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ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES AND WAYS AND MEANS WITHIN THE UNITED
NATIONS SYSTEM FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF
HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Development of public information activities
in the field of human rights

Comprehensive report on the implementation
of General Assembly resolution 42/118

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In paragraph 16 of its resolution 42/118 of 7 December 1987, on the development of public information activities in the field of human rights, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, in addition to a separate report on the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights (see A/43/711), a comprehensive report on the implementation of that resolution. The present report is prepared in conformity with that request.

2. In paragraphs 2 and 12 of the resolution, the General Assembly invited Member States to, "make special efforts during 1988 to publicize and to facilitate and encourage publicity for the activities of the United Nations in the field of human rights" and "to nominate national focal points which could be supplied with copies of relevant human rights materials". The replies received from Governments to date are contained in the annex to the present report.

II. NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS

3. On the basis of replies received the following national focal points have been nominated, which can be supplied with copies of relevant human rights materials:

Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (International Organization Branch) and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission; Central African Republic: Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, Direction des Affaires Juridiques et du Contentieux; Cyprus: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Political Division; Denmark: The Danish Centre of Human Rights; Dominican Republic: (to be designated); Finland: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Finnish United Nations Association; The Institute for Human Rights; Israel: The United Nations Association of Israel; Jamaica: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Industry; Executive Director, Jamaica Information Service; The Director, Jamaica Library Service; Jamaica Council for Human Rights; Ministry of Education; Joint Board of Teacher Education, University of the West Indies; Jamaica Information Service; Jamaican Movement for the Advancement of Literacy; Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation; Radio Jamaica Limited; The Gleaner Company Limited; The Jamaica Record; Registrar, University of the West Indies; Jamaica Council of Churches; Jamaica Library Service; Jamaica Council for Human Rights; Jamaica Police Academy; Japan: The Human Rights and Refugees Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Malawi: The Ministry of External Affairs; The Law Department, Chancellor College; The Ministry of Justice; Malta: Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Nepal: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; New Zealand: The Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; The Human Rights Commissioner, New Zealand Human Rights Commission; Norway: Institute for Human Rights and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Philippines: Commission on Human Rights; Judge Advocate General, Armed Forces of the Philippines; Judge Advocate General, PC-INP; National Police Commission; Department of Education; Department of Justice; Integrated Bar of the Philippines; Jaime Cardinal Sin, Archbishop of Manila; Poland: Juridical Law Research Institute, Ministry of Justice; Sao Tome and Principe: Le Cabinet Juridique et du Traité du Ministère des affaires étrangères; Spain: Ministerio de

Asuntos Exteriores, Oficina de Derechos Humanos; Sri Lanka: Sri Lanka Foundation Human Rights Centre; Sweden: The Raul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, Lund; the United Nations Association of Sweden, Stockholm; Uganda: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Uganda Commission on Human Rights; United Republic of Tanzania: Principal Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; The Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Dar-es-Salaam; The Director, Centre for Foreign Relations; The Principal Secretary, Ministry of Community Development; The Principal Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs; The Chief Editor, Daily and Sunday News; The Chief Editor, Uhuru Newspapers; The Secretary, CCM-NEC Secretariat for Social Affairs; The Director, Radio Tanzania.

III. ROLE OF UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION CENTRES

4. In paragraph 6 of resolution 42/118, the General Assembly emphasized the key role of United Nations information centres and urged the Department of Public Information to give special attention to improving their performance and accountability. As a result of the restructuring of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, more emphasis is being placed on monitoring and promoting the activities of the 67 information centres. A particular effort has been made during 1988 to provide the centres with material that they can use throughout the year to promote the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. For example, funds have been made available to information centres from the regular budget of the Department of Public Information to translate and publish local language versions or to reprint out-of-stock language versions of the Declaration. Early in the year, centres were provided with some 20,000 copies of an information kit on the fortieth anniversary to distribute to non-governmental organizations for the promotion of activities. More than 100,000 additional copies of two booklets, that were included in the kit, namely, "Human Rights: Questions and Answers" in English, French and Spanish, and "The International Bill of Human Rights" in all official languages, have been distributed to United Nations information centres and non-governmental organizations.

5. The special fortieth anniversary poster was distributed to information centres in the middle of 1988, and a 30-second television spot in all official languages was sent to them for broadcast during the period from United Nations Day (24 October) to Human Rights Day (10 December).

6. The majority of information centres are now linked to Headquarters through electronic communication methods, which facilitate their receiving immediate information on all United Nations activities, including those in the field of human rights, thereby enabling them to be much more effective in their work.

7. All information centres and services were kept abreast throughout the year of events and activities relating to human rights. In this connection, information centre directors were instructed to undertake special programmes to draw the attention of national communities to the following special observances: the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Sharpeville Day), 21 March; the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Namibia and all other Colonial

Territories, as well as those in South Africa, Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights, 19-23 May; the International Day of Solidarity with the Struggling People of South Africa (Soweto Day), 16 June; the International Day of Solidarity with the Struggle of Women in South Africa and Namibia, 9 August; Namibia Day, 26 August; the International Day of Solidarity with Political Prisoners in South Africa, 11 October; the Week of Solidarity with the People of Namibia and its Liberation Movement, the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), 27-31 October; the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, 29 November; United Nations Day, 24 October and Human Rights Day, 10 December.

