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ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of
All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The General Assembly, by its resolution 2106 A (XX) of 21 December 1965, adopted and opened for signature and ratification the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and invited the States referred to in article 17 of the Convention to sign and ratify it without delay. By the same resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it reports concerning the state of ratifications of the Convention, which would be considered by the Assembly at its future sessions. In response to that request, reports on the status of the Convention have been submitted to the General Assembly annually since its twenty-first session in 1966.
2. By its resolution 35/38 of 25 November 1980, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (A/35/196); expressed its satisfaction with the increase in the number of States which had ratified the Convention or acceded thereto; reaffirmed once again its conviction that ratification of or accession to the Convention on a universal basis and implementation of its provisions were necessary for the realization of the objectives of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; requested States which had not yet become parties to the Convention to ratify it or accede to it; appealed to States parties to the Convention to study the possibility of making the declaration provided for in article 14 of the Convention; and requested the Secretary-General to continue to submit to the General Assembly annual reports concerning the status of the Convention, in accordance with Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX) of 21 December 1965. Furthermore, by its resolution 35/40 of the same date, the General Assembly, inter alia, urged all States which were not yet parties to the Convention to ratify or accede to it and, pending such ratification or accession, to be guided by the basic provisions of the Convention in their internal and foreign policies.

3. The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination was opened for signature in New York on 7 March 1966. It entered into force on 4 January 1969, on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twenty-seventh instrument of ratification, as provided for in article 19 of the Convention.
4. As at 1 September 1981, the Convention had received 75 signatures, 66 of which had been followed by ratifications; in addition, 40 States had acceded to the Convention and two States had succeeded to it, bringing the total number of ratifications, accessions and successions to 108. The list of States which have signed, ratified, acceded or succeeded to the Convention, as well as the dates of their signatures, ratifications or accessions, is contained in annex I below.
5. As at the same date, eight of the States parties to the Convention, namely Costa Rica, Ecuador, Iceland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Uruguay, had made the declaration provided for under article 14 of the Convention, recognizing the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to receive and consider communications from individuals or groups of individuals within their jurisdiction claiming to be victims of violation by those States parties of any of the rights set forth in the Convention. Article 14, paragraph 9, of the Convention provides that the Committee shall be competent to exercise the functions provided for in this article when at least 10 States parties to the Convention are bound by such declarations.
6. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination held its twenty-third session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 23 March to 10 April 1981, and its twenty-fourth session at United Nations Headquarters from 3 to 21 August 1981. In accordance with article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the Committee has submitted its annual report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, 1/ which covers the activities of the Committee at its two sessions held in 1981.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/36/18).

ANNEX

List of States which have signed, ratified,
 acceded or succeeded to the Convention

<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of receipt of the instruments of ratification, accession or notification of succession</u>
Algeria	9 December 1966	14 February 1972
Argentina	13 July 1967	2 October 1968
Australia	13 October 1966	30 September 1975
Austria	22 July 1969	9 May 1972
Bahamas		5 August 1975 <u>b/</u>
Bangladesh		11 June 1979 <u>a/</u>
Barbados		8 November 1972 <u>a/</u>
Belgium	17 August 1967	7 August 1975
Benin	2 February 1967	
Bhutan	26 March 1973	
Bolivia	7 June 1966	22 September 1970
Botswana		20 February 1974 <u>a/</u>
Brazil	7 March 1966	27 March 1968
Bulgaria	1 June 1966	8 August 1966
Burundi	1 February 1967	27 October 1977
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	7 March 1966	8 April 1969
Canada	24 August 1966	14 October 1970
Cape Verde		3 October 1979 <u>a/</u>
Central African Republic	7 March 1966	16 March 1971
Chad		17 August 1977 <u>a/</u>
Chile	3 October 1966	20 October 1971
China <u>c/</u>		
Colombia	23 March 1967	
Costa Rica <u>d/</u>	14 March 1966	16 January 1967
Cuba	7 June 1966	15 February 1972
Cyprus	12 December 1966	21 April 1967

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<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of receipt of the instruments of ratification, accession or notification of succession</u>
Czechoslovakia	7 October 1966	29 December 1966
Democratic Kampuchea	12 April 1966	
Democratic Yemen		18 October 1972 <u>a/</u>
Denmark	21 June 1966	9 December 1971
Ecuador <u>d/</u>		22 September 1966 <u>a/</u>
Egypt	28 September 1966	1 May 1967
El Salvador		30 November 1979 <u>a/</u>
Ethiopia		23 June 1976 <u>a/</u>
Fiji		11 January 1973 <u>b/</u>
Finland	6 October 1966	14 July 1970
France		28 July 1971 <u>a/</u>
Gabon	20 September 1966	29 February 1980
Gambia		29 December 1978 <u>a/</u>
German Democratic Republic		27 March 1973 <u>a/</u>
Germany, Federal Republic of	10 February 1967	16 May 1969
Ghana	8 September 1966	8 September 1966
Greece	7 March 1966	18 June 1970
Guatemala	8 September 1967	
Guinea	24 March 1966	14 March 1977
Guyana	11 December 1968	15 February 1977
Haiti	30 October 1972	19 December 1972
Holy See	21 November 1966	1 May 1969
Hungary	15 September 1966	4 May 1967
Iceland <u>d/</u>	14 November 1966	13 March 1967
India	2 March 1967	3 December 1968
Iran	8 March 1967	29 August 1968
Iraq	18 February 1969	14 January 1970
Ireland	21 March 1968	
Israel	7 March 1966	3 January 1979

