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ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid

Report of the Secretary-General

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The General Assembly, by its resolution 3068 (XXVIII) of 30 November 1973, adopted and opened for signature and ratification the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid and appealed to all States to sign and ratify it as soon as possible.
2. By its resolution 3380 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, the General Assembly, being convinced that ratification of or accession to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid on a universal basis and implementation of its provisions were necessary for the achievement of the goals of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, appealed to the Governments of all States to sign, ratify and implement the Convention without delay and requested the Secretary-General to submit to it annual reports on the status of the Convention.
3. By its resolution 31/80 of 13 December 1976, the General Assembly welcomed the entry into force on 18 July 1976 of the Convention; appealed to all States which had not yet become parties to the Convention to accede to it, and decided to consider annually, starting with its thirty-second session, the item entitled "Status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid".

* A/37/150.

4. By its resolution 36/13 of 28 October 1981, the General Assembly appealed once again to those States that had not yet done so to ratify or to accede to the Convention without further delay.

II. STATUS OF THE CONVENTION

5. In accordance with the provisions of its article XV, paragraph 1, the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid entered into force on 18 July 1976.

6. As at 1 September 1982, the Convention had received 35 signatures, 29 of which have been followed by ratification. In addition, 38 States had acceded to the Convention, bringing the total of ratifications and accessions to the Convention to 67. A list of States which have signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention and the dates of their signature, ratification or accession appear in the annex to this report.

7. In paragraph 7 of its resolution 36/13, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts through appropriate channels to disseminate information on the Convention and its implementation with a view to promoting further ratification or accession to the Convention. In this connection, reference is made to the further action taken by the Secretary-General under resolution 1 B (XXXII) adopted by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on 5 September 1979.

8. By that resolution, the Sub-Commission decided to establish each year a sessional working group composed of five members of the Sub-Commission with due regard to equitable geographical distribution, to meet during the sessions of the Sub-Commission in order to consider ways and means of encouraging Governments which had not yet done so to ratify or adhere to international human rights instruments, including the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid; and requested the Secretary-General to write to Governments which had not yet accepted the instruments mentioned in that resolution, requesting them to inform the Sub-Commission of the circumstances which so far had not enabled them to ratify or adhere to those instruments and to explain any particular difficulties which they might face, in respect of which the United Nations could offer any assistance.

9. A summary of information received so far from Governments appears in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/452 and Add.1-5 prepared by the Secretary-General for the thirty-fifth session of the Sub-Commission.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

10. Under article VII of the Convention, the States parties undertake to submit to the group established under article IX periodic reports on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures that they have adopted and that give effect to the provisions of the Convention. Copies of the reports shall be transmitted through the Secretary-General to the Special Committee against Apartheid.

11. In accordance with article IX, paragraphs 1 and 3, of the Convention, the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights is authorized to appoint a group consisting of three members of the Commission who are also representatives of States parties to the Convention to consider reports submitted by States parties in accordance with article VII. The group may meet for a period of not more than five days, either before the opening or after the closing date of the session of the Commission, to consider the reports submitted in accordance with article VII.
12. Under article X of the Convention, the States parties to the Convention empower the Commission on Human Rights to undertake a number of tasks enumerated therein and, inter alia, to prepare, on the basis of reports from competent organs of the United Nations and periodic reports from States parties, a list of individuals, organizations, institutions and representatives of States which are alleged to be responsible for the crimes enumerated in article II of the Convention, as well as those against whom legal proceedings have been undertaken by States parties to the Convention.
13. By its resolution 36/13 of 28 October 1981, the General Assembly commended the States parties to the Convention that had submitted their reports under article VII of the Convention and appealed to other States to do so as soon as possible, taking fully into account the guidelines prepared by the Group of Three on the Implementation of the Convention; and called upon all States parties to implement fully article IV of the Convention by adopting legislative, judicial and administrative measures to prosecute, bring to trial and punish, in accordance with their jurisdiction, persons responsible for, or accused of, the acts defined in article II of the Convention.
14. The Group of Three on the Implementation of the Convention, established under article IX of the Convention, composed of the representatives of Bulgaria, Mexico and Zaire appointed by the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-seventh session, met at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 25 to 29 January 1982. It had before it reports submitted since its 1981 session by 10 States parties.
15. In its report to the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-eighth session (E/CN.4/1507), the Group, inter alia, called upon States parties to provide in their reports full information on the legislative, judicial and administrative measures they had adopted to give effect to the provisions of article IV of the Convention, or on the difficulties which they might have encountered in the implementation of that article and reiterated its recommendation that the general guidelines regarding the form and contents of reports should be fully taken into account by all States parties when preparing their reports under article VII of the Convention. The Group also wished to appeal once again to States parties, through the Commission on Human Rights, to strengthen their co-operation at the international level to implement fully the decisions taken by the Security Council and other competent organs of the United Nations aimed at the prevention, suppression and punishment of the crime of apartheid, in accordance with article VI of the Convention.
16. By its resolution 1982/10 of 25 February 1982, entitled "Implementation of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of