8. In connection with these special observances, information centres have organized or will organize briefings, seminars, workshops and exhibits and hold film screenings. Directors of centres have given lectures and speeches, taken part in panel discussions and seminars, attended national and non-governmental organization observances, given radio, television and press interviews and have issued press releases, brochures and feature articles to the local media. Statements made by the Secretary-General and other United Nations officials on these occasions have been widely distributed by information centres and have received extensive local media coverage.

IV. COLLECTION OF BASIC REFERENCE WORKS AND UNITED NATIONS MATERIALS AT UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION CENTRES

9. In paragraph 7 of resolution 42/118, the Secretary-General is requested to establish, within available resources, collections of basic reference works and United Nations materials at each United Nations information centre by the end of 1988. In 1986 and 1987, the Department of Public Information undertook a detailed survey of all United Nations information centres to ascertain the availability of nine major international instruments on human rights. During 1988, reprints of relevant material were produced and distributed by the Department. Work on this began with the revision and reprinting of the International Bill of Human Rights in all official languages, and the reprinting of other human rights publications that were out of stock. A catalogue of material available from the Department of Public Information on human rights was compiled and circulated to all information centres so that they could keep their stocks up to date. This catalogue is also being made available to non-governmental organizations and others.

V. TEACHING BOOKLET ON HUMAN RIGHTS

10. In paragraph 9 of resolution 42/118, the General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to finalize the draft teaching booklet on human rights. At the time of the preparation of the present report, the Centre for Human Rights at Geneva had already finalized the text of the booklet and was in the process of printing it.

VI. PERSONALIZED VERSION OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

11. In paragraph 11 of resolution 42/118, the Secretary-General is requested to complete the task of issuing the personalized version of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Department of Public Information has produced and disseminated this text in more than 70 languages, which, in addition to the six official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish), include Albanian, Amharic, Assamese, Bengali, Bulgarian, Burmese, Byelorussian, Chamorro, Czech, Danish, Durri, Dutch, Esperanto, Filipino, Finnish, German, Greek, Gujarati, Gurmukhi, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Icelandic, Indonesian, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Kannada, Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Lao, Lingala, Macedonian, Malagasy, Malay, Malayalam, Marathi, Marshallese, Nepalese, Norwegian, Oriya, Palauan, Persian/Farsi, Polish, Ponapean, Portuguese, Pushto, Romanian, Serbo-Croatian, Sinhalese, Slovak, Slovene, Swahili, Swedish, Tagalog, Tamil, Telegu, Thai, Trukese, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Welsh and Yapese. Additional language versions produced in 1988 include Faroese, Greenlandic, Haitian Creole, Hausa, Ndebele and Shona, and production of a number of other language versions is under way. In addition, reprints of out-of-stock language versions have been undertaken.

VII. COMPILATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

12. In paragraph 13 of resolution 42/118, the General Assembly renewed its request to the Secretary-General to arrange for the reprinting, as soon as possible, of the publication entitled Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments. 1/ This publication has already been issued by the Centre for Human Rights with a new cover and a more attractive format.

VIII. STOCK OF HUMAN RIGHTS MATERIALS

13. In paragraph 14 of resolution 42/118, the General Assembly emphasized the importance of maintaining adequate stocks of basic human rights materials in New York and at Geneva and expressed concern about the serious limitations placed on the storage capacity of the United Nations in New York for such documents. As a result of the United Nations having vacated its Long Island warehouse in 1986 and 1987, the space available for stock was reduced and stock was temporarily unavailable for distribution. However, storage space for Department of Public Information publications has now been made available in the common United Nations storage space in the basement of the Secretariat building, and an adequate stock of human rights material is available.

Notes

1/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.XIV.1.

ANNEX

Replies received from Governments in response to
General Assembly resolution 42/118

AUSTRALIA

[Original: English]

1. The Government of Australia welcomes the increasing attention being given by the international community to the important issue of the development of public information activities in the field of human rights. Australia has assumed a leading role in the United Nations in seeking to strengthen information and education activities in accordance with the belief that preventative programmes are the most effective means of promoting and protecting human rights.
2. Australia therefore welcomes the proposal to launch in 1989 a World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights. Such a campaign should focus on practical activities that target, in particular, educational institutions, both within and outside formal school systems. In this context, we would encourage early and wide dissemination of the recently finalized booklet on human rights teaching. The utilization of non-governmental organizations, not just as target groups themselves, but as facilitators in ensuring that the booklet, and all human rights material reach the widest number of possible "users" should be a priority element in the Campaign.
3. We also urge that the United Nations information centres play an active promotion role in implementation of the Campaign. It is not enough that the centres be accessible, but they should be tasked to seek out opportunities to disseminate material in school, charitable, social and research institutions, among trade unions and the media, and within governmental organizations. The role to be played by the centres will be crucial to the effectiveness of the Campaign, particularly the capacity to judge the most appropriate means of communicating in each national local context. We also note the potential for greater activity by United Nations regional commissions and encourage their participation in the Campaign.
4. Associated with this is the amount and nature of the material available for dissemination. Governments should, wherever possible, assist the United Nations in this effort, particularly by way of arranging for the translation of relevant material in local languages. We are encouraged by recent efforts within the Secretariat to update, reprint and extend the number of language editions for human rights materials. We urge further efforts to ensure the wider translation and dissemination of key instruments, especially in the Asia-Pacific region. The use of audio-visual materials is a key Campaign element.

