

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

Official Records *



UN/SA COLLECTION

THIRD COMMITTEE

7th meeting

held on

Monday, 1 October 1979

at 3 p.m.

New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 7th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. SOBHY (Egypt)

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Distr. GENERAL
A/C.3/34/SR.7
5 October 1979
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 73: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE DECADE FOR ACTION TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (continued) (A/34/411, A/34/3/Add.22, A/34/357, A/34/389 and Corr.1)

AGENDA ITEM 86: ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (continued) (A/34/357, A/34/389 and Corr.1, A/34/499)

- (a) REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (A/34/18)
- (b) STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (A/34/441)
- (c) STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE SUPPRESSION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF APARTHEID (A/34/442)

1. The CHAIRMAN recalled that at the morning meeting he had suggested that the list of speakers on agenda items 73 and 86 should be closed at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, 3 October. He had also suggested that 1 p.m. on Friday, 5 October, should be the deadline for the submission of draft resolutions relating to those items. Some delegations had requested that the deadline for the submission of draft resolutions should be extended until 6 p.m. on Friday, 5 October. He wished to point out that both deadlines would be applied in a flexible manner; on the other hand, the Committee would have every right to change them if it saw fit.

2. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee agreed to the suggested deadlines, namely 1 p.m. on Wednesday, 3 October, and 6 p.m. on Friday, 5 October, respectively, for the closing of the list of speakers and the submission of draft resolutions relating to agenda items 73 and 86.

3. It was so decided.

4. Mr. MATELJAK (Yugoslavia) said that apartheid, racism and all forms of racial discrimination were not only a crime against humanity but also a serious threat to international peace and security, as could be seen from the fact that the regions in which they were practised were the main focal points of conflict.

5. Faced with increased resistance on the part of African populations and in defiance of the will of the international community, the racist régimes in southern Africa were intensifying their brutal exploitation, oppression, persecution and humiliation of the black majority in an effort to maintain the privileged position of the white minority. At the same time, they were resorting to such stratagems as "internal solutions", which were new forms of colonialism that would deceive no one. The internal policy of the minority régimes in Pretoria and Salisbury

(Mr. Mateljak, Yugoslavia)

was paralleled at the international level by the acts of aggression being committed by the two régimes against neighbouring African countries.

6. It was regrettable that the existence of those racist régimes had been made possible by the direct or indirect aid which they were receiving from certain influential international sectors, particularly the transnational corporations, which shared the interest of the white minority in the brutal exploitation of the region, and the Governments of a number of countries which tolerated the activities of the racist régimes and gave no sign of readiness to comply with the provisions of United Nations resolutions and other instruments.

7. As in the case of the African populations of southern Africa, the Arab inhabitants of the territories occupied by Israel, and particularly those on the West Bank, were deprived of their fundamental national and human rights and were subjected to brutal acts of repression by the occupation authorities. In addition, Israel was, in pursuit of clearly expansionist aims, carrying out frequent attacks on southern Lebanon and other acts of violence against Lebanon and other Arab countries.

8. During the second half of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, a fresh effort should be made to implement the Programme for the Decade by strictly applying the United Nations resolutions and international instruments relating to racism, particularly the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. Those instruments had been ratified by only 104 and 51 countries, respectively, and there could be no legal or other justification for that situation.

9. The non-aligned countries, for their part, were making a maximum effort to combat racism and racial discrimination. At the recent Havana Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Countries, they had once again condemned racism and apartheid, had reaffirmed their adherence to the conventions which he had just mentioned, and had called upon all countries to co-operate in achieving the goals proclaimed in the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. In that connexion, his delegation fully supported resolution 1979/3, recommended by the Economic and Social Council at its first session (A/34/3/Add.22), and would vote for that resolution.

