



REPORT
OF THE *AD HOC* COMMITTEE
ON THE DRAFTING
OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
AGAINST *APARTHEID* IN SPORTS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 36 (A/32/36)

UNITED NATIONS



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/10 November 1977/

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

10 November 1977

Sir,

I have the honour to send you herewith the report adopted on 10 November 1977 by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against Apartheid in Sports.

This report is submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 31/6 F of 9 November 1976.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Leslie O. HARRIMAN
Chairman of the
Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of
an International Convention against
Apartheid in Sports

His Excellency
Mr. Kurt Waldheim
Secretary-General
of the United Nations
New York

REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE DRAFTING OF
AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST APARTHEID IN
SPORTS

1. The Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against Apartheid in Sports was established by the General Assembly under resolution 31/6 F of 9 November 1976 in which the Assembly, inter alia, requested the Ad Hoc Committee:

(a) To prepare a draft declaration on apartheid in sports, as an interim measure, and to submit it to the Assembly at its thirty-second session;

(b) To undertake preparatory steps towards the drafting of an international convention against apartheid in sports and to report thereon to the Assembly at its thirty-second session.

2. The General Assembly decided that the Ad Hoc Committee should be composed of the existing members of the Special Committee against Apartheid and seven other Member States to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly on the basis of equitable geographical distribution.

3. In a communication dated 27 January 1977, the President of the General Assembly informed the Secretary-General that he had appointed Barbados, Burma, Canada, the Congo, Jamaica, the United Republic of Tanzania and Yugoslavia members of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against Apartheid in Sports (A/31/474). Subsequently, the President of the General Assembly was informed that Burma would be unable to serve on the Committee (A/31/474/Add.1).

4. Pending the appointment of a new member, the Ad Hoc Committee was therefore composed of the following member States:

Algeria, Barbados, Canada, Congo, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Malaysia, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, United Republic of Tanzania and Yugoslavia.

5. The Ad Hoc Committee held three meetings, from 4 May to 10 November 1977.

6. At its 1st meeting, on 4 May, the Ad Hoc Committee unanimously elected Mr. Leslie O. Harriman (Nigeria) as its Chairman, Mr. Donald Blackman (Barbados) and Mr. Riad Siage (Syrian Arab Republic) as Vice-Chairmen, and Mrs. Lucille Mair (Jamaica) as Rapporteur.

7. At the same meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee decided that the representatives of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the two South African liberation movements recognized by OAU - the African National Congress and the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania - be granted observer status in the Committee similar to that they enjoy in the Special Committee against Apartheid.

8. At that meeting, the Committee set up a working group to draw up a draft international declaration against apartheid in sports. The Working Group was composed as follows:

Barbados, Canada, India, Jamaica, Nigeria, Somalia, Syrian Arab Republic and Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Mrs. Lucille Mair (Jamaica) was elected Chairman/Rapporteur of the Working Group. A number of other representatives, including the representative of OAU, attended the meetings of the Working Group. The Working Group held 12 meetings to prepare the draft Declaration. The Group submitted its proposals to the Ad Hoc Committee on 10 August 1977.

9. The Ad Hoc Committee considered that the proposals contained in the draft Declaration would contribute significantly as an interim measure towards the total boycott of racially selected South African teams. However, it wished to emphasize the need for the adoption of an International Convention against Apartheid in Sports, as called for in General Assembly resolution 31/6 F, which would include the principles of the Declaration.

10. In that connexion, it recommended that the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee should be extended so that the Committee would be able to undertake the drafting of an International Convention against Apartheid in Sports and report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session.

11. In order to fulfil its task, the Ad Hoc Committee further recommended that the General Assembly should authorize that the Committee be provided with summary records of its meetings and that the Secretary-General should be requested to provide the necessary staff resources.

12. At its 3rd meeting, on 10 November, the Ad Hoc Committee considered the proposals of the Working Group and decided to submit the draft Declaration (see annex) to the General Assembly for its consideration.

