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COMMISSION ON HUMAR RIGHTS Seventh session Item 3 (b) of the Agenda

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND MEASURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Report of the Working Group on Implementation of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

1. At its 242nd meeting on 14 May 1951, the Commission decided to establish a Working Group consisting of the representatives of Australia, Chile, Denmark, France, Lebanon, Pakistan, Sweden and the United States of America, to elaborate a common draft on the measures of implementation of economic, social and cultural rights.

2. The Working Group held three meetings on 14 May and 15 May (E/CN.4/AC.15/ SR.1 to 3). It had before it the proposals of the representatives of Australia and the United States of America (E/CN.4/AC.14/2/Add.5), Lebanon (E/CN.4/570/Rev.2), Pakistan and Sweden (E/CN.4/622) and France (E/CN.4/623). With the consent of the representatives of Australia and the United States of America, the Working Group proceeded to draft a text based on the proposals of the representatives of Lebanon, Pakistan/Sweden and France (E/CN.4/AC.15/R/1).

3. The Working Group submits the following draft articles for the consideration of the Commission:

Article A

The States Parties to this Covenant undertake to submit reports concerning the progress made in achieving the observance of these rights. / Alternative proposed by France ⁽¹⁾: Add: in conformity with the following articles and the recommendations which the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in the exercise of their general responsibility, may make to all the Members of the United Nations.

Article B

1. The States Parties shall furnish their reports in stages, in accordance with a programme to be established by the Economic and Social Council after consultation with the States Farties to this Covenant and the specialized agencies concerned.

2. Reports may indicate factors and difficulties affecting the degree of fulfilment of obligations under this part of the Covenant.

3. Where relevant information has already previously been furnished to the United Nations or to any specialized agency, the action required by this Article may take the form of a precise reference to the information so furnished.

Article C

1. The States Parties to this Covenant shall furnish reports under this Article to the Secretary-General of the United Nations; but, in the case of members of a specialized agency, to the specialized agency in respect of matters within the competence of that agency.

2. Pursuant to its responsibilities under the Charter in the field of human rights, the Economic and Social Council shall make special arrangements with the specialized agencies in respect of their reporting to it on the progress made in achieving the observance of human rights falling within their competence

⁽¹⁾ The Working Group agreed that this text might appear in its report although it rejected a similar text by 4 votes to 3 with 1 abstention.

and in particular, those rights set forth in this Covenant.

/ Alternative proposed by the United States (1): "in achieving the observance
of the provisions of this part of the Covenant falling within their
competence."7

Article D

The Economic and Social Council shall transmit to the Commission on Human Rights for study and recommendation the reports concerning human rights submitted by States, and those concerning human rights submitted by the competent specialized agencies.

Article E

The States Parties directly concerned and the specialized agencies may submit comments to the Economic and Social Council on the report of the Commission on Human Rights.

Article F

The Economic and Social Council may submit from time to time to the General Assembly, with its own reports, reports summarizing the information made available by the States Parties to the Covenant directly to the Secretary-General and by the specialized agencies under Article indicating the progress made in achieving general observance of these rights.

Article G

The Economic and Social Council may submit to the Technical Assistance Board or to any other competent international organ the findings contained in the report of the Commission on Human Rights which may assist such organs in the advisability of international measures likely to contribute to the pro-

⁽¹⁾ The Working Group agreed that this text which was rejected by 4 votes to 3 with 1 abstention might appear in its report.

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gressive implementation of this Covenant.

Article H

The States Parties to the Covenant agree that international action for the achievement of these rights includes such methods as conventions, recommendations, technical assistance, regional and technical meetings and studies with governments.

Article I

Unless otherwise decided by the Commission on Human Rights or by the Economic and Social Council or requested by the State directly concerned, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall arrange for the publication of the report of the Commission on Human Rights, or reports presented to the Council by specialized agencies as well as of all decisions and recommendations reached by the Economic and Social Council.

Article J (1)

Nothing in this Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Constitutions of the specialized agencies which define the respective responsibilities of the various organs of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies in regard to the matters dealt with in this Covenant.

(1) The Working Group adopted this article with the understanding that its decision did not prejudice the position of the article in the Covenant.