10. His delegation felt that greater interest should be taken in the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, whose report was before the Third Committee, in view of the importance of that work and of the fact that the Committee was composed of eminent legal experts. In that connexion, his delegation strongly supported the Committee's request that Member States should provide, in their reports, necessary information concerning their relations with the racist régimes in Pretoria and Salisbury.

11. His delegation was pleased that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination had also given attention to other problems of discrimination, such as those relating to discrimination against national and other minorities.

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(Mr. Mateljak, Yugoslavia)

Yugoslavia, as a multinational State and non-aligned country, attached great importance to that question. In any multinational State, the majority had an obligation to ensure the rights of national minorities. If they enjoyed all the necessary rights, those minorities could promote co-operation and friendly relations among nations and countries, especially neighbouring countries, which meant promoting international co-operation and international peace and security. The United Nations should therefore devote adequate attention to that question.

12. In accordance with those principles, Yugoslavia guaranteed all national and ethnic groups the equal rights embodied in the Constitution and in Yugoslav social and moral norms as well as in the principles governing relations between individuals and nations in the Yugoslav socialist society founded on the self-management system.

13. Unfortunately, the present situation in the world with regard to the protection of minority rights was far from satisfactory. In some countries, not only were the rights of national minorities disputed but their very existence was denied. It was therefore imperative to take concrete measures both within the United Nations and at the national and bilateral level in order to improve the situation. The drafting in the Commission on Human Rights, on the basis of a proposal submitted by Yugoslavia, of a declaration on the rights of national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities represented a positive effort along those lines.

14. Referring once again to the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, he stressed that his delegation wholeheartedly supported the Committee's efforts to protect the rights of migrant workers, who were subjected to various forms of discrimination at their jobs and places of residence. It was therefore very important that States Parties should, in their reports, provide information about the demographic composition of their populations.

15. His delegation also felt that the co-operation between the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and UNESCO pursuant to article 7 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination was exceptionally important in view of the fact that racial prejudice, particularly in certain countries, was gaining in strength instead of declining. For the same reason, his delegation supported the initiative of the Committee calling for it to hold its sessions, whenever possible, away from New York and Geneva; that would help to make the Committee and the Convention better known.

16. Mr. AZAR GCMEZ (Uruguay) said that his country was traditionally opposed to racism. As early as 1842 it had enacted legislation definitively abolishing slavery. Moreover, article 8 of the Constitution stated that all citizens were equal, and in 1942 a law had been adopted providing for the punishment of any person who promoted, established, organized or operated associations, bodies, institutions or entities tending to provoke or impose racial struggle or hatred.

(Mr. Azar Gomez, Uruguay)

17. Currently, Uruguay, as a State party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, was considering the inclusion in the new criminal code of more specific provisions to prevent and punish incitement to racism or acts of racial discrimination. Uruguay was thus pursuing what had been a consistent pattern in its way of life, legislation and customs, in which there was no place for division into artificial categories that imperilled the unity of peoples.

18. At the international level, Uruguay's anti-racist stance, which had prompted it to ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in 1968 and to support the establishment of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, had also prompted it, in September 1972, to become the first country to recognize the competence of that Committee to receive and consider communications concerning that subject.

19. Mr. CHALAMILA (United Republic of Tanzania) said that despite significant achievements relating to the decolonization process, the United Nations still faced the continued existence of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid. Member States had individually and collectively expressed their abhorrence and condemnation of such systems and had taken measures to eliminate racial discrimination within their respective territories. They had condemned with equal force the States that committed the crime of discriminating against a section of the population living within their own territories. The decision to eradicate apartheid and racial discrimination was reflected in the increasing number of countries that had acceded to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. The World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, held in Geneva in August 1978, had been yet another significant landmark in the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, whose Programme of Action was fully supported by his delegation.

20. Although the racist régimes of southern Africa were abhorred and condemned, some Member States which endorsed that position refused to take appropriate measures to end racist crimes. Those countries had wittingly or unwittingly taken the hypocritical attitude of fighting those crimes within their own borders while condoning their perpetration in southern Africa.