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Apartheid", the Commission on Human Rights took note with appreciation of the report of the Group of Three, and in particular the recommendations contained in it; recommended once again that all States parties should take full account of the general guidelines laid down by the Group of Three in 1978 for the submission of reports; again requested the Secretary-General to invite the States parties to submit their views and comments on the interim study (E/CN.4/1426) prepared by the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts of the Commission, in accordance with Commission resolution 12 (XXXVI) and decided that the Group of Three appointed in accordance with article IX of the Convention should meet for a period of no more than five days before the thirty-ninth session of the Commission to consider the reports submitted by States parties in accordance with article VII of the Convention.

17. In accordance with article IX of the Convention and General Assembly resolution 31/80 of 13 December 1976, the Chairman of the Commission, at its thirty-eighth session, reappointed the representatives of Bulgaria, Mexico and Zaire as members of the Group of Three.

18. In a note verbale dated 25 May 1982, the Secretary-General brought to the attention of the States parties the relevant provisions of the Convention and Commission resolution 1982/10, and requested them to submit their reports within the time-limits indicated in Commission resolution 7 (XXXIV) and in time for appropriate transmission to the Group of Three established by the Commission.

19. As regards the implementation of the provisions of article X of the Convention, the General Assembly, in its resolution 36/13 of 28 October 1981 requested the Commission on Human Rights to continue to undertake the functions set out in that article and invited the Commission to intensify, in co-operation with the Special Committee against Apartheid, its efforts to compile periodically the list of individuals, organizations, institutions and representatives of States deemed responsible for crimes enumerated in article II of the Convention, as well as those against whom or which legal proceedings had been undertaken; requested the Commission on Human Rights to take into account Assembly resolutions 33/23 of 29 November 1978 and 35/32 of 14 November 1980, both entitled "Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to colonial and racist régimes in southern Africa", as well as relevant documents of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies reaffirming, inter alia, that States giving assistance to the racist régime in South Africa became accomplices in the inhuman practices of racial discrimination and apartheid; called upon the competent United Nations organs to continue to provide the Commission on Human Rights, through the Secretary-General, with information relevant to the periodic compilation of the above-mentioned list as well as with information concerning the obstacles which prevented the effective suppression and punishment of the crime of apartheid; and requested the Secretary-General to distribute the above-mentioned list among all States parties to the Convention and all Member States, and to bring such facts to the attention of the public by all means of mass communication.

20. With reference to paragraph 14 of General Assembly resolution 36/13, it may be recalled that in accordance with paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 35/39 of 25 November 1980, the Secretary-General had already made appropriate

arrangements for the publication in the Bulletin of Human Rights (issue No. 28) of the list of persons deemed responsible for the crime of apartheid under the Convention. The Secretary-General had further arranged for the circulation of the above-mentioned list to all United Nations information centres throughout the world with the request that the list be made available to the local media in order to give it wider publicity; he had also transmitted, with a note verbale dated 29 May 1981, a copy of the list to all States Members of the United Nations.

