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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 24th MEETING

Chairman: Mrs. SHAHANI (Philippines)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.45 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 76: ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF POLITICAL, MILITARY, ECONOMIC AND OTHER FORMS OF ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO COLONIAL AND RACIST REGIMES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (continued) (A/33/269; E/CN.4/Sub.2/383/Rev.1; A/33/151)

AGENDA ITEM 73: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE DECADE FOR ACTION TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/33/263, A/33/151, A/33/206; A/C.3/33/L.13)

AGENDA ITEM 74: WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/33/262, A/33/206)

1. Mrs. SISON (Philippines) said that her delegation generally supported the recommendations of Mr. Khalifa, Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, set forth in his report in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/383/Rev.1. Her country had long since severed diplomatic, military, economic and other relations with the racist régimes in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

2. With regard to the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (A/33/263), she said that her Government had adopted various constitutional and legislative measures aimed at ensuring the dignity, welfare and security of all of the people. The Government had enacted labour laws which were designed to afford protection to labour, promote full employment and equality in employment and ensure equal work opportunities regardless of sex, race or creed. In the Philippines the separation of church and State was established by the Constitution and the people were free to worship in accordance with their beliefs without discrimination or preference. Since 1972, with the advent of the New Society under President Marcos, the Government had adopted a number of measures and enacted legislation which took into account the customs, traditions, beliefs and interests of national cultural communities. In order that all citizens should know their rights and obligations, legislation was officially promulgated in Filipino and English and translated into each major dialect and into Spanish and Arabic. Thus Philippine legislation was in accordance with the goals and objectives of the various international conventions dealing with racial discrimination and apartheid and the International Covenant on Social, Cultural and Economic Rights, as well as the Programme for the Decade.

3. Her delegation had voted in favour of the Declaration and Programme of Action (A/33/262) adopted by the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination because the basic thrust of the Declaration and the Programme of Action was in keeping with the Philippine position of opposition to racism, racial discrimination, apartheid and alien domination. Noting that it had not been possible to reach a compromise formulation of the two documents, she felt that the areas of agreement were broader than the few areas of disagreement, which she hoped could be bridged by statesmanship and a spirit of compromise. The World Conference had served as a useful forum for review and appraisal of the

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(Mrs. Sison, Philippines)

activities of the international community aimed at fighting the evils of racism. Her delegation agreed with the President of the Conference that one of the primary tasks of the General Assembly at the current session was to ensure that activities to be undertaken during the second half of the Decade would produce positive and concrete results in the international effort to eliminate the evils of racism.

4. Mr. GARVALOV (Bulgaria) said that the elimination of the vestiges of racism and racial discrimination still existing in various parts of the world was one of the major and imperative objectives of the United Nations and of mankind itself. Discrimination based on race, which was incompatible with human dignity and fundamental human rights and freedoms and hindered social progress, was deeply rooted in social and economic conditions and was manifested particularly in the capitalist countries, where the social and political system functioned at the expense of the working people. The most serious cases of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid were to be found in southern Africa, where they were institutionalized and supported by overtly racist administrative and judicial decisions and theories. The explosive situation in southern Africa created by the oppressive racist and colonialist régimes was further aggravated by the aggressive acts of those régimes against neighbouring sovereign African States and by their growing military collaboration with imperialism. While the overwhelming majority of countries and peoples in the world were united in a concerted effort to do away with racism, racial discrimination, apartheid and colonialism, there were still influential allies of the racist régimes that paid lip service to the struggle against racism but in fact contributed to the continued existence of the racist régimes by providing them with massive moral, political, military, economic and financial assistance and support. Furthermore, those States used all sorts of means to circumvent United Nations decisions aimed at intensifying the struggle against the racist régimes. The imperialist and racist forces resorted to pressure on sovereign African States and interfered in their internal affairs in an effort to destabilize their progressive Governments. The failure of certain States which were the chief backers of the racist régimes in Pretoria and Salisbury to ratify the international instruments dealing with racial discrimination, apartheid, genocide and human rights was another form of moral support for the racist régimes.

