

(g) of the draft programme, following the adoption of the Declaration concerning the Policy of *Apartheid* of the Republic of South Africa and the ILO Programme for the Elimination of *Apartheid* in Labour Matters in the Republic of South Africa by the International Labour Conference in 1964, the Director-General submitted an annual report to the Conference on the application of the Declaration. That activity would continue throughout the Decade.

54. With regard to measures concerning education, training and information, referred to in paragraph 16 of the draft programme, in 1968 the ILO had published, in several languages, a workers' education manual entitled *Fighting Discrimination in Employment and Occupation*. The ILO would, of course, be prepared to examine the possibility of furnishing texts, documents or other materials for incorporation in the United Nations documents or programmes. With regard to the suggestion contained in paragraph 17 of the draft programme that the General Assembly should establish an international fund on a voluntary basis to help the people's struggle against racial discrimination and

apartheid, the ILO agreed that the creation of such a fund would certainly be an asset and would help to finance activities not provided for under its regular budget. With regard to the annual reports mentioned in paragraph 18(b), it should be noted that in fact the ILO already furnished an annual memorandum to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

55. In conclusion he wished to mention that the ILO had always been willing to co-operate fully with the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and looked forward with confidence to the further development of that working relationship during the Decade.

56. The CHAIRMAN suggested that as it was not yet 6 p.m. the informal working group should meet when the Committee rose in order to study the presentation of a draft resolution, and he urged the delegations to participate in the work of that group.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.

1984th meeting

Tuesday, 2 October 1973, at 3.15 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Yahya MAHMASSANI (Lebanon).

A/C.3/SR.1984

AGENDA ITEM 53

Elimination of all forms of racial discrimination (*continued*) (A/9003, chaps. XXIII, sect. A.1 and A.2 and XXX, sect. B; A/9094 and Corr.1 and Add.1, A/9095, A/9139, A/9177, A/C.3/L.1995):

(a) Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*continued*) (A/9003, chaps. XXIII, sect. A.1 and XXX, sect. B; A/9094 and Corr.1 and Add.1, A/9177, A/C.3/L.1995)

GENERAL DEBATE (*continued*)

1. Mrs. MANDARA (United Republic of Tanzania) said that her country was in the vanguard of the struggle against racism, *apartheid* and racial discrimination and, as one of the countries behind the initiative, fully supported the idea of a Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. The United Republic of Tanzania would not rest until all traces of racial discrimination were eradicated from the African continent and the entire world. The first step it had taken as an independent country had been to abolish all colonial government policies based on race, such as the maintenance of separate schools, hospitals and public places for Africans, Asians and Europeans. The external service of Radio Tanzania, which had been started in 1962, devoted 8 of its 18 hours of daily broadcasting to the struggle against human injustice in the form in which it was practised in South Africa, Rhodesia, Namibia and the Portuguese colonies. Radio Tanzania broadcast in six African languages of the oppressed peoples of southern Africa, as well as English. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Republic of Tanzania had

invited the information services of the United Nations to use the facilities of Radio Tanzania as a contribution of that country to the fight against racism. The Committee might wish to give that proposal favourable consideration with a view to strengthening the service with the co-operation of the United Nations. The offices of the liberation movements of the oppressed peoples of South Africa, Rhodesia, Namibia and the Portuguese colonies were situated in Dar es Salaam, the capital of the United Republic of Tanzania, and all the commemorative dates of the liberation movements were very actively celebrated in her country.

2. The resolutions and conventions which reflected the unceasing efforts of the United Nations were not enough to halt racism and racial discrimination. Member States and parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination should address themselves to the problem of fighting racism; accordingly, a Decade for serious and concrete action was very welcome. It was to be hoped that by the end of the Decade racism and racial discrimination would have been diminished significantly, if not wiped out completely.

3. With regard to the special committee, to which reference was made in paragraph 18(a) of the draft programme for the Decade (A/9094 and Corr.1, annex I), her delegation supported its establishment for the purpose of co-ordinating the programmes and evaluating activities during the Decade, and recommended that it should be a committee of experts.

