



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/32/422
13 December 1977

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-second session
Agenda item 75

WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Fuad M. AL-HINAI (Oman)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with its resolution 31/78 of 13 December 1976.
2. At its 5th plenary meeting, on 23 September 1977, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
3. The Committee considered this item at its 5th to 12th, 17th, 69th and 70th meetings, between 29 September and 6 December 1977. The views expressed by the representatives of Member States and observers are contained in the summary records of those meetings (A/C.3/32/SR.5-12, 17, 69 and 70).
4. In connexion with this item, the Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly; 1/
 - (b) Note by the Secretary-General containing the text of the draft resolution recommended by the Economic and Social Council for adoption in its resolution 2057 (LXII) of 12 May 1977 (A/32/197).
 - (c) Note verbale dated 26 August 1977 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to the Secretary-General (A/32/206);

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/32/3/Add.1, Part IV).

(d) Report of the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/5922).

5. At the 69th meeting, on 6 December, the Deputy Director of the Division of Human Rights made a statement concerning the draft resolution recommended by the Economic and Social Council.

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION RECOMMENDED
BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (A/C.3/32/L.47)

6. At its 70th meeting, on 6 December, the Committee considered the draft resolution recommended by the Economic and Social Council (A/C.3/32/L.47) (see also Council resolution 2057 (LXII), para. 10).

7. With regard to the venue of the Conference, the Committee considered operative paragraph 3, which read as follows:

"3. Decides to convene the Conference in _____ from 14 to 25 August 1978;"

At its 70th meeting, the Committee decided, without a vote, to complete the text by inserting the word "Geneva".

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as a whole, by a recorded vote of 108 to 1, with 5 abstentions (see para. 10, below). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Empire, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Surinam, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

/...

Against: Israel.

Abstaining: Ethiopia, Guatemala, Ivory Coast, Mexico, Nicaragua.

9. With regard to the draft provisional agenda of the World Conference (E/5922, annex I), endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 2057 (LXII) (see paras. 6 and 8 above), the representative of Yugoslavia made an oral proposal regarding agenda item 11 (a), taking into account the recommendation by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/32/206, para. 2). At its 70th meeting, the Committee adopted the proposal of Yugoslavia without a vote (see para. 11 below).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

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

World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 3057 (XXVIII) of 2 November 1973 and 31/78 of 13 December 1976, in which it affirmed its total abhorrence of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid and resolved to achieve their total elimination,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2057 (LXII) of 12 May 1977, including the annex thereto, in relation to the preparation of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Taking note of the communication dated 4 February 1977 from the Government of Ghana, 2/

1. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 2057 (LXII), including the annex thereto;

2. Regrets the circumstances which led to the withdrawal by the Government of Ghana of its offer to act as host to the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Ghana for its co-operation;

3. Decides to convene the Conference at Geneva from 14 to 25 August 1978;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to invite as participants: /in the Conference:/

(a) All States;

(b) The United Nations Council for Namibia, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 31/149 of 20 December 1976;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to invite as observers:

(a) Representatives of national liberation movements recognized in its region by the Organization of African Unity, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974;

(b) Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the sessions and the work of all international conferences convened under its auspices in accordance with its resolution 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and 31/152 of 20 December 1976;

(c) The specialized agencies concerned as well as interested organs and bodies of the United Nations to be represented as observers;

(d) Interested intergovernmental organizations in the capacity of observers;

(e) The Special Committee against Apartheid;

(f) The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

(g) The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

(h) The Commission on Human Rights;

(i) Other interested committees of the United Nations;

(j) Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as indicated in the annex to the present resolution;

6. Authorizes the allocation from the regular budget of the United Nations of the costs involved in holding the Conference;

7. Decides to include Arabic as a language of the Conference;

8. Requests the Secretary-General, as part of the preparatory process, to take adequate steps to ensure that maximum publicity shall be given to the Conference and, to that end, to allocate the necessary resources from the regular budget;

9. Calls upon all States to contribute to the success of the Decade

for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, in particular by their active participation in the Conference;

10. Urges all States to co-operate in the preparatory work with the Secretary-General of the Conference;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session on the work of the Conference;

12. Decides to consider at its thirty-third session, as a matter of high priority, the item entitled "World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination".

ANNEX

Non-governmental organizations invited to participate in the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

The following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council shall be invited by the Secretary-General to attend the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination: all non-governmental organizations in category I consultative status and non-governmental organizations in category II consultative status and on the Roster which have, by 30 September 1977, submitted information on activities undertaken or contemplated in connexion with the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, in accordance with paragraph 18 (f) (iv) of the Programme for the Decade. 3/ Their participation shall be effected through their presence at the Conference as observers and through the submission of written statements to the secretariat of the Conference.

11. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

The General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, 4/ decides to amend item 11 (a) of the provisional agenda of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, as proposed by the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the World Conference (E/5922, annex I) and approved by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 2057 (LXII), to read as follows:

11 (a) Full and universal implementation of United Nations decisions and resolutions on racism, racial discrimination, apartheid, decolonization and self-determination, in particular, fuller implementation and wider acceptance, by ratification or accession, of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; and the question of the preparation of new international instruments.

3/ General Assembly resolution 3057 (XXVIII), annex.

4/ A/32/206, para. 2.