5. He praised the report of Mr. Khalifa (E/CN.4/Sub.2/383/Rev.1) on the nature and impact of the assistance given to the racist régimes in southern Africa, particularly by Western economic and financial interests. It was well known that multinational corporations had reaped enormous profits from their ruthless exploitation of the African peoples and their natural resources and sought to maintain the status quo in southern Africa. It was most regrettable that up to the present certain Western States had failed to take any administrative or other measures to put an end to those unlawful activities. For that reason his delegation fully supported the follow-up action envisaged in resolution 2 (XXXI) of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. His delegation fully shared the Special Rapporteur's conclusions that a mandatory arms embargo, the complete withdrawal of all economic interests and the severing of economic relations with southern Africa were the minimum coercive measures required to bring about drastic change and the withering away of the apartheid system and racism in southern Africa.

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(Mr. Garvalov, Bulgaria)

6. In the opinion of his delegation, the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had accomplished the tasks assigned to it and had given impetus to the struggle to eliminate all forms and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, apartheid and colonialism. The Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the Conference not only summarized and crystallized the views and positions of the overwhelming majority of States Members of the United Nations but also placed in a new perspective all of the pertinent measures envisaged to intensify and bring to a successful conclusion the struggle against those evils. The Conference also revealed the gap that existed between the declarations of intent repeatedly made by certain States and their actual positions. His delegation believed that the General Assembly should at its current session endorse the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the Conference. Furthermore, those documents should be given maximum publicity and all Governments and international organizations within the United Nations system should be called upon to intensify their co-operation in order to achieve effective implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action. His delegation also wished to cite the contribution to the struggle against racism and colonialism of another international conference, the International Conference of Solidarity with the Struggle of the African and Arab Peoples against Imperialism and Reaction held at Addis Ababa in September 1978.

7. His country had been active in the struggle to eradicate racism, racial discrimination, apartheid and colonialism and in the efforts of the United Nations to promote international co-operation in ensuring respect for basic human rights and fundamental freedoms. It had ratified all of the relevant international instruments in that field. It was his delegation's firm belief that the universality of those important instruments of international law was in keeping with the goals of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and contributed significantly to the struggle of the international community for peace, social progress and democracy. In that connexion his delegation wished to commend the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in particular that aspect of its work related to the implementation of article 7 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. It also felt that UNESCO should continue to study the role of the mass media in the struggle against racial discrimination. He noted that in certain countries the information media encouraged racial prejudices and that the re-emergence of neo-Nazi groups in those countries was being allowed to proceed unchecked, although the Convention called for the adoption of legislative and administrative measures against organizations which preached ideas of racial superiority.

8. The Bulgarian Government and people vigorously supported the goals of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; that position was predicated on the basic political concepts of socialism. In Bulgaria there were no manifestations whatsoever of racial discrimination, nor did any of the prerequisites for national or racial antagonism exist. The Bulgarian people resolutely condemned all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid and firmly supported a complete boycott of the racist régimes in southern

(Mr. Garvalov, Bulgaria)

Africa and favoured the provision of comprehensive moral and material assistance to the peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa in their legitimate struggle for self-determination, independence, equality and social progress.

9. Mrs. HUANG KUO (China) said that since the adoption in 1973 of the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, struggles against racism had been waged more extensively and more comprehensively on a world-wide scale. The World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had made its contribution to support of the national liberation movements of the peoples of southern Africa and to further expansion of the anti-racism struggle on the international scene.

10. However, the racist régimes of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia remained recalcitrant. Together they continued obstinately to pursue the policy of racial discrimination and apartheid in a vain attempt to perpetuate their reactionary rule. Furthermore, the white racist régimes in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia had formed a reactionary military alliance to suppress the national liberation struggles of the peoples of Azania, Zimbabwe and Namibia and to subject neighbouring African countries to continuous military provocations and incursions.

11. In committing atrocities, the racist régimes had revealed their reactionary and brutal nature as well as their isolation and weakness. Their evil deeds could not but arouse the peoples of southern Africa to more intense struggles, thus hastening the doom of those very régimes.

12. History had shown that the present racial discrimination and apartheid in southern Africa and other regions was a direct result of colonialist and imperialist policies. Consequently, the struggle against racial discrimination and apartheid was inseparably linked with the struggle against colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism. In certain parts of Africa, people combating racial discrimination and apartheid were becoming more and more aware of the fact that only by completely overthrowing colonial rule could they eradicate the evil of racial discrimination.