4. While the United Nations tirelessly adopted resolutions and conventions against racism, *apartheid* and racial discrimination, some countries that were mem-

bers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) continued to give moral, material and military support to the racist régimes of South Africa, Rhodesia and Portugal, without which those régimes would not have been able to survive, let alone flout world opinion. Her delegation condemned such fraternization with the racists and appealed to those countries to serve humanity by refraining from giving any kind of support to the racists, in deeds as well as words. The Decade should be a decade of concrete action to combat racism and racial discrimination, in which the population of the world learned that all men were equal and that any action that conflicted with the equality of men was to be condemned and fought until justice and peace had been achieved.

5. Mrs. KARPENKO (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the question of racial discrimination was one of the most important items on the Committee's agenda. The Byelorussian SSR supported all those who were fighting against racism and racial discrimination, a stand which derived from the principles on which the structure of the Soviet State was based. The racists were committing atrocious crimes, the most recent of which had been the assassination of Cabral and the destruction of an entire village in Mozambique, and those crimes must not go unpunished. At the same time, the responsibility must be shared by the member States of NATO which were giving open support to the colonialist régimes. At the International Trade Union Conference against *Apartheid*, held at Geneva in June 1973, 130 countries, representing 180 million inhabitants, had urged the United Nations to apply compulsory measures against South Africa. The International Conference of Experts for the Support of Victims of Colonialism and *Apartheid* in Southern Africa, held at Oslo in April 1973, had been attended by representatives of 62 countries and of the national liberation movements of Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Zimbabwe and Namibia, and the report of that Conference (see A/9061) contained very useful recommendations. Moreover, the Fourth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Algeria in September, had devoted attention to the situation of those peoples and had emphasized the need for co-operation with those who opposed colonialism and neo-colonialism. Two weeks earlier, Guinea-Bissau had been proclaimed a Republic, and her delegation wished it success on the road to national and social progress.

6. The Byelorussian SSR did not share the pessimism expressed in paragraph 5 of the draft programme for the Decade, which spoke of "frustrations and disappointments", and she proposed that that passage should be deleted or replaced by the following wording: "The United Nations is convinced that international détente will help to consolidate and promote national, regional and international efforts to eliminate colonialism, *apartheid*, racism and racial discrimination."

7. On the other hand, her delegation fully supported the measures at the national, international and regional levels proposed in paragraph 12 and 13 of the draft programme. However, paragraph 12 (a) (i) contained the term "perpetuate", which was inappropriate. Accordingly, she proposed the following wording for that paragraph: "No support being given in the political,

economic, military, cultural or other fields to régimes which practise *apartheid*, racism and colonialism". Furthermore, with a view to broadening the scope of paragraph 10, she proposed the insertion after the words "religion and language," of the following words: "political or other opinion, national or social origin, personal fortune or social class".

8. With regard to the proposal, in paragraph 18, that a special committee should assume responsibility for the task of co-ordination and evaluation, she considered that that function could be entrusted to the Economic and Social Council, which would submit an annual report to the General Assembly on the matter and also serve as a preparatory committee for the 1978 conference.

9. Mr. KEITA (Guinea) said that his delegation attached great importance to the question under consideration. Its inclusion as a priority item in the agenda of the Third Committee demonstrated the concern of the entire international community over that problem, which was growing throughout the world despite the manifold efforts of the United Nations against racial discrimination. *Apartheid* had become a State political system in southern Africa, especially in South Africa and Rhodesia. Because of their colour, African workers and miners were murdered in those countries for requesting a decent and fair minimum wage. The Governments of South Africa and Portugal would have to answer to world opinion for their crime of genocide. A few months earlier, the world had learned with horror of the wave of racial repression unleashed against African workers in western Europe. In France, dozens of them had fallen victim to the knives or bullets of the racists. In view of that recrudescence of racial hatred, the Government of Guinea, which was a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and an active member of the Special Committee on *Apartheid*, could only welcome the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