ANNEX

Draft International Declaration against Apartheid in Sports

The General Assembly,

(1) Recalling the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, in which Member States pledge to take joint and separate action in co-operation with the Organization for the achievement of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

(2) Considering the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a/ which states that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in the Declaration without distinction of any kind such as race, colour or national origin,

(3) Recalling that, in accordance with the principles of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, b/ States undertake not to sponsor, defend or support racial discrimination,

(4) Recalling further that the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid c/ declares that apartheid is a crime violating the principles of international law, in particular the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and constituting a serious threat to international peace and security,

(5) Noting that the General Assembly of the United Nations has adopted a number of resolutions in which the policies and practices of apartheid, including the application of apartheid in the field of sport, and collaboration with the racist régime in all areas, are condemned,

(6) Reaffirming the legitimacy of the struggle of the people of South Africa for the total elimination of apartheid and racial discrimination,

(7) Recognizing that the eradication of apartheid and rendering of assistance to the South African people to establish a non-racial society is one of the primary concerns of the international community,

(8) Convinced that more effective measures must be taken as a matter of priority, during the International Anti-Apartheid Year and the Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, to eliminate apartheid in all its manifestations,

a/ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

b/ General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

c/ General Assembly resolution 3068 (XXVIII), annex.

(9) Reaffirming its unqualified support for the Olympic principle that no discrimination be allowed on the grounds of race, religion or political affiliation and its belief that merit should be the sole criterion for participation in sports activities,

(10) Considering that international representative sporting contacts based on the Olympic principle can play a positive role in promoting peace and the development of friendly relations among nations of the world,

(11) Recognizing that there can be neither adherence to the principle of merit selection nor fully integrated non-racial sport in any country practising apartheid until the apartheid system itself is eradicated,

(12) Condemning the enforcement, by the racist régime of South Africa, of racial discrimination and segregation in sports,

(13) Commending the sportsmen inside South Africa who are struggling against apartheid and upholding the principle of non-racialism in sport,

(14) Condemning the repressive measures taken by the racist apartheid régime against the non-racial sports bodies and their leaders in South Africa,

(15) Rejecting the policy of so-called "multinational" sport, enunciated by the South African racist régime, as no more than a device for perpetuating apartheid in sports and an attempt by the régime to mislead international public opinion in order to gain acceptance for participation in international sport,

(16) Recognizing the importance in the international campaign against apartheid of the boycott of South African sports teams selected on the basis of apartheid,

(17) Convinced that an effective campaign for the total boycott of South African sports teams can be an important measure in demonstrating the abhorrence of apartheid by Governments and peoples,

(18) Commending all Governments, sportsmen, sports bodies and other organizations which have taken action against apartheid in sports,

(19) Noting with concern that some national and international sports bodies have continued contacts with racist apartheid sports bodies in violation of the Olympic principle and resolutions of the United Nations,

(20) Recognizing that participation in sports exchanges with teams selected on the basis of apartheid violates the fundamental human rights of the great majority of the people of South Africa and directly abets and encourages the commission of the crime of apartheid, as defined in the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, and encourages the racist régime in its pursuit of apartheid,

(21) Condemning sports contacts with any country practising apartheid and recognizing that participation in apartheid in sports condones and strengthens apartheid and thereby becomes the legitimate concern of all Governments,

(22) Convinced that an international declaration against apartheid in sports would make it possible to take more effective measures at the international and national levels, with a view to completely isolating and eliminating apartheid,

Proclaims this International Declaration against Apartheid in Sports:

Article 1

States affirm and support this Declaration as an expression of international condemnation of apartheid and as a measure to contribute towards the total eradication of the system of apartheid, and to this end resolve to take strong action and to exert the greatest possible influence in order to ensure the total elimination of apartheid in sports.

Article 2

States shall take all appropriate action to bring about the total cessation of sporting contacts with any country practising apartheid and shall refrain from official sponsorship, assistance or encouragement of such contacts.

Article 3

States shall take all appropriate action towards the exclusion or expulsion of any country practising apartheid from international and regional sports bodies. They shall give full support to national sports bodies attempting to exclude such countries from membership of international and regional sports associations, or to prevent such countries from participation in sports activities.