5. Australia welcomes the Campaign initiative and trusts that its emphasis will be to promote more effective implementation of international human rights standards, which is dependent upon awareness and knowledge of one's basic rights and the means by which they are protected. Co-ordination within the United Nations system will be essential to the success of the Campaign, particularly between the Centre for Human Rights and the Department of Public Information.

BULGARIA

[Original: English]

1. The People's Republic of Bulgaria attaches great importance to the activities of the United Nations aimed at improving public knowledge in the field of human rights. Those activities are essential for the universal full and effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. It is against this background that Bulgaria has supported the adoption of General Assembly resolution 42/118 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/74. In our view, the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights should give an impetus to all Member States to implement the above-mentioned resolutions, which would greatly contribute to the fulfilment of the purposes of the United Nations as set out in Article 1, paragraph 3, of the Charter.

2. In accordance with paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 42/118, the Bulgarian mass media gives wide publicity to the activities of the United Nations in the field of human rights. Bulgarian non-governmental organisations, such as the Association for the United Nations and the Committee on Human Rights, accord priority to the dissemination, in the Bulgarian language, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights.

3. The policy pursued by the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the field of education complies with paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 42/118 and paragraph 14 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/74. Bulgarian educational programmes for training in law, medicine, diplomacy, for the armed forces, and in other relevant fields comprise appropriate human rights components.

4. In conclusion, the People's Republic of Bulgaria reaffirms its commitment to the development of public information activities in the field of human rights.

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

1. The Byelorussian SSR, which has unfailingly maintained that the role of the United Nations in developing and strengthening international co-operation in the humanitarian field should be enhanced, is making its contribution to the discussion and adoption within the United Nations of specific documents relating to the implementation and safeguarding of human rights and fundamental freedoms. As a party to the basic international instruments on human rights, it is actively participating in the work of the United Nations bodies in that field.

2. The Byelorussian SSR regards the dissemination of public information about human rights as a major component in the implementation of human rights and fundamental freedoms and in achieving the noble aims laid down in the Charter of the United Nations. It therefore attaches great significance to publicity on behalf of the efforts made by the United Nations Centre for Human Rights in Geneva and of the whole range of United Nations activities in this field.

3. The press, radio and television in Byelorussia are giving quite extensive coverage to the work of United Nations bodies in the human rights field and to the contribution made by representatives of the Byelorussian SSR to their activities, and regularly air issues relating to the implementation of human rights both at home and abroad. In order to acquaint public opinion in the Byelorussian SSR with the materials produced by the United Nations, collections of United Nations documents have been published in the Republic, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on human rights, and other relevant documents of international law. Books and brochures devoted to the human rights activities of the United Nations have also been published in the Byelorussian SSR.

4. The broad perestroika now under way in the Republic has as its aim, in addition to the implementation of far-reaching economic reforms, the intensification and broadening of glasnost, the consolidation and deepening of democratization in all aspects of government and public life, and the development of a socialist State based on law. The positive experience of the international community, the dissemination of universally recognized standards and norms in the human rights field adopted within the United Nations and in other international organizations such as UNESCO and ILO are definitely helpful in carrying out such work in the Byelorussian SSR.

5. A scheme for the dissemination of legal knowledge in order to inform citizens of the rights available to them under current legislation in the Republic has been established under the auspices of the Ministry of Justice of the Byelorussian SSR with the aim of widely informing the population of the Republic about legal matters, including human rights. Legal subjects are studied in all educational institutions (schools, vocational and technical colleges and universities). In factories, plants and other enterprises, 200 citizens' advice centres providing the necessary legal assistance to workers have been opened. Each year in the Republic some 75,000 lectures are given to explain current legislation and the rights and freedoms of citizens. For those wishing to supplement their legal knowledge there are 176 people's universities for legal studies, in which some 50,000 students are receiving instruction. The mass media in the Republic are engaged in raising the standard of legal awareness among citizens, including their understanding of their rights and duties vis-à-vis society. There is considerable popular interest in the Republic in the programmes entitled "The individual and the law", which are broadcast regularly on television and radio throughout the Republic and at the regional level, and also in "The Individual and The Law", an educational magazine.

6. The international documents on human rights adopted in the United Nations and other international organizations (such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on human rights) are used in research and teaching work in universities and academic institutions in the Byelorussian SSR.

At the present time, the question of including more material on human rights in the study programmes of higher and secondary special educational institutions is under consideration.

7. Each year, early in December, Human Rights Day is widely observed in the Republic. In this connection meetings are held, and appropriate material is published and broadcast in the media. A broad programme of measures aimed at heightening public awareness in the human rights field has been drawn up in the Byelorussian SSR this year in connection with the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

[Original: French]

1. The Ministry is pleased to inform the Secretary-General that the Government of the Central African Republic has always endorsed all the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in the field of human rights inasmuch as its adherence to the various international instruments for the protection and safeguard of those rights could not but predispose it to take that position.

2. Moreover, it has always strongly condemned and reaffirmed its profound concern with such persistent serious and systematic violations of human rights as the abduction and illegal confinement, maltreatment and torture of prisoners, the violation and illegal occupation of territory, the confiscation of the property of others - all factors jeopardizing international peace and security and constituting major obstacles to economic emancipation and development, particularly in developing countries.

