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WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mrs. Moussokoro SANGARE-KABA (Guinea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 23 September 1983, the General Assembly decided to include in its agenda the item entitled:

"World social situation:

"(a) Implementation of General Assembly resolution 37/54;

"(b) National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress: reports of the Secretary-General;

"(c) Popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in the development and in the realization of human rights: report of the Secretary-General"

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered this item jointly with items 84, 88, 89 and 90 at its 18th to 20th, 22nd to 29th and 31st to 33rd meetings, on 21, 24, 25, 27, 28 and 31 October and from 1 to 4 November. An account of the discussion of the Committee is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/38/SR.18 to 20, 22 to 29 and 31 to 33).

3. The Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) National experience in promoting the co-operative movement: report of the Secretary-General (A/38/63);

(b) Survey of recent and prospective trends and fundamental changes in the field of socio-economic development (A/38/64 and Add.1);

(c) Popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in the development and in the realization of human rights: report of the Secretary-General (A/38/338 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2);

(d) Implementation of General Assembly resolution 37/54: note by the Secretary-General (A/C.3/38/4);

(e) Report of the Economic and Social Council, chapter V, section B [A/38/3 (Part I)]. 1/

4. At the 18th meeting, on 21 October, the Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs made introductory statements.

## II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

### A. Draft resolution A/C.3/38/L.15

5. At the 31st meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Yugoslavia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/38/L.15) entitled "Popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the full realization of all human rights", sponsored by Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, China, Cyprus, India, Iraq, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mexico, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Sri Lanka and Yugoslavia as well as Cuba.

6. At its 32nd meeting, on 3 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/38/L.15 without a vote (see para. 10, draft resolution I).

### B. Draft resolution A/C.3/38/L.16

7. At the 31st meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Mongolia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/38/L.16) entitled "National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress", sponsored by Afghanistan, Angola, Benin, the Congo, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nicaragua and Viet Nam.

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1/ To be incorporated in Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/38/3).

8. At the 33rd meeting, on 4 November, the representative of Mongolia, on behalf of the sponsors, orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In the sixth preambular paragraph, the word "neo-colonialism" was added after the word "colonialism";

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the words "1984 and 1985 interregional and regional seminars" were replaced by the words "1984 or 1985 an interregional seminar";

(c) In operative paragraph 5, the word "comprehensive" before the words "report on national experience" was deleted.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/38/L.16, as orally revised, by a roll-call vote of 107 to 1, with 9 abstentions (see para. 10, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Colombia, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

### III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

10. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Popular participation in its various forms as an  
important factor in development and in the full  
realization of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 34/152 of 17 December 1979 and 37/55 of  
3 December 1982,

Noting Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/31 of 27 May 1983, as well  
as Commission on Human Rights resolution 1983/14 of 22 February 1983,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Popular  
participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the  
realization of human rights", 2/

Recognizing that popular participation, including the participation of workers  
in management and self-management in countries where they exist, constitutes an  
important factor of socio-economic development as well as of respect for human  
rights and dignity of the human person,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. Invites those Governments, United Nations organs and specialized agencies  
that have not yet done so to transmit their comments and views to the  
Secretary-General, as called for in General Assembly resolution 37/55;
3. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to continue to consider at its  
fortieth session the question of popular participation in its various forms as an  
important factor in the full realization of all human rights;
4. Requests further the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General  
Assembly at its fortieth session in order to review the progress made in this field  
taking into account, inter alia, the consideration of this issue at the fortieth  
and forty-first sessions of the Commission on Human Rights;
5. Decides to continue the consideration of this issue at its fortieth  
session under the sub-item entitled "Popular participation in its various forms as  
an important factor in development and in the full realization of all human rights"  
of the item "World social situation";

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress

The General Assembly,

Guided by the desire to promote a higher standard of life, full employment and conditions for economic and social progress and development,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, 3/

Mindful of the provisions of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order 4/ as well as the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, 5/

Noting Economic and Social Council resolutions 1581 A (L) of 21 May 1971, 1667 (LII) of 1 June 1972 and 1746 (LIV) of 16 May 1973 concerning the importance of fundamental structural socio-economic changes for the strengthening of national independence and the achievement of the ultimate goals of social progress,

Recalling its resolutions 3273 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, 31/38 of 30 November 1976 and 36/19 of 9 November 1981, in which it reaffirmed the importance for every State to exercise its inalienable right to carry out fundamental social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress and the necessity of studying national experience in this field,

Desirous of securing a speedy and complete removal of all obstacles to the economic and social progress of peoples, especially colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, apartheid, military, political and economic intervention and pressures, foreign aggression and occupation or alien domination as well as all forms of inequality and exploitation of peoples,

Convinced that peaceful coexistence and co-operation among States as well as effective measures in the field of disarmament create favourable international conditions for the socio-economic development of all countries, in particular developing countries,

Desirous also of contributing to the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, 6/

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3/ General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV), annex.

4/ General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

5/ General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX).

6/ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress; 7/
  2. Reaffirms the sovereign and inalienable right of every State to choose its economic and social system in accordance with the will of its people, without outside interference in whatever form it takes;
  3. Requests the Secretary-General to make arrangements for holding in 1984 or 1985 an interregional seminar called for in paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 36/19, within the resources already requested for sectoral and regional advisory services in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985;
  4. Invites Member States to submit to the Secretary-General national reports on their experience in carrying out far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress;
  5. Further requests the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States, a further report on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress, taking into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 36/19, and to submit it to the Assembly at its fortieth session through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council;
  6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress".
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