21. While Member States continued to differ concerning the proper strategy to eradicate the evils of racism, the peoples of southern Africa had taken up arms to free themselves from the yoke of indignity and oppression. Those who had economic interests in that region were in favour of a peaceful solution. Those countries which had no economic stake there and whose only commitment was to the triumph of democracy, justice, human dignity and human equality had come out in support of the peoples of southern Africa in their struggle against racist oppression. Economic collaboration with the minority régimes impeded the war of liberation and lent an aura of respectability to those who negated humanity.

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(Mr. Chalamila, Tanzania)

22. The adoption of resolutions condemning the crimes of racism and accession to the international conventions designed to eradicate racism and apartheid constituted the bare minimum expected of Member States. The ratification of the international instruments should be followed up by concrete measures, including sanctions that would force those concerned to abandon racism and apartheid. Those States that had investments in countries with racist régimes should use their economic power in favour of reforms that would dismantle the racial power apparatus. The provision of military support to South Africa had encouraged that country to develop more instruments of oppression and to defy world public opinion.

23. The United Nations should manifest its support for those who were struggling against the racist régimes. International peace and security and the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms were ideals that reinforced each other. Peace could not be attained as long as racial discrimination existed anywhere in the world. Human beings had always preferred to destroy peace rather than suffer under it.

24. Miss NUÑEZ (Venezuela) said that the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/34/18) and the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/34/357 and 389) showed that the situation in southern Africa, far from improving, continued to deteriorate. In Southern Rhodesia the situation of the black majority had not changed and the white majority still enjoyed privileges. The policy of apartheid was being intensified in Namibia under the illegal military occupation of the territory by the racist régime of South Africa and its violent persecution measures directed against the black population. In South Africa itself, the repression of the black majority had been stepped up and the armed forces within its territory substantially strengthened.

25. The Constitution of Venezuela prohibited discrimination on grounds of race, sex, creed or social condition. On the basis of that principle, her Government had promised, at the recent Meeting of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Countries and in the general debate at the current session of the General Assembly, that Venezuela would give unlimited and unreserved support to all action aimed at eradicating the abominable crime of racism. Furthermore, the Congress of Venezuela was currently considering the possibility of ratifying the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.

26. Mrs. REYES (Philippines) said that, at the midpoint of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, it was imperative that all peoples, Governments and institutions should take action to combat and eradicate racism, racial discrimination, colonialism, alien domination and the policy of apartheid at the international, regional and national levels. Her Government attached great importance to the Programme of Action for the Decade, had participated actively in the 1978 World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and had voted in favour of the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at that Conference.

(Mrs. Reyes, Philippines)

27. The Philippine Constitution of 1973 embodied principles similar to those set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Those principles reflected her country's position, which had originated in its struggle for independence and the establishment of the first republic in Asia. The Philippines had constantly renewed its commitment to those principles at all stages of its history: when fighting the invader during the Second World War, when joining the United Nations as a founding Member, when joining the Special Committee against Apartheid and when launching the programmes of its current President in 1972. The Philippine Government had enacted legislation to give effect to the principles embodied in its 1973 Constitution concerning the observance of the rights of its people, including the various national minorities. In that connexion, it should be recalled that the Government, under the leadership of President Marcos, had granted autonomy to the Moslem communities in the south-western Philippines, and that the Moslem tradition was considered a vital part of the Philippine national heritage. The Philippine Parliament, in which the national cultural minorities were represented, had enacted legislation that would ensure respect for their customs, traditions, beliefs and interests, and a commission had been appointed to codify Moslem customs and laws. Religious freedom was also reflected in the fact that the Christian, Hindu, Buddhist and other faiths flourished in the Philippines.

