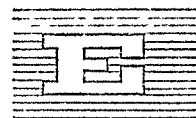


UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

E/CN.4/1984/33/Add.2  
13 February 1984

Original: ENGLISH

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Fortieth session  
Agenda item 15

HUMAN RIGHTS AND SCIENTIFIC AND  
TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

This addendum contains a communication submitted by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania.

GE.84-10613

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

[Original: English]

[2 February 1984]

Science and technology have through the ages become the greatest indicators of the achievements in the development of mankind. The two are a reflection of the highest development of the social and cultural organization of human society.

The progress mankind has made in its continuous struggle against nature is manifest in the great strides taken in science and technology. It reveals tremendous scientific achievements which have freed man from handtools in the production process, eased communication problems among nations and peoples, provided mankind with a ready means of livelihood and harnessed nature for its benefit.

It is in the light of the above that the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania believes that in order to tackle fundamental social-economic problems which affect the capacity of the enjoyment by the people of Tanzania of their basic human rights, as well as other people languishing in poverty, hunger and disease elsewhere in the world, the role of science and technology in the transformation of society will greatly determine the enjoyment of human rights on a wide scale. The oligopoly in science and technology practised by a few States, particularly during the past century, resulted in a very sluggish development in most of the world and particularly in countries of the "South". This trend has continued in the twentieth century and has manifested itself in the inability of the countries of the "South" to fulfil the development aspirations of their peoples.

Meanwhile, the excesses of scientific and technological innovations in the "North" have largely departed from the normal necessities for the advancement of mankind. The human and material resources devoted to research and development in the arms industry for instance, with the implications for the arms race, in both conventional and nuclear arms, represent today the major dilemma facing human society.

This means that the rational use of the world's human and material resources, the already enormous treasure in the field of science and technology, would go a long way to alleviate the suffering of the great majority of peoples, through international co-operation by all States bound together by the common ideals of equality of man, the sovereign equality of States and their interdependence.