3. In addition, the constitution of the Central African Republic underscores the importance of the individual and effectively guarantees the rights of the individual, which are based on the well-established doctrine of "Zo Kwe Zo" and "So Zo La" (i.e. scrupulous respect for the human person) and thus, in spirit, reflects the general philosophy expressed in the resolutions referred to in note No. G/SO 214 (41-1).

4. It should also be noted that human rights are also being taught in the institutions of higher education of the Central African Republic and that its nationals are from time to time awarded internships or participate in seminars organized by the Centre for Human Rights.

5. The Ministry welcomes the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights proposed by the Secretary-General and wishes to assure him of its full support. It takes this opportunity to inform him that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Department of Legal Affairs) is best equipped to serve as a focal point and to receive and distribute relevant human rights materials.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

[Original: Spanish]

1. The Government of the Dominican Republic welcomes those decisions and, in recognition of its responsibility, will respond favourably to the request that in 1988 special publicity should be given to United Nations activities in the field of human rights.
2. To that end, it will prepare a programme to facilitate the dissemination throughout the country of United Nations human rights materials, with special priority given to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on human rights. The programme will cover the recommendation made in paragraph 12 of resolution 42/118 to nominate national focal points which could be supplied with copies of relevant human rights materials.
3. The Dominican Republic strongly favours a world public information campaign on human rights because it will help to create wider and better understanding of the rights and guarantees to which all individuals are entitled.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

[Original: English]

1. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany welcomes the launching of a World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 42/118 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/74.
2. The Federal Government holds the view that, in order to allow the Centre for Human Rights to carry out its activities in this regard, adequate funds should be made available from the budget of the Department of Public Information.

FINLAND

[Original: English]

1. In the promotion and protection of human rights, dissemination and information activities are of primary importance. It is vital that human rights teaching and dissemination become an integral part of the educational process at various levels, in schools, vocational training institutions and universities, as well as in out-of-school and adult education activities. The role of non-governmental organisations and human rights institutes should be encouraged and supported.
2. As part of human rights teaching, education and information, the development of public information activities is essential, as underscored in General Assembly resolution 42/118 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/74. Various activities have already been undertaken in Finland to promote the goals and proposals contained in these resolutions. For instance, the Ministry for Foreign

Affairs published in 1978 a booklet containing the official Finnish translation of the full texts of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the two International Covenants of 1966 and, in 1981, a similar booklet containing the Finnish translation of the texts of various treaties in the field of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts. In addition, the Finnish and Swedish translations of all human rights and humanitarian law treaties binding on Finland have been published in the official Treaty Series and have also been incorporated into domestic law through so-called blank statutes.

3. Various human rights information materials have also been published by the Finnish National Commission for UNESCO, the Institute for Human Rights at Åbo Akademi, the Swedish-language university of Finland, and a number of non-governmental organisations, such as the Finnish United Nations Association, Amnesty International and the League for Human Rights and Freedoms.

4. The teaching of international humanitarian law is being pursued within the Defence Forces and by the Finnish Red Cross, in co-operation with the Åbo Akademi Institute for Human Rights. Human rights teaching has also been introduced in the training of other professional groups, such as prison personnel. Much remains to be done in this area, however.

5. The fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has inspired a series of activities involving public information as well. For instance, a two-day national seminar on the status of human rights in Finland will be organized on 8 and 9 December by the Finnish National Commission for UNESCO, in co-operation with several non-governmental organisations. The United Nations booklet "Human Rights: Questions and Answers" will be translated into Finnish during the autumn of 1988.

6. Human rights constitutes one of the central principles underlying Finnish education. The fundamental significance of human rights is mentioned both in the general basis of curricula (1985) and in the general objectives set to certain syllabi (religion and ethics).

7. With a view to preparing the human rights material, small-scale development projects were undertaken in 10 schools. Corresponding development projects have been implemented in Denmark and Norway as well. In June 1988, a human rights seminar was arranged for Danish, Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish teachers at Kungälv Nordic Folk High School in Sweden.

8. Human rights teaching is more than mere dissemination of relevant documents. According to the guidebook on education for international understanding (1988) human rights teaching should aim at making all children and young persons

- (a) Aware of the significance of human rights;
- (b) Familiar with human rights philosophy and problems;
- (c) Aware of the vital role human rights play in genuine welfare;

(d) Able to identify the realization of human rights in everyday life, in their own country and in the world;

(e) Committed to human rights ethics;

(f) Willing and able to work for human rights.

9. This set of objectives shows that human rights teaching is a demanding task. It also shows what points of view should be taken into account in the implementation of human rights through teaching. It is thus indispensable to develop the practice of human rights teaching to enable a growing number of young persons to espouse the values and principles underlying human rights as their value criteria for everyday life, as a basis for their convictions and as their objective in social development. In practice, this entails linking traditional dissemination of information and modern innovative teaching in a way that stimulates demands for a more just existence and pressures for social change.

10. General Assembly resolution 42/118 takes up the possibility for a global information campaign on human rights in 1989. It is worth mentioning in this connection that the Finnish National Commission for UNESCO, in collaboration with the National Boards of General and Vocational Education, will organize an international human rights seminar for European teachers working in UNESCO's Associated Schools Project (ASP) schools.

