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Thirty-second session Agenda item 86

ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

Report of the Third Committee

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

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with its resolution 31/138 of 16 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 76th meeting, on 9 December. The views expressed by the representatives of Member States on this item are contained in the summary records of this meeting (A/C.3/32/SR.76).

4. For the consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General containing background information on the item (A/32/120);

(b) Letter dated 6 July 1977 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/32/133);

(c) Letter dated 23 September 1977 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/32/235).

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II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.3/32/L.64

5. At the 76th meeting, on 9 December, the representative of the Netherlands introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/32/L.64), sponsored by <u>Austria</u>, <u>Canada</u>, <u>Denmark</u>, <u>France</u>, <u>Germany</u>, <u>Federal Republic of</u>, the <u>Netherlands</u>, <u>Norway</u>, <u>Senegal</u>, Sweden and the United States of America, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"<u>Recalling</u> its resolution 1781 (XVII) of 7 December 1962 and 3069 (XXVIII) of 30 November 1973, as well as its resolution 3267 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, in which it requested the Commission on Human Rights to submit, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly a single draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

"<u>Noting</u> the actions of the Working Group established by the Commission on Human Rights at its thirtieth, thirty-first, thirty-second and thirty-third sessions with a view to elaborating a draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

"<u>Noting also</u> resolution 11 (XXXII) of the Commission on Human Rights by which the Commission established an open-ended working group which would meet three times a week during its thirty-fourth session, beginning in the first week of the session, and requested the Secretary-General to provide the necessary facilities for the work of the group,

"<u>Recalling also</u> its resolution 31/138 of 16 December 1976 to consider, at its thirty-second session, the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance,

"Noting that the Commission on Human Rights has been so far unable to present the text of such a Declaration, despite the fact that the General Assembly had previously requested that it speed up its work on the elaboration of a single draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

"1. <u>Requests</u> the Commission on Human Rights to give this matter the priority necessary to finalize the draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief;

"2. <u>Decides</u> to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-third session the item entitled 'Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance'."

6. At the same meeting, the representative of the <u>Byelorussian Soviet Socialist</u> <u>Republic</u> made two oral amendments to the draft resolution as follows:

(a) To delete, at the end of the fourth preambular paragraph, the words "to consider, at its thirty-second session, the question of the elimination of forms of religious intolerance";

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(b) To delete, at the end of the fifth preambular paragraph, the words "despite the fact that the General Assembly had previously requested that it speed up its work on the elaboration of a single draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,".

The sponsors of the draft resolution agreed to the amendment and revised the text accordingly.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/32/L.64, as revised, without a vote (see para. 8 below).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

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

Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

The General Assembly,

<u>Recalling</u> its resolution 1781 (XVII) of 7 December 1962 and 3069 (XXVIII) of 30 November 1973, as well as its resolution 3267 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, in which it requested the Commission on Human Rights to submit, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly a single draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

<u>Noting</u> the actions of the Working Group established by the Commission on Human Rights at its thirtieth, thirty-first, thirty-second and thirty-third sessions with a view to elaborating a draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Noting also Commission on Human Rights resolution 11 (XXXIII) of 5 March 1976, 1/ by which the Commission established an open-ended working group which would meet three times a week during its thirty-fourth session, beginning in the first week of the session, and requested the Secretary-General to provide the necessary facilities for the work of the group,

Recalling also its resolution 31/138 of 16 December 1976,

<u>Noting</u> that the Commission on Human Rights has been so far unable to present the text of such a Declaration,

^{1/} See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 6 (E/5927), chap. XXI, sect. A.

1. <u>Requests</u> the Commission on Human Rights to give this matter the priority necessary to finalize the draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief;

2. <u>Decides</u> to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-third session the item entitled "Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance".