<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of receipt of the instruments of ratification, accession or notification of succession</u>
Italy <u>d/</u>	18 March 1968	5 January 1976
Ivory Coast		4 January 1973 <u>a/</u>
Jamaica	14 August 1966	4 June 1971
Jordan		30 May 1974 <u>a/</u>
Kuwait		15 October 1968 <u>a/</u>
Lao People's Democratic Republic		22 February 1974 <u>a/</u>
Lebanon		12 November 1971 <u>a/</u>
Lesotho		4 February 1971 <u>a/</u>
Liberia		5 November 1976 <u>a/</u>
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		3 July 1968 <u>a/</u>
Luxembourg	12 December 1967	1 May 1978
Madagascar	18 December 1967	7 February 1969
Mali		16 July 1974 <u>a/</u>
Malta	5 September 1968	27 May 1971
Mauritania	21 December 1966	
Mauritius		30 May 1972 <u>a/</u>
Mexico	1 November 1966	20 February 1975
Mongolia	3 May 1966	6 August 1969
Morocco	18 September 1967	18 December 1970
Nepal		30 January 1971 <u>a/</u>
Netherlands <u>d/</u>	24 October 1966	10 December 1971
New Zealand	25 October 1966	22 November 1972
Nicaragua		15 February 1978 <u>a/</u>
Niger	14 March 1966	27 April 1967
Nigeria		16 October 1967 <u>a/</u>
Norway <u>d/</u>	21 November 1966	6 August 1970
Pakistan	19 September 1966	21 September 1966
Panama	8 December 1966	16 August 1967
Peru	22 July 1966	29 September 1971

Date of receipt of the
instruments of ratification,
accession or notification
of succession

<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of receipt of the instruments of ratification, accession or notification of succession</u>
Philippines	7 March 1966	15 September 1967
Poland	7 March 1966	5 December 1968
Qatar		22 July 1976 <u>a/</u>
Republic of Korea	8 August 1978	5 December 1978
Romania		15 September 1970 <u>a/</u>
Rwanda		16 April 1975 <u>a/</u>
Senegal	22 July 1968	19 April 1972
Seychelles		7 March 1978 <u>a/</u>
Sierra Leone	17 November 1966	2 August 1967
Somalia	26 January 1967	26 August 1975
Spain		13 September 1968 <u>a/</u>
Sudan		21 March 1977 <u>a/</u>
Swaziland		7 April 1969 <u>a/</u>
Sweden <u>d/</u>	5 May 1966	6 December 1971
Syrian Arab Republic		21 April 1969 <u>a/</u>
Togo		1 September 1972 <u>a/</u>
Tonga		16 February 1972 <u>a/</u>
Trinidad and Tobago	9 June 1967	4 October 1973
Tunisia	12 April 1966	13 January 1967
Turkey	13 October 1972	
Uganda		21 November 1980 <u>a/</u>
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	7 March 1966	7 March 1969
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	7 March 1966	4 February 1969
United Arab Emirates		20 June 1974 <u>a/</u>
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11 October 1966	7 March 1969
United Republic of Cameroon	12 December 1966	24 June 1971

<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of receipt of the instruments of ratification, accession or notification of succession</u>
United Republic of Tanzania		27 October 1972 a/
United States of America	28 September 1966	
Upper Volta		18 July 1974 a/
Uruguay d/	21 February 1967	30 August 1968
Venezuela	21 April 1967	10 October 1967
Yugoslavia	15 April 1966	2 October 1967
Zaire		21 April 1976 a/
Zambia	11 October 1968	4 February 1972

a/ Accession.

b/ Notification of succession.

c/ Following the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 2758 (XXVI) of 25 October 1971 on the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, by a note addressed to the Secretary-General, received on 29 September 1972, stated:

"1. With regard to the multilateral treaties signed, ratified or acceded to by the defunct Chinese government before the establishment of the People's Republic of China, my Government will examine their contents before making a decision in the light of the circumstances as to whether or not they should be recognized.

"2. As from 1 October 1949, the day of the founding of the People's Republic of China, the Chiang Kai-shek clique has no right at all to represent China. Its signature and ratification of, or accession to, any multilateral treaties by usurping the name of 'China' are all illegal and null and void. My Government will study these multilateral treaties before making a decision in the light of the circumstances as to whether or not they should be acceded to."

This list therefore does not include the signature and ratification of the Convention on behalf of the "Republic of China" on 31 March 1966 and on 10 December 1970, respectively.

d/ Made the declaration under article 14 of the Convention.