10. Generally speaking, his delegation approved of the proposals in the draft programme for the Decade. Like other delegations, it wished to stress the need for the ratification and full implementation of the instruments and decisions of the United Nations. It supported the idea of holding a world conference, and thought that non-governmental organizations, which had an important part to play in the dissemination of information, should co-operate closely with the United Nations in the organization of that conference. Seminars organized jointly by the United Nations, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations would be decisive factors in the Decade. His delegation hoped that the Division of Human Rights would obtain the necessary financial resources to improve its efficiency in that sphere, which had been seriously hampered by a shortage of funds. He further suggested that the programme of the proposed special committee should come within the purview of the Special Committee on *Apartheid*, since it largely coincided with the latter's activities. In that way additional financial implications would be avoided and the effectiveness of existing programmes would be enhanced.

11. Mrs. BONENFANT (Canada) said that her country was in agreement with the aims and objectives of the draft programme for the Decade and supported the

measures outlined for achieving them, since they were specific enough to yield concrete results and general enough to ensure the flexibility of implementation required by the great economic, political, social and cultural diversity of the peoples that made up the United Nations. However, an attempt should be made to ensure that the flexibility of the programme did not encourage excessive disparity in the efforts of different countries to implement it.

12. Although the draft programme was very broad, it could not anticipate all eventualities that might arise during the Decade. Her delegation thought, therefore, that a review of the programme should be made after a few years, and might be timed to coincide with the world conference which, according to the draft, would be held half-way through the Decade. At the same time it was important to emphasize the continuing nature of the struggle against racism and racial discrimination in all its forms.

13. The draft programme said little about the efforts already deployed by the specialized agencies, particularly the ILO and UNESCO, and her delegation considered that the General Assembly should invite those agencies to participate more actively in the preparations for the Decade.

14. The programme for the Decade was already being implemented in Canada, where it had aroused keen interest. Many of the proposed national measures had already been covered by legislation or administrative decisions. In the socio-economic, cultural and political field, Canada had, in 1970, ratified the international Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and the Federal Government had adopted the Canadian Bill of Rights and the Fair Employment Practices Statute and had prohibited hate propaganda. In addition, all the Canadian provinces and the two territories had passed anti-discrimination laws, particularly in the areas of employment, housing and public services. Most of the provinces had also set up human rights commissions that were responsible for supervising the implementation of such laws and, in general, for elaborating information, education and research programmes.

15. Mention should also be made of other positive activities designed to foster better understanding between the diverse groups that made up the Canadian mosaic. Those included programmes stressing the wealth of racial and cultural diversity and the values of the various groups of the population. In her delegation's view, the draft programme for the Decade did not attribute sufficient importance to that kind of positive action or to the role of research. In that connexion, priority attention should be given to the proposal to include the subject of human rights in teaching programmes. At the same time, information media should be utilized to the full in order to educate the public, and it would be advisable to encourage research on the effect of communications media on the spread of prejudice and the development of discriminatory attitudes and to take appropriate action on the basis of those findings.

16. With regard to the holding of seminars, conferences and other similar activities, her delegation believed that they should always have a practical orientation. Meetings might be organized to enable Member

States to exchange experience and agree on arrangements for concerted action. The programme for the Decade should also provide for exchanges between nationals of Member States; the possibility of such exchanges was not mentioned in the draft programme, although it offered considerable opportunities for better understanding and greater co-operation between nations.

17. Furthermore, while steps should be taken to ensure the widest possible dissemination of the results of research and study, every effort should be made to avoid the duplication or proliferation of reports to be submitted by Member States either to the United Nations or to the specialized agencies. Her delegation also suggested that a periodical bulletin on measures taken at all levels during the Decade should be distributed to Member States.

18. The Decade was geared mainly to one area of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, namely the elimination of racism and racial discrimination. Canada was concerned over the possibility that other forms of discrimination, especially discrimination on the grounds of sex, religion and social origin, would not be accorded due attention during the following 10 years. It was important that all forms of discrimination as defined by the Universal Declaration should be combated by Member States.