11. In Finland human rights teaching is closely linked with education for international understanding. The point of departure is the UNESCO 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights. In accordance with this Recommendation, human rights are accepted as the ethical basis of education for international understanding.

12. With a view to enhancing education for international understanding, the National Board of General Education has drawn up a guidebook, which will be distributed in the autumn of 1988. The guidebook is intended for all comprehensive school teachers. The guidebook also contains the text of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and suggestions for possible activities during the action week to be arranged on human rights. It will also be published in Swedish in early autumn.

13. In accordance with the above-mentioned resolutions 42/118 and 1988/42, a set of stimulus material for human rights teaching has been produced for use in the class-room. This project was initiated by the Finnish United Nations Association in 1986. In co-operation with several agencies (*inter alia*, the National Board of General Education and the Human Rights Institute), the Finnish United Nations Association produced an extensive collection of human rights material, which will be available to schools in autumn 1988. The material encourages an alternative and non-traditional approach to human rights teaching. The publication is subsidized by the Finnish National Commission for UNESCO and will be issued by the end of July 1988.

14. In addition to this it should be mentioned that the Finnish United Nations Association has for many years issued its quarterly bulletin, YK-tiedote. The first number of the year 1988 (12,000 copies) deals with the theme of human rights. The Association also organizes numerous seminars on human rights for various groups in different parts of the country.

15. Resolutions 42/118 and 1988/42 call upon the Member States to appoint a national focal point which could be supplied with human rights material. In Finland, such agencies are The Finnish United Nations Association (address: Unioninkatu 45 B, SF-00170 Helsinki) and The Institute for Human Rights at Åbo Akademi (the Swedish-language University of Turku) (address: Åbo Akademi, Gezeliuksenkatu 2, SF-20500 Turku). The Institute is already at present endeavouring to develop a human rights library and human rights documentation and to render library and documentation services to other universities, non-governmental organizations as well as government authorities. Samples of the material should, however, at the same time be sent to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. The above-mentioned focal points are for receipts of human rights material only and not to be used as a channel of communication between the United Nations and Finland.

16. According to the final item in resolution 42/118, the General Assembly should continue its work on human rights at its forty-third session, with special reference to alternative approaches to and means for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. As alternative approaches are a necessity in education, it is to be hoped that these aspirations will influence the whole United Nations system and, through UNESCO in particular, the whole field of education. In Finland, there are plans for new development action in ASP schools.

17. The launching of a World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights could be a useful avenue, provided that the Campaign is well planned and takes place in close co-operation with relevant specialized agencies as well as non-governmental organizations. In particular, the Campaign should be co-ordinated with the activities of UNESCO. Within the framework of the 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, UNESCO has pursued various activities in the field of human rights teaching, information and documentation, including the organization of the International Congress on the Teaching of Human Rights, held at Vienna, from 12 to 16 September 1978, and a number of follow-up meetings, such as the International Congress on Human Rights Teaching, Information and Documentation held in Malta from 31 August to 5 September 1987.

JAPAN

[Original: English]

1. The Government of Japan welcomes the initiatives taken by the Secretary-General, on the occasion of commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, with a view to further strengthening information activities in the field of human rights.

/...

2. Constructive and effective measures should be taken in order to give effect to the standards already established at the United Nations in the various fields of human rights. In this respect, the Government of Japan fully gives its support to the idea of a World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights in 1989. In implementing this, however, we hope that the United Nations would develop ways and means so that it really could work effectively for universal acknowledgement of human rights.

3. The importance of respecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms must be recognized by both the States' authorities and their people, and activities of the Campaign are to be implemented aiming at heightening the human rights consciousness at both levels. Special care may well be taken so that human rights materials would reach those who are really in need, rather than piling up another stock of materials on those who are already well informed.

4. We also wish to make a point that in pursuing the Campaign activities, the United Nations should make its utmost efforts to minimize necessary expenses in the light of current financial constraints facing the United Nations organs.

MALTA

[Original: English]

1. With regard to the inclusion in the educational curriculum of human rights issues, the Government of Malta considers that human rights education is not a marginal activity but must be advanced and endorsed in the context of the entire educational system. It is accordingly given an appropriate place in the curriculum at all levels with the aim of sensitizing adolescents to the fullest appreciation of human rights in a democracy.

2. In a Symposium held at Vienna in May 1983, under the auspices of the Council of Europe, Malta was singled out for its excellent planned syllabus in human rights education from kindergarten to matriculation.

3. Kindergarten classes build a positive environment in which violence seems totally out of place and where children learn openness, sharing and co-operation. There are five goals as an approach to meet this aim: 1. To develop self-confidence; 2. To develop the ability to listen (clapping games, listening to music, listening to children's news, etc.); 3. To develop the ability to build a community (stories about sharing, drama, singing, etc.); 4. To develop the ability to communicate (puppets, deaf partner, painting, etc.); 5. To develop ways of resolving conflicts (role playing, stories, etc.).

4. In primary schools, the style chosen is to classify the topic by pedagogical method. A clear system emerges. The principal aim must be not to impart information but to form attitudes. One of the chief skills to be taught is the ability to see the world from another's point of view. For this, the middle years (8-12) are especially fertile.