13. The intensification of the just struggle of the peoples of southern Africa was a powerful blow dealt at the super-Powers. Striving to maintain its vested interests there, one super-Power was continuing to support the racist régimes in southern Africa, while another, a late-comer on the African scene, was trying to masquerade as the "natural ally" of the African people in an attempt to control that region. "Driving away the wolf from the front gate while repulsing the tiger at the back door" was the real task of the people of southern Africa fighting for national independence and liberation. Voices opposing super-Power intervention in African affairs were being heard all over the continent of Africa, marking a new awakening on the part of the African peoples and their ever-increasing awareness of the evil of super-Power hegemonism.

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(Mrs. Huang Kuo, China)

14. Her delegation wished to reaffirm a number of proposals aimed at ensuring more effective support of and assistance to the peoples of southern Africa in their struggle. First, all countries and peoples dedicated to the upholding of justice should give active support to the peoples of Zimbabwe, Azania and Namibia. Second, the colonial rule and savage policy of racial discrimination and apartheid of the régimes in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia were to be vigorously condemned; the South African authorities should be required immediately and unconditionally to terminate their illegal rule over Namibia and withdraw their troops, police and all administrative bodies from that Territory and both the South African authorities and those of Southern Rhodesia should be required immediately to put an end to their "internal settlement" schemes; the people of Namibia and Zimbabwe must be guaranteed the attainment of independence based on territorial integrity and unity free from any outside interference. Third, sanctions against the Southern Rhodesian authorities should be strengthened and the arms embargo against the South African authorities strictly implemented; her delegation supported the African countries' proposal to apply sanctions against the South African authorities in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter. Fourth, the competent bodies of the United Nations should scrupulously implement the General Assembly and Security Council resolutions on combating colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid and take all possible measures to give greater financial and material assistance to the national liberation movements of the peoples of southern Africa. Fifth, all countries and the United Nations Office of Public Information should take further measures to expose the crimes of racism, colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism so as to mobilize world opinion in strong support of the just struggle of the peoples of southern Africa. Sixth, various measures should be taken to support and assist victims of colonialism and apartheid in southern Africa.

15. The peoples of the world supported each other in their common struggles. The Chinese people had always looked on the just struggle of the peoples of southern Africa as a source of support to their own revolutionary cause and had given it whatever assistance they could. Her delegation was convinced that the peoples of southern Africa, through their persistent and united efforts, would overthrow the colonial system and win national liberation, thus eradicating the evil of racial discrimination.

16. Mr. YEPES-ENRIQUEZ (Ecuador) said that his country was proud of its mixed racial heritage, by virtue of which it was completely free of any concept of racial discrimination. It firmly supported the speedy granting of independence to peoples still under the colonial yoke, condemned all forms of racial discrimination and in particular the shameful policy of apartheid and was striving to make respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms a universal, effective and permanent practice. Ecuador had been among the first countries to ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the first Latin American State to ratify the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. Those texts had been made part of internal legislation and had therefore been given full legal force, although there had not yet arisen a single occasion on which either of them had had to be invoked. In accordance with

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(Mr. Yepes-Enriquez, Ecuador)

the relevant provisions of the first of those Conventions Ecuador was preparing to incorporate a new article in its Penal Code which would explicitly prohibit any racist activity or association promoting racial discrimination.

17. Ecuador condemned all forms of colonialism, neo-colonialism and racial discrimination and segregation and recognized the right of peoples to liberate themselves from oppressive racist systems. His delegation welcomed the valuable reports on the current situation with regard to self-determination submitted by the Special Rapporteurs, Mr. Cristescu and Mr. Gros Espiell (E/CN.4/Sub.2/404 and 405). It likewise supported the conclusions in the report in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/383/Rev.1 submitted by Mr. Khalifa in his capacity as a Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

18. With regard to the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, his delegation felt that the measures included in the Programme of Action adopted on that occasion were aimed at developing and implementing the goals of the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which had his country's full support. However, as stated at the thirtieth session of the General Assembly in connexion with the adoption of resolution 3379 (XXX), Ecuador had had reservations with regard to the declaration of Zionism as a form of racism and it maintained those reservations with regard to paragraph 18 of the Declaration and paragraphs 13 and 14 of the Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference, which ran counter to various provisions of its internal legislation. Subject to those reservations, his country had voted in favour of and would support both portions of the final document in accordance with its traditional policy of opposition to racism and racial discrimination.

