

*United Nations*  
**GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY**

**THIRTY-NINTH SESSION**

*Official Records\**



DEC 19 1984

THIRD COMMITTEE  
57th meeting  
held on  
Monday, 3 December 1984  
at 3 p.m.  
New York

**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 57th MEETING**

Chairman: Mr. MADAR (Somalia)

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/C.3/39/SR.57  
6 December 1984  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 99: TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT: REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/C.3/39/L.40, L.49, L.50, L.62, L.63, L.64, L.66, L.67, L.68)

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AGENDA ITEM 98: INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS (continued) (A/C.3/39/L.48, L.69, L.70)

1. Mr. SALAND (Sweden), speaking on agenda item 99, thanked the Netherlands delegation and the Chairman of the Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights for their tireless efforts to promote the adoption of a convention against torture, with which the Nordic countries had been closely associated. It was time, by adopting that convention, for the Member States of the United Nations to prove their sincerity in promoting human rights.

2. The CHAIRMAN announced that three delegations had requested that consideration of draft resolutions A/C.3/39/L.48, L.55 and L.70 should be postponed to a later date. He pointed out that the other resolutions would be discussed separately and delegations wishing to explain their vote could do so either before the vote or after the Committee had completed consideration of all the draft resolutions submitted under an item; in a single statement they could explain their vote on the various draft resolutions under that item.

3. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to proceed in that manner.

4. It was so decided.

Draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.51 (agenda item 95)

5. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the draft resolution had no financial implications for the programme budget.

6. Mrs. DOWNING (Secretary of the Committee) announced that Canada and Ivory Coast had become co-sponsors of the draft.

7. Draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.51 was adopted without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.46 (agenda item 96)

8. The CHAIRMAN said that the draft resolution had no financial implications for the programme budget.

9. Draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.46 was adopted without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.65 (agenda item 96)

10. The CHAIRMAN said that the draft resolution had no financial implications for the programme budget.

11. A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.3/39.L.65.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

12. Draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.65 was adopted by 100 votes to none, with 20 abstentions.

13. Mr. ALI (Somalia) and Mr. MOHAMED (Sudan) said that if they had been present during the voting on draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.65, they would have voted for it.

Draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.57 (agenda item 97)

14. The CHAIRMAN said that the draft resolution had no financial implications for the programme budget.

15. Mrs. DOWNING (Secretary of the Committee) pointed out that owing to a typographical error, the name of Yemen had been omitted from the list of sponsors at the beginning of document A/C.3/39/L.57. She also announced that Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Senegal and Venezuela had become co-sponsors of the draft.

16. Draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.57 was adopted without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.69 (agenda item 98)

17. The CHAIRMAN said that the draft had no financial implications for the programme budget.

18. Mrs. LUND (Norway) said that the sponsors had made a slight change in the first line of operative paragraph 14 by deleting the word "again" after "Urges" and inserting the words "continue to" before "expedite" in order to take into account the work done since the adoption of a resolution at the last General Assembly requesting the Secretary-General to expedite the publication of official documents.

19. Mrs. KOZAKOU-MARCOULLIS (Cyprus) pointed out that an "s" should be added to "Covenant" in the heading of draft resolution just below the list of sponsors in the English text.

20. Draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.69 was adopted without a vote.

21. Mrs. MOIZ (Pakistan), supported by Miss EMARA (Egypt), asked whether delegations could be told a little in advance at what meeting the Committee would be voting on draft resolutions.

22. The CHAIRMAN said he would take her request under advisement.

23. Mrs. WARZAZI (Morocco) said that, in order to expedite the Committee's work, she would like to comment on draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.68, submitted by the delegation of Iran under agenda item 99, which the Committee was to consider on Wednesday, 5 December. She emphasized that for the first time in the many years during which she had repeatedly demonstrated her respect for the positions of all delegations, she felt compelled to be firm about a draft resolution. Her delegation had received draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.68 with very mixed feelings. Apart from the fact that some of the terms used were all but unintelligible, it was the view of her delegation that torture, whether inflicted by primitive or ultramodern means, was still an act not to be deplored but to be condemned and that the country submitting a draft resolution on the subject should itself be wholly above reproach in that respect. Last October, the Commission on Human Rights had appointed a Special Representative to determine whether torture was practised in Iran. In the circumstances, the Committee should defer any decision on the question until he had submitted his findings. She therefore called on Iran to withdraw its draft resolution. Otherwise, she would be obliged to introduce a

(Mrs. Warzazi, Morocco)

motion, in accordance with the Committee's rules of procedure, proposing that the Committee should not vote on the draft resolution.

24. Mr. MIRAFZAL (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that the Moroccan delegation was not entitled to comment on draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.68, which would be taken up in due course and on the scheduled date.

The meeting rose at 4.20 p.m.