrimination.
- (b) The organization of an International Congress in 1983 to evaluate implementation of the Declaration. This International Congress is expected to look into the question of "leading role" of the media in bringing about greater understanding among nations and of countering racialism in all its forms (extra-budgetary funds).
- (c) Three seminars will be organized, one in 1981, one in 1982 and one in 1983, on how the press, radio and television and the cinema handle problems of international significance. Though the subjects of those seminars are broader than the problem of racial discrimination itself, yet the latter issue will no doubt form an integral part of the deliberations on other problems of international significance dealt with by the mass media.
- (d) With a view to preparing a consolidated report in 1983, a survey will be undertaken in 1981 of findings of major research on the way the media handle social phenomena such as violation of human rights, violence, etc.

II. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

13. In consultation with OAU, UNESCO continued to execute eight UNDP-funded projects for the education and training of pupils and students of national liberation movements recognized by OAU, and up to the end of December 1980, one project for the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe. The aid provided through these projects and from UNESCO's regular programme funds covered the award of university fellowships; the payment of fees and expenses of secondary school-level pupils; the provision of educational supplies and equipment to, and the payment of salaries of teachers of, schools established by the national liberation movements; the organization of two workshops/seminars, one on textbook writing and the other on educational planning and administration and school facilities; and the payment of travel expenses of representatives of national liberation movements to enable them to participate in UNESCO meetings of direct interest to them, as well as to the UNESCO General Conference.

III. PARTICIPATION BY UNESCO IN MEETINGS, SEMINARS AND ROUND-TABLES

14. In this connection, reference can be made to four meetings which constitute contributions to combating racism:

1. UNESCO participation in the twenty-first session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) (Geneva, 24 March-11 April 1980)

15. UNESCO's participation in this session of CERD largely related to item 8 of the Committee's agenda: Implementation of article 7 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. This article deals with one of UNESCO's concerns in that it aims to strengthen the role of education, culture and information in combating racial discrimination. Accordingly, UNESCO submitted a document entitled: Preliminary observations by UNESCO on the implementation of article 7 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. The first part of the study considered the treatment of article 7 in legal literature; the second part examines the way in which States Parties implement it; the third part recounts UNESCO's experience in the implementation of normative instruments and its possible value as a model.

2. United Nations Seminar on Political, Economic, Cultural and Other Factors Underlying Situations Leading to Racism including a Survey of the Increase or Decline of Racism and Racial Discrimination (Nairobi, Kenya, 19-30 May 1980)

16. This seminar, which was also organized as part of the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, provided an opportunity for the representative of the Director-General of UNESCO to introduce the study requested of the organization concerning its action to combat racism. This document first describes UNESCO's normative activities in the struggle against racism and racial discrimination. It goes on to deal with the problem of failure to recognize the cultural identity and cultural contribution of certain population groups with a view to preserving and maintaining their cultural heritage. Lastly it discusses discriminatory practices with regard to the right to education and training and the absence, in the field of information, of measures to dispel the preconceived ideas of various population groups regarding other groups.

3. International symposium on the problems of fascism: the fight against nazism and fascism - a contribution to the defence of democracy and peace (Frankfurt-am-Main, Federal Republic of Germany, 29-30 October 1980)

17. This symposium, which was organized by the International Federation of Resistance Movements (FIR), provided an opportunity for the representative of the Director-General of UNESCO to draw a comparison between the régime of the Republic of South Africa and nazism. He pointed out, for example, that there were disturbing similarities between the laws of apartheid and those of Nuremberg. He also indicated that UNESCO had for many years categorized that régime as a threat to peace. Lastly, he reported on UNESCO's action against racism -- both normative activities and studies and research work.

4. International conference of teachers to combat racism anti-Semitism and human rights violations (Tel Aviv, 9-14 November 1980)

18. This conference was organized by the Israeli Teachers' Union and by Netherlands, German, French and American teachers' associations. The representative of the Director-General of UNESCO took the opportunity to draw attention to the fact that, since its establishment, UNESCO had organized several international conferences to evaluate work on population genetics and social science research into the "racial problem", and that it had also issued many publications on that question and had steadily expanded its studies and research programme on the subject. In his statement, he analysed the contribution of the various UNESCO declarations on race, giving prominence to the latest of them: the Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice adopted by the UNESCO General Conference by consensus on 27 November 1978.

IV. STUDIES AND RESEARCH WORK

19. The record of UNESCO's studies and research work concerning the struggle against racism in 1980 is as follows:

1. Works published since the previous report

20. Sociological Theories: Race and Colonialism, UNESCO, 1980, 499 pages. This work, which contains contributions by a number of authors from different schools of thought, draws attention to the contribution of various sociological theories to the study of racism and, by extension, the study of colonialism. It places particular emphasis on the contribution and shortcomings of the conventional sociological theories based on the works of Marx, Weber and Durkheim and gives a critical analysis of more recent theoretical approaches, for example those connected with the American functionalist school. It also highlights the economic, political and social factors which played a decisive part in the emergence of relatively structured racist ideologies during the nineteenth century and the role of these ideologies in the maintenance and development of certain social structures at the national and international levels.

21. General History of Africa. Volume I -- Méthodologie et préhistoire africaine (Methodology and African Prehistory). Editor: J.K-Zerbo, 1980, 893 pages. Volume II -- Afrique ancienne (Ancient Africa). Editor: G. Mokhtar, 1980, 925 pages. This monumental study, which will extend to eight volumes, is intended to be a history of the ideas and civilizations, societies and institutions of Africa since ancient times. It draws on a wide variety of sources, including tradition and artistic expression.

22. La naissance de l'Etat par la guerre de libération nationale: le cas de la Guinée-Bissau (The Emergence of the State through a War of National Liberation: the Case of Guinea-Bissau) by Paulette Pierson-Mathy, UNESCO, 1980, 155 pages. As the author states (chapter 2, page 27), the entire history of Guinea during the colonial period is marked by injustice, exploitation, poverty, lack of freedom and political rights, ignorance, hunger, fear, racism and discrimination. In these circumstances, the Guinean people inevitably sought self-determination and the achievement of freedom, if necessary through a war of national liberation. This they did in exemplary fashion. According to the author, that struggle was both a struggle for the re-establishment of international legality and human rights and a struggle for the achievement of human rights and freedoms, a struggle for peace.

2. Future publications

23. Study of the methods used by South Africa to create and sustain pressure groups;

Apartheid: its effects on education, science, culture and information (third edition);

Comparison of the principles proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the actual situation in South Africa;

Study on the role of the black press in southern Africa;

Apartheid: a guide for teachers.