19. Mrs. NAUCHA (Mongolia) said that the problem of the complete elimination of all forms of racial discrimination was considered a very important one in her country. For that reason, her delegation had vigorously supported the goals of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination from the outset and it was striving at both the national and international levels to promote the successful implementation of the Programme for the Decade.

20. Mongolia was a party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and the International Covenants on Human Rights. Her delegation actively supported United Nations resolutions on the struggles against racism, apartheid and racial discrimination, as well as Security Council and General Assembly resolutions calling for the complete isolation of the racist and colonial régimes of southern Africa. In Mongolia wide publicity was being given to measures carried out by the United Nations and other international organizations in connexion with the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and with International Anti-Apartheid Year.

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(Mrs. Naucha, Mongolia)

21. In accordance with its foreign policy, Mongolia supported the struggle of the peoples of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia for liberation and against the racist régimes. It consistently advocated the adoption of effective measures to eradicate all forms of colonialism, racism and racial discrimination, and favoured the application of decisive measures against the racist régimes in southern Africa.

22. Her Government recommended the implementation of the Final Acts of the World Conference for Action against Apartheid and the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, in both of which Conferences Mongolia had taken part. It likewise supported the proposals of the African countries concerning the application of effective sanctions against the racist régimes in southern Africa. Her delegation had frequently expressed the view that the existence of régimes whose governmental and social structure was based on dangerous and unscientific theories of the superiority of one race over another was a threat to the security not only of Africa but of the entire world. Their existence was incompatible with human ideals and with the goals and principles of the Charter. The racist régimes in South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia continued to exist thanks to the economic, financial and military aid and support given them by imperialist circles in a number of Western States. The reports in documents E/CN.4/Sub.2/383/Rev.1 and A/33/306 showed that the actions of transnational corporations of certain Western States and the military and economic co-operation of the United States, the United Kingdom, Israel and several other countries were major obstacles to progress toward the national and social independence of the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe and to their exercise of basic human rights. In their pursuit of ever greater profits the transnational corporations not only were not curtailing but were actually increasing their activities in southern Africa.

23. As a result of military co-operation with a number of Western States, the apartheid régime of South Africa was on the verge of acquiring nuclear weapons. It was not difficult to imagine the dangerous situation that could result if nuclear weapons were placed in its hands. Therefore the international community called for the total cessation of all forms of co-operation, particularly military, with the South African régime.

24. The task of uprooting racism and racial discrimination demanded further intensification of efforts on the part of the entire world community. All States should quickly ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, and should make every effort to implement the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

25. Mr. BYKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that United Nations bodies had clearly established that it was mainly the political, military, economic and other aid and support to racist and colonial régimes in southern Africa by certain Western States which enabled those régimes to continue to exist.



That aid and support encouraged the Pretoria and Salisbury régimes to intensify their mass repression against the peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa and to carry out aggression against the independent African States. Mr. Khalifa's report in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/383/Rev.1 contained new and convincing evidence of the nature and scope of the aid given by Western States, especially NATO members, to the Pretoria and Salisbury régimes. Moreover, especially close political, economic, military and other bonds were developing between South Africa and Israel. Such co-operation was aimed at perpetuating the racist colonial régimes in southern Africa, which allowed the monopolies freedom to exploit the region's natural and human resources and reap enormous profits thanks to the availability of cheap slave labour in the form of the indigenous work force. As the Special Rapporteur observed, that was hampering the efforts of the peoples concerned to change the system of apartheid.

26. The co-operation of the Western countries with the racist régimes in the political sphere took many forms: diplomatic and consular relations, trips by government officials, including the reception of leaders of the racist régimes, and opposition to United Nations resolutions calling on Member States to isolate and boycott those régimes.

