



UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

E/CN.4/833  
22 December 1962

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Nineteenth session

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General has drawn up, in consultation with the Chairman, the provisional agenda for the nineteenth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

The nineteenth session will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 11 March to 5 April 1963. The first meeting will be convened at 11 a.m., Monday, 11 March.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Advisory services in the field of human rights
4. Study of the right of everyone to be free from arbitrary arrest, detention and exile, and draft principles on freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention
5. Study of the right of arrested persons to communicate with those whom it is necessary for them to consult in order to ensure their defence or to protect their essential interests
6. Prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities
  - (a) Draft principles on freedom and non-discrimination in the matter of religious rights and practices
  - (b) Draft principles on freedom and non-discrimination in the matter of political rights
  - (c) Report of the fifteenth session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities
7. Freedom of information
  - (a) Report on developments in the field of freedom of information since 1954
  - (b) Annual reports on freedom of information for 1960-1961 and 1961-1962
8. Procedure to be followed in respect of future periodic reports on human rights
9. Communications concerning human rights
10. Fifteenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
11. Further promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms
12. Draft declaration and draft convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination
13. Draft declaration and draft convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

14. Draft International Covenants on Human Rights: proposals relating to an article on the rights of the child
15. Review of the human rights programme
16. Report of the nineteenth session of the Commission on Human Rights to the Economic and Social Council

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers

According to rule 15 of the rules of procedure, the Commission elects each year, at the commencement of its first meeting, its officers from among its members.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Commission adopts its agenda.

3. Advisory services in the field of human rights

The Secretary-General will submit a report on the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights in accordance with General Assembly resolution 926 (X), Economic and Social Council resolution 684 (XXVI) and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1 (XVIII).

4. Study of the right of everyone to be free from arbitrary arrest, detention and exile, and draft principles on freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention

The study (E/CN.4/826 and Corr.1 and 2), which includes the draft principles on freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention, was submitted to the eighteenth session of the Commission. Comments of Governments on the draft principles will be presented to the Commission at its nineteenth session.

5. Study of the right of arrested persons to communicate with those whom it is necessary for them to consult in order to ensure their defence or to protect their essential interests

The Committee charged with this study will present a preliminary report.

6. Prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities

- (a) Draft principles on freedom and non-discrimination in the matter of religious rights and practices

The draft principles were drawn up by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (E/CN.4/800, para. 160, resolution 1 (XIII), annex).<sup>1/</sup>

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<sup>1/</sup> The draft principles may also be found in annex I of the Study of Discrimination in the Matter of Religious Rights and Practices (United Nations Publication, Sales No. 60.XIV.2).

Comments of Governments and of non-governmental organizations on the substance of the draft principles and the form in which such principles should be embodied (E/CN.4/809 and Add.1-10 and E/CN.4/NGO/91, 95 and Add.1, and 98) were submitted to the Commission at its eighteenth session. A working paper (E/CN.4/L.602), prepared by the Secretariat, presenting in systematic order the comments of Governments and non-governmental organizations, was also submitted to the last session of the Commission. The Commission was unable to complete the examination of the draft principles at that session and decided in resolution 11 (XVIII) to continue consideration of the principles at its nineteenth session.

- (b) Draft principles on freedom and non-discrimination in the matter of political rights

The draft principles were drawn up by the Sub-Commission (E/CN.4/830, para. 159, resolution 1 (XIV)).

The Secretary-General will present the comments of Governments and of non-governmental organizations on the substance of the draft principles and on the form in which such principles should be embodied, obtained in accordance with Commission resolution 4 (XVIII).

- (c) Report of the fifteenth session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

The Commission will have before it the report of the fifteenth session of the Sub-Commission, which will meet from 14 January to 2 February 1963 at United Nations Headquarters.

## 7. Freedom of information

- (a) Report on developments in the field of freedom of information since 1954

The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 819 B (XXXI), has requested the Commission to consider the report (E/3443), together with the comments of Governments and specialized agencies (E/3443/Add.1 and 2).