ANNEX

List of States which have signed, ratified or acceded to the
International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment
of the Crime of Apartheid

<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification or accession</u>
Algeria	23 January 1974	26 May 1982
Argentina	6 June 1975	
Bahamas		31 March 1981 <u>a/</u>
Barbados		7 February 1979 <u>a/</u>
Benin	7 October 1974	30 December 1974
Bulgaria	27 June 1974	18 July 1974
Burundi		12 July 1978 <u>a/</u>
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	4 March 1974	2 December 1975
Cape Verde		12 June 1979 <u>a/</u>
Central African Republic		8 May 1981 <u>a/</u>
Chad	23 October 1974	23 October 1974
Cuba		1 February 1977 <u>a/</u>
Czechoslovakia	29 August 1975	25 March 1976
Democratic Kampuchea		28 July 1981 <u>a/</u>
Democratic Yemen	31 July 1974	
Ecuador		12 May 1975
Egypt		13 June 1977 <u>a/</u>
El Salvador		30 November 1979 <u>a/</u>
Ethiopia		19 September 1978 <u>a/</u>
Gabon		29 February 1980 <u>a/</u>
Gambia		29 December 1978 <u>a/</u>

a/ Accession.

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<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification or accession</u>
German Democratic Republic	2 May 1974	12 August 1974
Ghana		1 August 1978 <u>a/</u>
Guinea	1 March 1974	3 March 1975
Guyana		30 September 1977 <u>a/</u>
Haiti		19 December 1977 <u>a/</u>
Hungary	26 April 1974	20 June 1974
India		22 September 1977 <u>a/</u>
Iraq	1 July 1975	9 July 1975
Jamaica	30 March 1976	18 February 1977
Jordan	5 June 1974	
Kenya	2 October 1974	
Kuwait		23 February 1977 <u>a/</u>
Lao People's Democratic Republic		5 October 1981 <u>a/</u>
Liberia		5 November 1976 <u>a/</u>
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		8 July 1976 <u>a/</u>
Madagascar		26 May 1977 <u>a/</u>
Mali		19 August 1977 <u>a/</u>
Mexico		4 March 1980 <u>a/</u>
Mongolia	17 May 1974	8 August 1975
Nepal		12 July 1977 <u>a/</u>
Nicaragua		28 March 1980 <u>a/</u>
Niger		28 June 1978 <u>a/</u>
Nigeria	26 June 1974	31 March 1977
Oman	3 April 1974	
Panama	7 May 1976	16 March 1977
Peru		1 November 1978 <u>a/</u>
Philippines	2 May 1974	24 January 1978
Poland	7 June 1974	15 March 1976
Qatar	18 March 1975	19 March 1975

<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification or accession</u>
Romania	6 September 1974	15 August 1978
Rwanda	15 October 1974	23 January 1981
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		9 November 1981
Sao Tome and Principe		5 October 1979 <u>a/</u>
Senegal		18 February 1977 <u>a/</u>
Seychelles		13 February 1978 <u>a/</u>
Somalia	2 August 1974	28 January 1975
Sri Lanka		18 February 1982 <u>a/</u>
Sudan	10 October 1974	21 March 1977
Suriname		3 June 1980 <u>a/</u>
Syrian Arab Republic	17 January 1974	18 June 1976
Trinidad and Tobago	7 April 1975	29 October 1979
Tunisia		21 January 1977 <u>a/</u>
Uganda	11 March 1975	
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	20 February 1974	10 November 1975
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	12 February 1974	26 November 1975
United Arab Emirates	9 September 1975	15 October 1975
United Republic of Cameroon		1 November 1976 <u>a/</u>
United Republic of Tanzania		11 June 1976 <u>a/</u>
Upper Volta	3 February 1976	24 October 1978
Viet Nam		9 June 1981 <u>a/</u>
Yugoslavia	17 October 1974	1 July 1975
Zaire		11 July 1978 <u>a/</u>