27. In the military field, Mr. Khalifa's report and other United Nations documents gave evidence of the provision of various forms of weapons and military equipment by the Western countries and Israel to South Africa and Southern Rhodesia. Mercenaries recruited in a number of Western countries were constantly arriving in Pretoria and Salisbury to aid in suppressing national liberation movements.

28. In the economic sphere, co-operation by certain countries with the racist régimes was continuing to expand, as could be seen from paragraphs 64-105 and 135-295 of the report. The Special Rapporteur had noted in paragraph 280 that some countries, with unparalleled hypocrisy, had condemned the racist régimes in international forums while continuing to give them assistance of every kind.

29. The Soviet Union wholeheartedly supported the African peoples struggling against the vestiges of colonialism and racism in Africa and against neo-colonialism. Advocating strict observance of United Nations resolutions calling for the complete international isolation and the boycott of the racist régimes, the Soviet Union maintained no relations of any kind with those régimes. It condemned any support or aid given them for the purpose of perpetuating apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa. His delegation vigorously rejected the slanderous fabrications and insinuations put forward against the USSR. It consistently advocated the elimination of the racist régime in Rhodesia and the full transfer of power to the people of Zimbabwe as represented by the Patriotic Front. It called for the immediate and complete withdrawal from Namibia of South African forces and the transfer of power to SWAPO, the authentic representative of the people of that Territory, and it advocated the elimination of the system of apartheid in South Africa. In his delegation's view, the Assembly should adopt effective measures at the current session to end all ties with the racist régimes and to ensure the full isolation and boycott of those régimes.

30. Mr. SCBHY (Egypt) said that his delegation was among those which had helped prepare the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination in both the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and it had striven to bring about agreement between groups and delegations so that the Conference could adopt resolutions by consensus. It had hoped for a spirit of understanding, but it had been disappointed by the intransigent attitude of certain States which had seemingly had no desire to co-operate or negotiate in order to reach agreements acceptable to all. That posture had been adopted at a time when third world countries were prepared to make great efforts to reach agreement. The delegations which had withdrawn from the Conference had said that they objected to references to the Palestinian people in paragraphs 18 and 19 of the Declaration. However, the moderate wording of those paragraphs, which could also be found in many other United Nations resolutions, led his delegation to believe that the States which had withdrawn had in fact used those paragraphs as a pretext; the real reason was the Conference's condemnation of their co-operation with South Africa. They had tried to create a disturbance around another question in order to cover up the condemnation of their many-sided assistance to South Africa, which enabled the latter to continue pursuing its policy of racial discrimination and apartheid. That collaboration had become clearer every day and there was irrefutable proof of it in studies by international experts, some of which were before the Committee. His delegation would be interested to see the detailed list of firms and organizations dealing with South Africa which was to be prepared by Mr. Khalifa, Special Rapporteur on item 76. He pointed out that the criticisms of Mr. Khalifa's report had come only from States which carried on large-scale dealings with South Africa.

31. Despite all that had occurred at the World Conference, his delegation still hoped that all States, including those which had withdrawn or had not taken part, would work for the attainment of the goals of the Decade and the implementation of the Programme of Action. It supported all of the results and resolutions of the Conference, in particular the Declaration and Programme of Action.

32. Mr. NAGY (Hungary) said that one of the most pressing contemporary issues was the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, the most extreme manifestation of which was the apartheid system in southern Africa. Despite the nearly 200 resolutions, appeals and proclamations in which the United Nations had demanded the eradication of racism and had called upon its Members to sever all relations with South Africa, the leading imperialist Powers had refused to give up access to the fabulous mineral resources of the region, its cheap manpower and its strategic ports and had not ceased their attempts to stifle the struggle being waged by national liberation movements in the region. The imperialist Powers had supplied modern war matériel and maintained close economic contacts with the racist régimes, in flagrant violation of United Nations decisions calling for the isolation of those régimes. Those activities were one of the root causes of the delay in the establishment of black majority rule in southern Africa.

33. The visit to the United States by the head of the illegal racist régime of Southern Rhodesia was a further and deplorable example of a gross violation of the United Nations resolutions. It was absurd to suppose that a Government which could

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(Mr. Nagy, Hungary)

bring itself to endorse such a step could truly defend the interests of the black population of Southern Rhodesia and act as an impartial mediator in the effort to bring about just and effective black majority rule in that country.