28. What was being done on the national scene to solve the problems inherited from the colonial past was consistent with the position taken by the Philippines at the regional and international levels. The Government of the Philippines had submitted to the United Nations its report on the measures undertaken to implement the goals of the Programme for the Decade. In her view, that Programme deserved the fullest publicity, and the Department of Public Information and the specialized agencies had a very important role to play in that connexion. There was a need to implement more fully General Assembly resolution 33/98 relating to the Programme. Her delegation supported Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/3, recommending inter alia that the General Assembly should strongly condemn the policies of apartheid, racism and racial discrimination practised in southern Africa and elsewhere.

29. If the goals of the Programme were to be realized by the end of the decade, the General Assembly must adopt a five-year programme of activities for the second half of the Decade. Her delegation endorsed the establishment of a working group of five members of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, as recommended by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1979/3, to formulate specific proposals concerning the work programme to be implemented. It also supported the convening of a second World Conference, provided that there were thorough and adequate preparations, and believed that all Member States should participate in it.

30. The Philippines had no relations whatever with the minority régimes of southern Africa, since it shared the universal opinion that a peaceful solution

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(Mrs. Reyes, Philippines)

to the problems in those territories was possible only through total isolation of those régimes. Her Government reaffirmed its support of the General Assembly's call for mandatory sanctions against South Africa under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

31. Her delegation also reaffirmed its support for Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) relating to the right of the people of Palestine to self-determination. It recognized the right of Israel to national existence within secure and recognized boundaries but at the same time found inadmissible the occupation of Arab territories by force.

32. She expressed satisfaction at the fact that 104 States had become parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination but deplored the fact that only 51 States had ratified or acceded to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. The Philippines, one of the first States to have ratified both instruments, was discharging its responsibilities under them and actively participating in the work of the relevant organs. Her delegation supported the resolutions of the Special Committee against Apartheid to the effect that the Committee's sessions should be held in various regions.

33. Quoting the words of the President of the Philippines, she said that although the resolution of the problems besetting the international community required "political will", from the way votes were cast year after year on those problems, it seemed that a few still lacked the moral courage to exercise that will.

34. Miss ABOUL NAGA (Egypt) observed that although more than half of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had passed and although many efforts had been made to eradicate those evils, they continued to plague mankind. The United Nations, which spoke for the international community, had a growing responsibility year after year to confront that problem.

35. In southern Africa, racial discrimination was practised as a State law rather than as an individual or collective policy with no official character; effective methods must be found to strengthen and consolidate the struggle against racial discrimination. Her delegation paid tribute to the efforts of the United Nations in that sphere, both as a part of the Decade and in other forums.

36. Egypt attached great importance to the activities of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and welcomed the seriousness and care with which the Committee was considering the reports of Member States in connexion with the application of the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. The work of the Committee had become increasingly important in connexion with the introduction of changes in the legislation of various countries, including Egypt, in order to adapt them to the spirit and letter of the Convention.

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(Miss Aboul Naga, Egypt)

37. Her delegation supported the draft resolution recommended by the Economic and Social Council which appeared in document A/34/3/Add.22.

38. Mr. GAGLIARDI (Brazil) congratulated the members of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on their excellent work, which was reflected in the Committee's report (A/34/18). Unfortunately, it would not be possible to include in the list of reports to be considered during the current year the additional information submitted by Brazil, since it had arrived late at the Secretariat, and he therefore requested that the information should be regarded as Brazil's sixth periodic report, which was to be submitted in 1980.

39. His delegation believed that the Committee's wish, expressed at its nineteenth session, that its report should be considered separately from other items of the agenda could be detrimental to the analysis of the problem of racial discrimination. Consideration of the report should be the starting point of the analysis of the different items dealing with racial discrimination.

40. His delegation did not support the recommendation, contained in decision 1 (XX) of the Committee, that the General Assembly should consider the adoption of appropriate measures in order to facilitate the holding of Committee sessions in other regions, since it considered more appropriate from the financial point of view the decisions adopted at the Committee's seventeenth and eighteenth sessions designating Headquarters in New York as the venue for its 1980 meetings.

