

## COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

## Third Session

## COMMUNICATIONS

(Memorandum by the Secretary-General)

1. The Economic and Social Council, at its Fifth Session, on 5 August 1947 adopted Resolution No. 75 (V), the text of which was distributed to the members of the Commission on Human Rights in a Note by the Secretary-General on 23 October 1947 as document E/CN.4/27.

2. In the Report of its Second Session to the Economic and Social Council the Commission on Human Rights declared "that the task of the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities would be facilitated if the Economic and Social Council agreed to modify and extend its resolution of 5 August 1947, so as to give the members of the Sub-Commission, with respect to communications dealing with discrimination and minorities and at the request of the Human Rights Commission in each case, the same facilities as are enjoyed by members of the Commission."

The Commission also requested "the Economic and Social Council to reconsider the procedure for communications relating to human rights laid down in its resolution of 5 August 1947, in particular as regards points (a) and (b). It suggested that the Secretary-General be requested to compile, before each session of the Commission, two lists of communications received concerning human rights with a brief summary of the substance of each; (1) a non-confidential list of communications in which the authors state that they have already divulged or intend to divulge their names, or that they have no objections to their names being divulged; and (2) a confidential list which will be furnished to the Commission, in private meeting, without divulging the identity of the authors of the communications." (E/600, Chapter VI, paragraphs 29, 30).

3. The Economic and Social Council at its Sixth Session on 1 March 1948 adopted the following Resolution (No. 116 (VI)) relating to Communications:

The Economic and Social Council

Having reconsidered the procedure for communications relating to human rights laid down in Resolution 75 (V), as regards points (b) and (e),

/Decides

Decides to amend the procedure provided for in point (b) of the above resolution by adding to the text of point (b) the following words: "except in those cases where the authors state that they have already divulged or intend to divulge their names or that they have no objection to their names being divulged"; and in point (e) by adding the following words: "except as provided for in paragraph (b) above"; and

Resolves to give the members of the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities, with respect to communications dealing with discrimination and minorities the same facilities as are enjoyed by members of the Commission under Resolution 75 (V) and the present Resolution.

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