34. The shameful practice and policy of racial discrimination was not confined to southern Africa; in the Middle East more than a million Arabs suffered atrocities, oppression and racial discrimination at the hands of the occupiers. It was notable that the racists in the Middle East received support from the same circles as did their racist equals and comrades-in-arms in South Africa.

35. The Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination were significant documents in the context of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which had the full and active support of the world's progressive forces. The two documents brought into focus the sanctions against the racist régimes and the modalities of their application and affirmed that the super-national status of the international monopolies was unacceptable and that Governments had the means to force such corporations to abandon their support of the racist régimes. The World Conference had provided additional proof as to which countries were unswervingly on the side of those who fought against racism. How could a State which had refused to participate in a conference on the fundamental human rights of millions of people reconcile its position with the human rights campaign which that same State loudly claimed to be pursuing? The Western countries whose representatives had not been present at the closing meeting of the Conference when the Declaration and Programme of Action were adopted were likewise in an anomalous position. The struggle against apartheid and all forms of racism could not be separated from the international anti-imperialist struggle and the world-wide struggle for the enjoyment of human rights.

36. The socialist countries and the majority of the developing countries representing the progressive-minded world had severed all economic and political contact with the racist régimes. At the same time they had provided and would continue to provide comprehensive political, moral and material assistance to the peoples of southern Africa struggling against apartheid and to the Palestinian people fighting against oppression until they had achieved their fundamental human rights and their right to effective independence and nationhood.

37. Mrs. ISA (Pakistan) said that the fact that the question of racial discrimination was repeatedly accorded priority in the Third Committee attested to the international community's concern over violations of human dignity and freedom. Pakistan had consistently opposed racism and had been among the very first States to sign - and the third to ratify - the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. One of the cardinal principles of Pakistan's foreign policy was its unqualified endorsement of the United Nations resolutions deploring the assistance provided to minority racist régimes in southern Africa. Urgent political action by Member States was needed to implement United Nations decisions on the subject. The report of the Special Rapporteur on item 76 identified in a precise

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(Mrs. Isa, Pakistan)

and logical fashion what the problems were and would help the Committee to persuade States and private organizations to desist from providing assistance to the minority racist régimes.

38. There was no place for racial discrimination in Islam. It followed that racial discrimination did not exist as a social phenomenon in Pakistan. There were no policies, laws or regulations which could conceivably be viewed as encouraging racial discrimination. On the contrary, the Government had implemented various resolutions adopted by the United Nations on the subject. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination had discussed Pakistan's fifth periodic report and commended Pakistan for scrupulous adherence to the Convention. The election of Mr. Aga Shahi, Advisor for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was a further manifestation of Pakistan's determination to promote the abolition of racial discrimination in every form.

39. Pakistan had participated in the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and supported its recommendations without reservation. It was firmly committed to support any action to combat racism, was rendering all possible assistance to victims of racism and racial discrimination, and would continue to do so until those evils were totally eliminated.

40. On the occasion of International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Pakistan's President had issued a message in which he had said it was the duty of the international community to seize that occasion to express its united will and to force the racist régimes in southern Africa to grant the African peoples their inalienable rights. He had gone on to say that belief in the equality of man was the cornerstone of Pakistan's faith and Pakistan had therefore been among the first to speak out against apartheid in the United Nations and considered it a sacred duty to provide tangible support to those who were engaged in the struggle against the forces of racial intolerance and exploitation. He had concluded by stating that the courage and dedication with which the oppressed peoples of southern Africa were carrying on their struggle for liberation had earned them world-wide respect and admiration; despite relentless persecution, their spirit remained unbroken and Pakistan saluted them for their indomitable will and reaffirmed its total commitment and support to their just cause.

41. Mrs. SAHGAL (India) said that the Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference provided a valuable plan for the remainder of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, comprising measures at the national, regional and international levels and relating not only to the oppressed majority of South Africa but also to migrant workers, indigenous peoples and immigrant communities. The President of the Conference had rightly stressed the role of seminars, studies, education and dissemination of information as constructive means of eliminating the virus of racism and racial discrimination. The conclusions and recommendations contained in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/383/Rev.1 also deserved close attention.