19. Miss ILIĆ (Yugoslavia) observed that her delegation had already expressed its support for the draft programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (A/9094 and Corr.1, annex I), and had only a few comments to make on the salient points of the programme. With regard to co-ordination machinery, referred to in paragraph 18 of the draft, she believed that the Economic and Social Council should be entrusted with the task of co-ordinating activities during the Decade. If the majority of the Committee's members felt that, because of the importance of that task, the Social Committee of the Council should meet as a special committee, her delegation would support that idea.

20. With regard to the international fund, proposed in paragraph 17, her delegation was of the opinion that the essence of United Nations action for the eradication of colonialism and racism lay in extending all possible political and material assistance to the liberation movements, as the sole and authentic representatives of their peoples. Accordingly, it supported that proposal in the draft programme. Her delegation also supported the convening of a world conference, as proposed in paragraph 13 (a) of the programme, which could also undertake a mid-Decade review and appraisal.

21. The other activities proposed in the draft programme warranted equal support, particularly the activities designed to secure maximum publicity for the Decade at the national, regional and international levels—a goal that was essential to its success. The unanimous adoption of the proposed programme for the Decade and its prompt implementation would contribute substantially to the eradication of the evils and inhuman policies and practices of racial discrimination.

22. Mr. MIKOLAJ (Czechoslovakia) said that Czechoslovakia had always been in the vanguard of the fight against racism, and had always provided moral

and material assistance to the peoples struggling against oppression and racist and colonialist régimes; it also maintained no diplomatic, trade, cultural or other relations with the racist régimes of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia. The Czechoslovak educational system eliminated anything that might lead to racism, racial prejudice or racial discrimination; cultural exchanges, visits by young people, sportsmen and foreign students, and study courses for nationals of Asian, African and Latin American countries had become a regular custom in Czechoslovakia. The information media had always attached great importance to the struggle of the peoples against racial discrimination, racism and racial prejudice—concepts which were completely alien to the Czechoslovak people, who naturally opposed them, having been subjected to racist ideology and the practices of fascism during the Second World War.

23. With regard to the draft programme for the Decade, his delegation considered it unnecessary to establish a new committee, as was proposed in paragraph 18. In its view, it would be much more effective to use the organs which had already been established. Moreover, the financial implications stated in document A/C.3/L.1995 could not be disregarded.

24. Mr. ROUX (Belgium) said he shared the views on the defence and protection of human rights expressed by Mr. Morris Abram, former United States representative in the Commission on Human Rights and President of Brandeis University, in an article published in the January 1969 issue of *Foreign Affairs*. In that article, Mr. Abram observed, *inter alia*, that member nations must come closer to one another in terms of their human rights values, and must take more seriously their paper commitments. That meant, for the West, more conscientious co-operation in solving the economic problems of the poorer nations, and in helping them to develop their economies and raise their living standards, and more committed co-operation with efforts to end the vestigial colonialism in southern Africa. For the communist nations and many nations of Africa and Asia, it meant greater acceptance of the civil and political freedoms of traditional concern to the West. If catastrophe was to be averted, the domestic and foreign policies of all the Western nations must give top priority to the elimination of white racism, both inside and outside their borders; that goal must be pursued on a continuing, long-range basis, and not merely as a reaction to individual crises. At the same time, the non-white nations must recognize that decolonization and the eradication of *apartheid* in Africa were not the only human rights issues meriting world attention. They must be prepared to give ear to other problems in other lands which concerned deprivations of human rights and also to broaden their concept of discrimination to encompass more than racial issues alone. The Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination appeared to correspond to the ideas expressed by Mr. Abram.