5. In secondary schools, as throughout the syllabus, topics are carefully selected to elicit three types of thinking: cognitive (knowledge of facts); affective (empathy for the feelings of others) and skills (how this knowledge could be applied). There are also affective goals set: to acquire attitudes of tolerance to people of other races and religions, to become interested in the life of "prophets" - public figures who promoted the great causes of humanity, etc.
6. In both the secondary and higher secondary (matriculation) levels, human rights education is put in an historical context (citing e.g., the wars in Europe, the rise of fascism and nazism, the explosion of the Hiroshima bomb) where students are reminded of the contradictions between rhetoric on the one hand and the persistence of abuses of human rights on the other.
7. The entire curriculum is orientated to develop independence, self-awareness, creativity and a willingness and an ability to take responsibility. Freedom of expression is the essential space within all activities.
8. In-service training of teachers. Annual seminars are organized for teachers where they are encouraged to play an active role within their own professional organizations and in the democratic processes and to take an active interest in national and world affairs. The following remarks concerning the activities of the Malta-based and government-supported Foundation for International Studies may also be of relevance.

FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ACTIVITIES 1987-1988

9. Between 31 August and 5 September 1987, UNESCO entrusted the Foundation for International Studies with the responsibility of organizing on its behalf a World Congress on Human Rights Teachings, Information and Documentation. This international Conference attracted over 90 leading experts in the field of human rights from institutes based worldwide. Some very important proposals were put forward and discussed, among them, the idea to set up a Centre for Research and Documentation on Human Rights, which was voiced by the Prime Minister Dr. Eddie Fenech Adami in his final address to the Congress. As a result, the final report of the Congress especially states under the recommendation of Commission II paragraph 3, that UNESCO should assist in the creation of human rights centres where these are needed and that the setting up of a Mediterranean Centre for Human Rights research for the Mediterranean within the Foundation for International Studies should be encouraged.
10. On the strength of this recommendation, the Government of Malta submitted under the UNESCO Participation Programme for 1988-1989 a regional request for funds to be allocated towards this end.
11. In view of the fact that the centre is to be served through the Foundation for International Studies, preliminary meetings have already been announced by the Mediterranean Institute of the Foundation for International Studies and a co-ordinator identified.

12. The proposed statute of the centre, as well as its general aims and objectives, are currently under discussion. It is intended that the centre should begin functioning by the end of 1988.

13. Another endeavour of the Foundation for International Studies in the field of human rights teaching is the issue of a publication entitled "Il-Jeddijiet tal-Bniedem" which is a translation into Maltese of the United Nations basic documents on human rights, coupled with a commentary on these documents. The book is mainly intended to assist teachers in schools and other educational personnel with the teaching of this subject.

14. It includes general information on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, respectively. The responsible task of ensuring the accurate translation of these important documents was assigned by UNESCO to the Foundation for International Studies, as part of its efforts to bring out greater awareness of human rights leading to peace and international understanding.

15. Within the field of so-called third-generation human rights, that is, the rights of all parts of humanity - including future generations - to peace, development, and a sound environment, the International Environment Institute of the Foundation for International Studies has been concentrating on the rights of future generations.

16. The International Environment Institute took over a project from UNESCO, entitled Responsibilities to future generations and their environment. The Institute has been designated as the international secretariat for the programme, which is one of research, action and international networking. The objectives of the programme are (a) to discover, develop, and present facts and insights about the interests or rights of future generations and about institutional and other means of protecting these interests; and (b) to stimulate the world community to take steps towards the explicit and active protection of these interests, for example, through institutional and legal changes, including the possibility of a charter of the rights of future generations and an appropriate monitoring or adjudicating institution at the United Nations or other levels.

17. The International Environment Institute has organized an Asian regional Conference at Bangkok on this subject. The Institute has prepared a number of country studies relevant to the interests of future generations. The Institute has also set up an international network called the Global Network on the Rights of Future Generations, with the same objectives as the programme as a whole. There are currently national liaison units in China, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Australia, the United States of America, Italy, Nepal and Sri Lanka, besides the world liaison unit which is in Malta at the Institute. A Newsletter has been published which will maintain and extend the network and carry out some of its functions.

NEW ZEALAND

[Original: English]

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs would like to draw the Secretary-General's attention to the following activities undertaken this year by the New Zealand Government to publicize the activities of the United Nations in the field of human rights.

(a) Speaking engagements: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has drawn and will continue to draw attention on appropriate occasions to the United Nations role and achievements in promoting human rights and preventing human rights abuses;

(b) Human Rights Forum: On 29 June 1988, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand, the Honourable Russell Marshall, convened a meeting with New Zealand non-governmental organizations involved in the human rights area to discuss the promotion of international human rights. A number of proposals for further action emerged from the meeting;

(c) Dissemination of human rights materials: Material on human rights received from the United Nations or other sources is routinely distributed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to other interested government departments, organizations or non-governmental organizations;

(d) Human rights component in educational curriculum: The New Zealand Human Rights Commission (an independent body responsible for administering the Human Rights Commission Act, and which promotes respect for and observance of human rights in New Zealand), in conjunction with the Department of Education, has introduced a human rights component into the curriculum of some New Zealand schools and provides teaching materials on human rights. It is envisaged that the scheme will be extended to more schools in the future.

2. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs welcomes the proposed World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and, in connection with this, would like to suggest that this Campaign could be used to ensure that the United Nations trust funds on human rights are effectively and widely publicized. In particular, the recently established United Nations Voluntary Fund on Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights, to which New Zealand has contributed \$NZ 16,000 this year, should be brought to the attention of those countries which could most benefit from such advisory services and technical assistance. Some of the countries of the South Pacific, for example, may be able to submit proposals for worthwhile projects to be financed by the Fund if the existence of it were to be effectively publicized.

UGANDA

[Original: English]

1. Uganda has made great efforts to publicize and disseminate information on activities of the United Nations in the human rights field, especially the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which is embedded in our constitution.
2. Newspapers, both in English and a few local languages, often publicize human rights activities and issues both within the country and the United Nations. Unfortunately we do not receive a lot of human rights materials.
3. However, most training programmes in law and law enforcement, i.e., in police and armed forces, medicine, diplomacy and many other fields, treat human rights issues as very important and include it therein.
4. In addition, Uganda, after its recent change of Government, set up a human rights Commission, which has gone a long way in making people aware of their rights and the need to fight for them.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

1. The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics consistently advocates enhancement of the role of the United Nations in the development and strengthening of international co-operation in the humanitarian field, and endeavours to make a concrete contribution to the preparation, within the framework of the United Nations, of new, effective measures for the enjoyment and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The USSR takes an active part in the work of United Nations bodies on human rights and has ratified the basic international agreements on human rights.
2. The Soviet Union considers the dissemination of public information in the field of human rights as an important way of furthering the attainment of the noble purposes of the United Nations and of promoting the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. In this connection, the Soviet Union attaches great importance to publicizing the activities of the United Nations in this field and, in particular, the efforts made by the Centre for Human Rights at Geneva.
3. Soviet mass media regularly deal with human rights problems and widely discuss the work of the United Nations bodies in this field. To publicize United Nations materials, booklets have been published and re-issued containing such documents as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and other international conventions and declarations. In addition, publications and studies devoted to activities of United Nations organs and international non-governmental organizations on humanitarian and legal problems have been issued, and include such human rights questions as civil and political rights, the right to life, refugees, indigenous populations, freedom of conscience, status of the individual, etc.

4. The perestroika now under way in the Soviet Union sets as one of its central tasks the strengthening of glasnost (openness), a more solid and thorough democratisation of all aspects of State and public life, and the creation of a socialist State founded on law. Given the circumstances, the attainment of that objective is actively served by the useful experience of the international community, and the popularisation of the generally accepted standards and norms developed by United Nations bodies, in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

5. With a view to widely informing the population of the USSR about human rights, a whole system of dissemination of legal knowledge that helps to explain to citizens their rights under the Soviet Constitution has been created under the auspices of the Ministry of Justice. Legal disciplines are studied in all educational establishments (schools, vocational and technical training institutions, universities). There are almost 30,000 bureaux offering legal advice at enterprises. Approximately 1.5 million lectures are given annually explaining the laws in force and the rights and freedoms of Soviet citizens. For those who wish to broaden their legal background, there are approximately 4,000 people's universities of legal knowledge attended by 1,170,000 persons. The popular scientific journal "Man and the Law", whose printing has reached more than 10 million copies, enjoys great demand. The mass media actively contribute to enhancement of the legal culture of Soviet citizens and publicity of United Nations activities in the field of human rights. All newspapers have columns on legal matters. The central, republican and regional television and radio stations broadcast "Man and the Law" programmes.

6. The USSR State Television and Radio System, in its scheduled broadcasts on international topics and its television and radio news broadcasts, including its foreign programmes, regularly informs its Soviet and foreign audiences about United Nations activities in the field of human rights. Increasing use is being made of televised link-ups, for example with the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Switzerland, for the exchange of opinions. Under a decision of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, such link-ups are to be arranged between parliamentarians and representatives of the public of the three groups of European countries - Warsaw Pact, NATO and neutral States.

7. The Universal Declaration and International Covenants on Human Rights, as well as other international instruments adopted in the framework of the United Nations in this field, are the object of research and teaching in the higher educational establishments and scientific institutions of the USSR. The basic international instruments on human rights have repeatedly been published in Soviet editions and may therefore be considered accessible not only to the staff of law-enforcement agencies but also to the population at large. In the very near future, it is planned to issue and distribute a manual of international norms, principles and standards of relevance to the activities of internal affairs bodies. Consideration is also being given to the inclusion in the curricula of higher and secondary special educational establishments of a great deal of material relating to human rights.

