



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/1989/36
13 February 1989

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 17 (b)

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE SECOND DECADE
TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Annual report on racial discrimination submitted by the
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural
Organization in accordance with Economic and Social
Council resolution 1588 (L) and General Assembly
resolution 2785 (XXVI)

1. The Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1588 (L) of 21 May 1971 invited the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to provide the Commission on Human Rights with reports on the nature and effect of any racial discrimination, especially in southern Africa, of whose existence they had knowledge in their sphere of competence.
2. The General Assembly, in resolution 2785 (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, endorsed the invitation of the Council and requested that such reports be submitted annually.
3. The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit herewith the annual report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to the Commission on Human Rights.

Annex

Annual report of the United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNESCO commissioned a number of studies on the question of indigenous peoples and on ways in which alternative policies could be evolved in order to incorporate them fully into national life while at the same time recognizing their right to other cultures.

Case-studies are being done at present in the Philippines and in Australia.

With regard to former discrimination, work has been done on the effect of slavery and of emancipation and the liberation of societies in the English-speaking Caribbean.

Particular attention was paid to the effects of the elaboration of racial categories on social mobility, on methods of education and on the content of education. In line with the latter, a number of studies were elaborated on Caribbean textbooks, particularly those dealing with history, geography and social studies.

The results of these studies have been published by the Institute of Social and Economic Studies, University of the West Indies, Jamaica.

Work has continued on social policies towards immigrants in western Europe, on both national and local levels. In addition, work has been done on State policies towards immigrants in certain countries of western Europe. Work has also been done on the contribution of immigrants to the national cultures of the Netherlands, France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

With regard to the use of culture, studies have been done on foreign cultures, e.g. jazz, reggae and steel bands which are elaborated within systems of domination.

A meeting was held in Manila from 21 to 25 November 1988 on cultural and educational exchanges and their impact on attitudes was studied and assessed. It was felt by this meeting that much more needed to be done on the causes of racism, on the conjuncture in which racism appeared as a component of a culture and on cultural exchanges not only between developing countries and developed countries but also between developing countries. In that context, particular reference was made to the question of the use of culture by the Indian, African and Chinese diasporas.

With reference to apartheid, the period under consideration saw some changes in petty apartheid. It also saw, however, an increase in separation in some areas, measures against the press and some cases of increasing censorship.

One problem facing researchers of southern Africa is the lack of documentation. UNESCO has, in a contract with the International Defence and Aid Fund for southern Africa, supported the elaboration of a listing of the

holdings in major southern African institutes, a listing of research in progress and a listing of ephemeral material where it has been stocked. It is hoped that this repertory will be published shortly.

In addition a compilation of statements made by the various religions outside and inside South Africa on the question of apartheid, going back to 1948, has been completed. The introductory chapter is at present being elaborated. This chapter treats the history of religion under apartheid and the various problems which are faced by religious groups.

In line with our concern about the freedom of information, a contract has been signed with the International Association of Mass Communication Research at the University of Leicester for an analysis of the impact of recent legislation on news on South Africa abroad as well as the effects of censorship on news within South Africa and on the freedom of journalists.

Since South Africa is also part of the southern African region, a research group has been created in Zimbabwe to cover southern Africa which brings together researchers to study the effects of South Africa's destabilization policies on surrounding States with particular reference to education, science, culture and information.

Work has also been undertaken on alternative policies to apartheid in a non-racial democratic South Africa. To this end, a working group has been set up on women under apartheid. In the first stage of this project, which is now completed, the situation of women under apartheid was studied. In 1989, a working group will be called to study the report to establish what priorities need to be taken into account in a post-apartheid South Africa.

Work has also been done on the economy of South Africa, including the industrial sector, the agricultural sector and the mining sector. This will be followed by a meeting in Kingston, Jamaica, in 1989 to discuss forward-looking policies with regard to a democratic South Africa, the economy and the impact of the economy on the social structure.

With regard to education, a meeting will be held in Asia in 1989 to look closely at the situation of education at present in South Africa and alternative policies in line with the democratization of South Africa.

A working group will also meet in Dakar on apartheid and culture.

In co-operation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and with James Currey Publishers, London, UNESCO has published: Race, Class and the Apartheid State, by Harold Wolpe; Verrouillage ethnique en Afrique du Sud, by Claude Meillassoux; Endgame in South Africa?, by Robin Cohen, and A History of Resistance in Namibia, by Peter Katjavivi. A strip cartoon Fighting Apartheid: A Cartoon History was prepared in co-operation with the International Defence and Aid Fund for southern Africa.

A contract has also been passed for a video film on apartheid for teaching in schools.