(b) Annual reports on freedom of information for 1960-1961 and 1961-1962  
Under Economic and Social Council resolution 718 II (XXVII), the first annual report (E/CN.4/822 and Add.1-3), covering the period from January 1960

to June 1961 was submitted by the Secretary-General to the eighteenth session of the Commission. The second annual report covering the period from June 1961 to June 1962 will be presented to the nineteenth session.

8. Procedure to be followed in respect of future periodic reports on human rights

At its eighteenth session the Commission decided to consider the procedure to be followed in respect of future periodic reports on human rights (E/3616/Rev.1, para. 311).

9. Communications concerning human rights

The Secretary-General will present a confidential list and a non-confidential list of communications in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 728 F (XXVIII) and will also present a confidential document of a statistical nature in accordance with resolution 14 (XV) of the Commission. The replies of Governments to communications will be issued as confidential documents.

A note on communications concerning human rights (E/CN.4/819) was presented by the Secretary-General to the eighteenth session of the Commission. After a brief discussion the Commission agreed to take up this matter at a later date.

10. Fifteenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

In resolution 1775 (XVII) the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to appoint a special committee to prepare plans for the celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to present these plans to the nineteenth session of the Commission.

11. Further promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms

In accordance with resolution 1776 (XVII) of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, at its resumed thirty-fourth session, instructed the Commission on Human Rights:

- (a) To study and to encourage the adoption of measures designed to accelerate the further promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to devote special attention to this matter during the United Nations Development Decade;
- (b) To submit to the General Assembly at its next session a report and recommendations on this question.

12. Draft declaration and draft convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination

In resolution 1780 (XVII) the General Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to ask the Commission on Human Rights, bearing in mind the views of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the debates at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, any proposals on this matter that may be submitted by Governments and any international instruments already adopted in this field by the specialized agencies, to prepare:

- (a) a draft declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, for submission to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session for its consideration;
- (b) a draft convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination for submission to the General Assembly if possible at its nineteenth session and in any case not later than its twentieth session;

and invited Member States to submit their comments and proposals concerning the draft convention by 15 January 1964.

At its resumed thirty-fourth session the Economic and Social Council decided to forward the General Assembly resolution to the Commission on Human Rights, as well as to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

13. Draft declaration and draft convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

In resolution 1781 (XVII) the General Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to ask the Commission on Human Rights, bearing in mind the views

of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the debates at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, any proposals on this matter that may be submitted by Governments and any international instruments already adopted in this field by the specialized agencies, to prepare:

(a) a draft declaration on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance for submission to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session for its consideration;

(b) a draft convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance for submission to the General Assembly if possible at its nineteenth session and in any case not later than its twentieth session;

and invited Member States to submit their comments and proposals concerning the draft convention by 15 January 1964.

At its resumed thirty-fourth session the Economic and Social Council decided to forward the General Assembly resolution to the Commission on Human Rights, as well as to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

14. Draft International Covenants on Human Rights: proposals relating to an article on the rights of the child

In accordance with resolution 1843 A (XVII) of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, at its resumed thirty-fourth session, decided to refer to the Commission on Human Rights all the proposals relating to an article on the rights of the child together with the discussion thereon at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly for a thorough study, taking into consideration all the legal implications of including such an article in the draft Covenants; and to request the Commission to report through the Council to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session on its deliberations.

In accordance with the same resolution, the Governments of Member States and the specialized agencies will be invited to submit to the Commission comments on the proposals relating to an article on the rights of the child.



15. Review of the human rights programme

The Secretary-General will prepare a note on the review of the human rights programme (Economic and Social Council resolution 772 A (XXX)), control and limitation of documentation (General Assembly resolution 1272 (XIII)), and concentration of activities (Economic and Social Council resolution 909 I (XXXIV)).

16. Report of the nineteenth session of the Commission on Human Rights to the Economic and Social Council

In accordance with rule 38 of the rules of procedure, the Commission shall report to the Council on the work of its nineteenth session.

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