Article 4

1. States shall publicly declare and express total opposition to apartheid in sports, as well as full and active support for the total boycott of all teams and sportsmen from the racist apartheid sports bodies.
2. States shall pursue a vigorous programme of public education aimed at securing strict adherence to the Olympic principle of non-discrimination in sports and widespread national acceptance for the spirit and letter of United Nations resolutions on apartheid in sports.
3. Sports bodies shall be actively encouraged to withhold any support from sporting events organized in violation of the Olympic principle and United Nations resolutions. To this end, States shall convey the United Nations resolutions on apartheid in sports to all national sports bodies urging them:

(a) To disseminate such information to all their affiliates and branches;

(b) To take all necessary action to ensure strict compliance with those resolutions.

Article 5

States shall take appropriate actions against their sporting teams and organizations whose members collectively or individually participate in sports activities in any country practising apartheid or with teams from a country practising apartheid, which in particular shall include:

- (a) Refusal to provide financial or other assistance to enable sports bodies, teams or individuals to participate in sports activities in countries practising apartheid or with teams and individual sportsmen selected on the basis of apartheid;
- (b) Refusal to provide financial or other assistance for any purpose to sports bodies whose team members or affiliates participate in such sporting activities;
- (c) Withdrawal of access to national sporting facilities to such teams or individuals;
- (d) Non-recognition by States of all professional sporting contracts which involve sporting activities in any country practising apartheid, or with teams or individual sportsmen selected on the basis of apartheid;
- (e) Denial and withdrawal of national honours or awards to such teams or individuals;
- (f) Denial of official receptions to teams or sportsmen participating in sports activities with teams or individual sportsmen from any country practising apartheid.

Article 6

States shall deny visas and/or entry to representatives of sports bodies, members of teams or individual sportsmen from any country practising apartheid.

Article 7

States shall establish national regulations and guidelines against participation with apartheid in sports and shall ensure that effective means exist for bringing about compliance with such guidelines.

Article 8

States shall co-operate with anti-apartheid movements and other organizations which are engaged in promoting the implementation of the principles of this Declaration.

Article 9

States undertake to encourage actively and publicly all official bodies, private enterprises and other groups engaged in promoting, organizing or servicing

sports activities to refrain from undertaking any action which in any way supports, assists or enables the organization of activities involving apartheid in sports.

Article 10

States shall urge all their regional, provincial and other authorities to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure the strict compliance with the provisions of this Declaration.

Article 11

States agree to use their best endeavours to terminate the practice of apartheid in sports in accordance with the principles contained in this Declaration and, to this end, States agree to work towards the prompt preparation and adoption of an international convention on apartheid in sports based on the principles contained in this Declaration which would include sanctions for violation of its terms.

Article 12

1. States and international, regional and national sports bodies shall actively support projects, undertaken in collaboration with the Organization of African Unity and the South African liberation movements recognized by it towards the formation of non-racial teams truly representative of South Africa.
2. To this end, States and all appropriate organizations shall encourage, assist and recognize genuine non-racial sports bodies in South Africa endorsed by the Special Committee against Apartheid, the Organization of African Unity and the South African liberation movements recognized by it.
3. They shall also give active support to sportsmen and sports administrators in their opposition to apartheid in sports.

Article 13

International, regional and national sports bodies shall uphold the Olympic principle and cease all sports contact with the racist apartheid sports bodies.

Article 14

International sporting bodies shall not impose financial or other penalties on affiliated bodies which, in accordance with United Nations resolutions and the spirit of the Olympic Charter, refuse to participate in sports contact with any country practising apartheid.

Article 15

National sports bodies shall take appropriate action to persuade their international federation to exclude racist apartheid sports bodies from membership and from all international activities.

Article 16

All national Olympic committees shall declare their opposition to apartheid in sports, and to sports contact with South Africa, and shall actively encourage all affiliates and constituent members to end all sports contact with South Africa.

Article 17

The provisions of this Declaration concerning the boycott of South African sports teams shall not apply to non-racial sports bodies endorsed by the Special Committee against Apartheid, the Organization of African Unity and the South African liberation movements recognized by it and their members.

Article 18

All international, regional, national sports bodies and Olympic committees shall perse the principles of this Declaration and support and uphold all provision_ contained therein.

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