

Committee⁵³ as well as the summary records of the discussions which took place on this item during the fiftieth session of the Council.

Conference of European Ministers responsible for social welfare

(Item 2)

At its 1771st meeting, on 21 May 1971, the Council, after being informed of the positive outcome of consultations between the Secretary-General and the Governments concerned and having noted that there would be no financial implications to the United Nations

⁵³ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fiftieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 2, document E/5029.

that could not be absorbed within resources available to the Secretariat, decided to approve the convening of a Conference of European Ministers responsible for social welfare, under United Nations auspices, with the co-operation of the Government of the Netherlands.

Future institutional arrangements for science and technology

(Item 11 (a))

At its 1772nd meeting, on 21 May 1971, the Council decided to adjourn the debate on this item along with the proposals under consideration to its fifty-first session.⁵⁴

⁵⁴ E/4959; E/L.1400, E/L.1407 and Add.1 and E/L.1420 and Add.1.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS

1587 (L). Special study of racial discrimination in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking into account the unique contribution made by the special study of racial discrimination in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres,⁵⁵ submitted to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at its twenty-third session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its twenty-seventh session by the Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission, Mr. Hernán Santa Cruz.

Expresses its appreciation to Mr. Santa Cruz for his valuable study.

*1771st plenary meeting,
21 May 1971.*

1588 (L). Racial discrimination in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering it necessary that immediate, effective and decisive steps should be taken to eradicate racial discrimination in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres,

Endorsing in general the conclusions concerning such discrimination set out in the special study of racial discrimination in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres,⁵⁶

Bearing in mind that racial discrimination exists in many countries and that in southern Africa especially it is being perpetuated as a device for maintaining a steady supply of cheap labour and the minority rule by the racist régimes,

1. *Recommends* that the General Assembly request every competent United Nations organ, specialized agency, regional intergovernmental organization and non-governmental organization in consultative status to consider, as a matter of the highest priority, at sessions

⁵⁵ E/CN.4/Sub.2/307/Rev.1 (issued as United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.71.XIV.2, under the title "Racial Discrimination").

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, chap. XIII, sect. A.

to be held in 1971, the International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and in succeeding years:

(a) The further action which it might itself take with a view to speedily eliminating racial discrimination throughout the world;

(b) The action which it might recommend to its subsidiary organs, to States and to international and national bodies for this purpose;

(c) The follow-up measures required to ensure the full and effective implementation of its decisions in this matter;

2. *Invites* non-governmental organizations in consultative status with special interest in the elimination of racism and racial discrimination to communicate biennially to the Economic and Social Council, and for the information of any interested organ of the United Nations, their endeavours and progress in the struggle against racism, *apartheid* and racial discrimination, especially in southern Africa;

3. *Recommends further* that the General Assembly urge all States which are not parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to accelerate the process of ratifying that Convention, to ratify or accede to it as soon as possible, especially during the International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and request them to report to the General Assembly on the measures taken by them to this effect, on any obstacles that may have been encountered and on any interim measures taken to comply strictly with the principles set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

4. *Recommends further* that the General Assembly should pursue, as a major feature of action to combat racism and racial discrimination after the International Year, with the co-operation and assistance of every competent United Nations organ, specialized agency and affiliated national and international organization, a world-wide programme intended to build up public opinion, especially through radio and television broadcasts, as well as through the distribution of appropriate literature such as the Statement on Race and Racial Discrimination adopted by a conference of experts