41. In document A/34/499, the Secretary-General drew the attention of the General Assembly to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on southern Africa, which appeared in document E/CN.4/1311. His delegation considered that report very complete and thanked the Working Group for submitting it. Apartheid and racial discrimination found no justification in any acceptable doctrine of human behaviour, and the repetition of unanimous condemnations did not mean that it was impossible to eliminate the vestiges of practices which belonged to the past but which, unfortunately, still affronted the conscience of mankind. The survival of racism proved the need to redouble efforts to eliminate it once and for all. His delegation believed that a peaceful solution to the problem was still possible.

42. His delegation had voted in favour of the Economic and Social Council resolution recommending that the General Assembly should approve the text of a draft resolution relating to the implementation of the Programme for the Decade, and it would vote in favour of the draft resolution if a vote was taken on it. However, it had specific reservations concerning some points of the Declaration and Programme of Action approved at Geneva.

43. Mr. SERRANO (Ecuador) reaffirmed the anti-racist position of Ecuador, a country in which racism had never existed. Ecuador was proud of having lived as a racially mixed people consisting of persons of different colours and origins and constituting a contribution to the crucible of races that was Latin America.

44. Since its earliest constitutions, Ecuador has established freedom and equality for all as the strongest foundations of the State. It had prohibited

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(Mr. Serrano, Ecuador)

discrimination between persons, whatever their condition, status, sex, colour or religion. In its fifth periodic report submitted under article 9 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Ecuador had stated that racial discrimination constituted a crime in the country, since that concept had been incorporated into the latest Constitution, recently promulgated. Similarly, the Penal Code had incorporated clear precepts which characterized as crimes racial discrimination, incitement to racial hatred and any outrageous act connected with racism. Thus, it had incorporated almost verbatim paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of article 4 of the Convention, which demonstrated the desire of his Government to interpret the Convention as faithfully and rigorously as possible.

45. There was no problem of racial discrimination against Ecuador's large, traditionally agricultural but landless, aboriginal population: the problem was one of rural poverty and economic and cultural differences which kept that sector of the population in a position of inferiority. In recent times, thanks to land reforms and other measures, the trend had been towards favouring the aboriginal inhabitants and giving them land, and efforts were being made to eliminate the last vestiges of the feudal economic system to which they had been subjected.

46. Ecuador repudiated racism and was prepared to co-operate resolutely in taking all possible concrete measures to eliminate it, including, if necessary, the application of coercive measures to put an end once and for all to the situation in which some States were continuing to set themselves up as champions of racism on the planet. His delegation commended the attitude of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which should redouble its efforts during the remainder of the Decade.

47. Mr. AL-HUSSAMY (Syrian Arab Republic) said that racial discrimination was a subject of great concern to all mankind because human rights could not be fully guaranteed in the absence of genuine concerted action to eradicate that evil. The elimination of those abhorrent policies was essential to the full enjoyment by peoples of fundamental freedoms and human rights. His delegation commended the Secretariat on its efforts to submit on time the documents concerning the items under consideration, since the experience of the thirty-third session in that regard had not been satisfactory. The Programme for the Decade, the General Assembly resolutions concerning the Decade and the Programme of Action of the World Conference held at Geneva sought to arouse public opinion to the threat of racism and intensify world action to combat it. His delegation hoped that racial discrimination in all its manifestations would be eliminated once and for all in the second half of the Decade. Responsibility for the setbacks experienced in that connexion lay with Member States which continued to offer racist States the means to strengthen themselves militarily and economically, with countries which refused to co-operate with the international community and terminate relations with the racist régimes, and with States which protected transnational corporations that exploited peoples subjected to racism.