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(Mrs. Sahgal, India)

42. The barbarous conduct of the rulers of South Africa truly made that country a hell on earth, as the representative of China had said. Assistance provided to those rulers in the interests of making quick and easy profits must be assessed, exposed, condemned and stopped if a single step forward was to be taken in the now more than 30 years old fight against racism. The régimes of southern Africa had been repeatedly condemned by the whole civilized world. Yet how civilized could the world be called if countries admired for their rich contribution to civilization kept the nightmare in South Africa alive? And what would happen to that nightmare if such countries actually refused to support South Africa either openly or clandestinely? The argument that economic or other assistance to South Africa raised living standards for the whole population was shown to be false by the inhuman conditions in which the indigenous population still lived, despite South Africa's economic transformation since World War II, and the absence of any prospect, in the existing circumstances, that the black majority would be able to achieve even a modicum of decency, dignity, opportunity or simple justice. Until the air was cleared of dangerous untruths, no progress would be made in banishing the evil of apartheid.

43. The United Nations must review the existing economic sanctions against the Smith régime under Chapter VII of the Charter with a view to expanding and tightening them. The well-documented Bingham Report published in the United Kingdom had shown how oil had been reaching Zimbabwe ever since its unilateral declaration of independence and especially since 1968. Her delegation had made a proposal in the Security Council in November 1977 regarding means of preventing petroleum and petroleum products from reaching Rhodesia. With regard to South Africa too, it would support any measures to impose and to ensure the stringent implementation of economic sanctions, including a comprehensive oil embargo. She welcomed the mandatory arms embargo, but the revocation of existing licences for the manufacture of arms, spare parts and related equipment in South Africa was essential to make the embargo effective.

44. An important way in which Member States could take effective action would be to support national liberation movements in their struggle against the racist régimes. In many resolutions, most recently in resolution 32/105, the General Assembly had stated the view that the national liberation movement had an inalienable right to continue its struggle for the seizure of power by all available and appropriate means of its choice, including armed struggle. It was the duty of Member States to render all possible help to the people of southern Africa in their struggle and India pledged its continued commitment to that endeavour.

45. Mr. NTAKIBIRORA (Burundi), speaking on behalf of the African group, pointed out that the English version of draft resolution A/C.3/33/L.15 issued that morning did not conform with the agreed translation or with the French version issued by the Secretariat. Paragraph 12 of the preamble had been omitted and the content of operative paragraph 12 had been inserted in its place. His delegation was aware that the Secretariat had a very heavy workload but felt that greater care should be exercised in the preparation of documents in order to avoid any misunderstanding.

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46. Mr. SANON (Deputy Director, Division of Human Rights) said that the Secretariat was indeed faced with a very heavy workload and explained that the error pointed out by the representative of Burundi was due entirely to a technical difficulty; there had been no intention to delete any element of the text. The Russian version had also been affected by the technical error in question, and efforts were already underway to rectify the versions affected and check the draft in each language. The document would be reissued in all of the languages affected under the same symbol, with a foot-note indicating that it was being reissued for technical reasons. An effort would be made to avoid any such discrepancies in the future.

47. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that draft resolution A/C.3/33/L.14 also contained a typographical error: the first word in operative paragraph 3 should be "commends" rather than "commands".

48. Mr. MOLAPO (President, World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination) said that he had intended to remain until the end of the Committee's debate but had been recalled to Lesotho and was unfortunately obliged to leave the following day. Although there had been certain points of disagreement, he was confident that the Committee would find it possible to focus upon points of agreement in the common endeavour of the United Nations against racism and racial discrimination. He had observed that none of the statements made in the Committee had rejected what he considered to be the points of agreement. He urged the Committee to focus on those points and take measures to alleviate the plight of all those suffering from the evils of racism and racial discrimination, who had committed no crime save that of being of the wrong colour or the wrong race. The Committee should lend its support to the recommendations of the World Conference. It would be a cause of the greatest satisfaction for his country if the results of the World Conference were in fact to bring the world closer to the objective of eliminating racism and racial discrimination. He appealed in particular to the representatives of African Member States to lend their support to the results of the World Conference, for it was Africa which was most plagued by the crime of racism and it was therefore the responsibility of the African States above all to free the world of that evil.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.