8. Along with the State agencies, social organizations - trade unions, women's, youth, creative-arts and other organizations - play an important role in publicizing United Nations activities in the field of human rights.
9. In November 1987, under the auspices of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Co-operation, a non-governmental public organization was created - the Commission of International Co-operation on Humanitarian Questions and Human Rights. The Commission consists of scientists, writers, journalists, social and religious leaders (54 persons as at 1 June 1988) and, being open to all who are prepared to support its objectives, is constantly attracting new members. The Commission is headed by the scientist and publicist, Fedor M. Burlatsky, well known in the Soviet Union and other countries.
10. The basic objectives of the Commission's activities have been defined by its members in the following terms: to prepare and disseminate among the public abroad information materials on the situation in the humanitarian field and on the enjoyment of rights and freedoms of citizens in Soviet society; to carry out comparative investigations on compliance in the USSR and other States - participants in the Helsinki process - with the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act; to participate in the development of a concept of international co-operation in the field of humanitarian contacts and human rights; to participate in the preparation of recommendations for updating Soviet legislation and administrative rules in keeping with the demands of perestroika, democracy and glasnost, and also for bringing the provisions of USSR legislation into accord with the obligations assumed by our country under the Helsinki Final Act and United Nations instruments in the field of humanitarian co-operation and human rights; to exchange experience with similar public organizations in the countries of Europe and the United States and Canada; to provide for the participation of representatives of the Soviet public in international public conferences, forums, seminars and other events devoted to questions of co-operation in the field of humanitarian contacts and human rights; to co-operate with State and social organizations and unions of creative professionals in the country; to seek constructive contacts with so-called informal groups; and constantly to involve in the work of the Commission representatives of all groups of the Soviet public.
11. During the current year in the USSR, an extensive special programme of measures aimed at strengthening public information on human rights is planned in connection with the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Along with major domestic events (public meetings, publications, etc.), scientific symposiums and seminars are planned in Moscow on human rights problems, which will include the participation of the United Nations Centre on Human Rights.

List of books on human rights problems published in the USSR
in the period from 1985 to 1988

1. Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, Helsinki, 30 July-1 August 1975. Published by Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniya, 1985, 4.5 p., 50,000 copies.

2. The United Nations. A handbook. 4th ed. Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniya, 1985, 9.5 p., 30,000 copies.
3. Boyas, Yu. R. Citizenship questions in international law. Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniya, 1986, 9.5 p., 11,500 copies.
4. Potapov V. I. Refugees and international law. Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniya, 6 p., 2,000 copies.
5. Human rights: A collection of international instruments (L. K. Shestakov), Moscow State University, 1986, 14 p., 10,000 copies.
6. Sizemskaya, I. N. Man as the principal social asset under socialism. Znanye, 1986, 3.4 p., 29,000 copies.
7. Barmenov, A. I. Freedom of conscience in the USSR. Mysl, 1986, 13 p., 90,000 copies.
8. Kuzmin, E. A. Democracy and the constitutions of two worlds. Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniya, 1987, 6.5 p., 23,000 copies.
9. Puchkova, M. V. Implementation of the rights of citizens by Union-Republic administrative bodies. Nauka, 1987, 8 p., 3,000 copies.
10. Lukasheva, E. A. Socialist law and the individual. Nauka, 1987, 10 p., 4,500 copies.
11. Group of authors. Democracy and the legal status of the individual in socialist society. Nauka, 1987, 20 p., 2,500 copies.
12. Sergeev, M. D. Democracy and socialist, people's self-administration. Znanye, 1987, 4 p., 82,000 copies.
13. Barabasheva, N. S. and Vengerov, A. B. The law on guard for social justice. Znanye, 1987, 4 p., 82,000 copies.
14. Soshnikova, T. A. Powers of trade unions in protecting the rights and interests of workers. Znanye, 1987, 3.5 p., 82,000 copies.
15. Chechot, D. M. How to protect your rights: legal advice to citizens. Yuridicheskaya literatura, 1988, 11 p., 100,000 copies.
16. Kovalev, A. A. Self-determination and the economic dependence of peoples. Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniya, 1988, 10 p., 2,500 copies.
17. Buzhenko, A. T. People's power by the people itself. Mysl, 1988, 12 p., 50,000 copies.
18. Agranovskaya, E. V. The legal culture and implementation of the rights of the individual. Nauka, 1988, 8 p., 4,000 copies.

19. Skvirsky, Yu. R. Human rights, real and imaginary. On the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Znanye, 1988, 4 p., 67,000 copies.
20. Kopeichikov, V. V. Rights of Soviet citizens in action. Znanye, 1988, 4 p., 82,000 copies.
21. Vyshinsky, M. P. South Africa: apartheid, genocide, aggression. Yuridicheskaya literatura, 1988, 17 p., 50,000 copies.

Tentative plan of publication of literature on human rights
problems for the period from 1989 to 1994

1. Danilenko, V. N. Declaration of rights and reality (on the occasion of the two hundredth anniversary of the "Declaration of the rights of man and the citizen"). Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniya, 1989, 12 p., 25,000 copies.
2. Kartashkin, V. A. and Sofinsky, V. N. Human Rights and the world today. Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniya, 1989, 15 p.
3. The USSR and international co-operation in the field of human rights - Collection of documents. Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniya, 1989, 52 p., 400,000 copies.
4. Mashika, T. A. Women's employment and maternity. Mysl, 1989, 16 p., 50,000 copies.
5. Dyuryagin, I. Ya. Law for all. Yuridicheskaya literatura, 1989, 16 p., 100,000 copies.
6. Kurilov, V. I. The individual, labour and the law. Yuridicheskaya literatura, 1989, 15 p., 20,000 copies.
7. Kuritsin, V. M. History of personal freedom in the USSR. Yuridicheskaya literatura, 1989, 15 p., 100,000 copies.
8. Petrukhin, I. L. The personal rights of citizens in criminal procedure. Yuridicheskaya literatura, 1989, 7 p., 100,000 copies.
9. Human rights: Collection of international documents. Moscow State University, 1990, 14 p., 10,000 copies.