48. His country categorically rejected any theory or practice based on racism and racial discrimination, whatever its form. The Constitution and legislation

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(Mr. Al-Hussamy, Syrian Arab Republic)

of the Syrian Arab Republic prohibited all forms of racism and racial discrimination and provided sanctions and punishment for those who practised them. His country was committed to implementing the goals of the Decade and had submitted its report under article 9 of the Convention, which it had signed in 1969.

49. It had not been possible to implement the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in the Golan Heights, which formed part of the Syrian Arab Republic, because the area had been occupied by Israeli troops since 1967. That occupation had persisted despite the concern expressed by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in its decision 4 (IV), adopted in 1971, in which it had drawn the attention of the General Assembly to that serious situation, and decision 4 (VII), adopted in 1973, in which it had expressed the hope that the population of the Golan Heights would be able, as soon as possible to enjoy fully their human rights and fundamental freedoms as citizens of the Syrian Arab Republic. In decision 1 (XV), moreover, it had again expressed concern that, as a result of the occupation, the Syrian Arab Republic might be prevented from fulfilling its obligations and had expressed the hope that the population of the Golan Heights would be able as soon as possible to return to their homes and to enjoy fully their human rights and fundamental freedoms as citizens of the Syrian Arab Republic. In the same decision, it had also requested the General Assembly to ensure that there would be no change in the demographic composition of the occupied area and to adopt the necessary measures to enable the Syrian Arab Republic to assume full responsibility for the fulfilment of its obligations under the Convention. Paragraph 141 of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/34/18) did not give adequate consideration to those decisions, although they had all received the support of the General Assembly, as reflected in its resolutions 2784 (XXVI), 3266 (XXIX) and 32/13. He hoped that the Secretariat and the Rapporteur would explain the omission of the text of decision 1 (XX) of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination from paragraph 141 of its report.

50. The denunciations made by the Syrian Arab Republic before the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, that Committee's expressions of concern at the prevailing unacceptable situation and the General Assembly resolutions on the subject were fully justified, inasmuch as the Israeli forces were acting as representatives of the imperialist and expansionist régime subscribed to by the racist Zionists and based on discrimination against the Arab nationals of Palestine and other occupied territories. Those were facts which required no further proof, especially in the light of statements by international figures concerned with the defence of human rights.

51. In its report (S/13450), the Security Council Commission established under resolution 446 (1979) pointed out that 29 settlements had been established in the Golan Heights, despite the small size of the area. It was known that the occupation forces, in the implementation of the settlement policy, were expelling the inhabitants of the area and then bringing in foreign Zionists to occupy their property. The Commission also pointed out that the Israeli forces had occupied arable land (para. 132), that they had expelled 134,000 inhabitants from the Golan Heights, leaving only 6 per cent of the original population (para. 229),

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(Mr. Al-Hussamy, Syrian Arab Republic)

that many of the settlements were of a military nature (para. 224) and that there had been profound changes of a demographic nature, which constituted a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council (para. 234). Although the Security Council Commission had not been permitted to enter the area, with the information at its disposal it was convinced that Israel, in the implementation of its policy of settlements, had resorted to immoral and inhuman practices in seizing the homes of the inhabitants of the area. Israel had also committed violations of human rights, in particular the right of refugees to return to their homeland (para. 230). Moreover, the Israeli occupation forces had destroyed many schools in the area; of the seven secondary schools that had existed in the Golan Heights, only one remained. The Red Cross, which had been trying to help inhabitants wishing to visit their relatives, had been denied access to the area and Israel's military Governor in the Golan Heights had decreed that Israeli nationality would be imposed on all children born there.

52. His delegation supported Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/3, contained in document A/34/3/Add.22. It thanked the Yugoslav delegation, which had again taken the initiative in preparing the draft resolution on racial discrimination, which the Syrian delegation wished to co-sponsor.

53. The CHAIRMAN reminded the members of the Committee that the next item to be taken up was the one entitled "Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights: report of the Secretary-General" (item 82). He urged members of the Committee to have their statements ready for the start of the debate.

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.