25. His delegation believed that racism and racial discrimination were the phenomena that could do the greatest damage to the democratic principles which the Western countries professed to apply. It would be recalled that racism and racial discrimination had been among the major causes of the Second World War. Moreover, it should be recognized that racism and racial discrimination did not always elicit the same indignation and were not always as severely castigated as

violations of other human rights. In most cases, manifestations of racial discrimination only sparked off sporadic protests. The adoption of more effective anti-racist legislation was thus important, but not sufficient. It was also necessary to ensure that customs did not hamper the application of laws. In that respect, the private associations and non-governmental organizations that were fighting against the various manifestations of racism were rendering society an irreplaceable service by seeking to ensure that attitudes, customs and usage were brought into line with the law, which would otherwise remain a dead letter. Such private organizations encouraged, prompted and induced the public authorities to safeguard non-economic interests, particularly in the case of racial justice and equality.

26. With regard to the draft programme for the Decade (A/9094 and Corr.1, annex I), his delegation attached special importance to two issues. Firstly, it was essential for public opinion to be made more aware of the malignant and destructive nature of racism. For that reason, he wished to draw particular attention to paragraphs 12 (b) and (c), which related to school curricula and the use of available media of information to educate the public in respect for human rights and, in particular, against all policies, practices and manifestations of racism and racial discrimination. In that connexion, the importance of paragraph 16, dealing with education, training and information within the United Nations system, should also be emphasized. Secondly, paragraph 12 (a) (iii) was of great significance for the more effective application of human rights through the establishment of recourse procedures to be invoked against any acts of racial discrimination. In that connexion, the United Kingdom delegation's suggestion made at the 1982nd meeting, regarding the establishment of more effective conciliation procedures was interesting.

27. On the other hand, the adoption of new international instruments, as proposed in paragraph 13 (g), did not seem to him to be a convincing way of guaranteeing the elimination of racial discrimination and racism. There were already many international conventions in existence, and the main problem was to see how they could be effectively applied.

28. In view of the important role that had been played by the non-governmental organizations in the struggle against racism and racial discrimination, his delegation would like consideration to be given to paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the suggestions made by the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations on Human Rights (*ibid.*, annex III). The purpose of those suggestions was to make specific provision in the text of the draft programme for the co-operation of the international non-governmental organizations.

29. Referring to the main questions considered by the informal working group, his delegation was of the opinion, firstly, that it would perhaps have been more logical and appropriate if, in the interest of clarity, the definition of racial discrimination given in article 1, paragraph 1, of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination had been included in the programme for the Decade. Secondly, it had been greatly impressed by the French delegation's objection, raised at the 1981st meeting, to the holding of a world conference on action against racism and racial discrimination. However, if it was decided, in spite of such objections to hold the confer-

ence, careful attention should be given to preparing for it, and its theme and scope should be clearly defined. His delegation would be in favour of the theme suggested by the United Kingdom concerning ways and means of eliminating racial discrimination.

30. As far as the machinery for co-ordination and appraisal of the programme for the Decade was concerned, he wondered whether it was necessary to set up a new special committee or whether its functions might not be entrusted to the Social Committee of the Economic and Social Council. Adoption of the second solution would avoid a proliferation of organs and unnecessary expenditure. However, it was important to consider whether it was really possible to be sure that the Social Committee would have sufficient time to carry out the task described in paragraph 18 of the programme. If it would not, or if there was any doubt as to whether it would, considerations of economy should not prevent the establishment of such an organ, even taking into account the financial situation of the United Nations. According to the annex to the note by the Secretary-General¹ to the fourteenth session of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, which contained a summary of the 1974-1975 programme budget for economic, social and human rights activities, the expenditures on human rights activities showed the smallest increase in 1974 and 1975. Of the total resources of the United Nations regular budget for 1974—approximately \$253 million—the sum of \$1.8 million was allocated to human rights. In 1975, the difference was even more appreciable. It was therefore not demagogic to recommend the establishment of a special committee for the Decade if it was really justified.

31. Mr. SÖYLEMEZ (Turkey) said that the Government of Turkey had supported the principle of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, set forth in General Assembly resolution 2919 (XXVII), and was fully convinced of the usefulness of the programme. The draft programme for the Decade (A/9094 and Corr.1, annex I) was imaginative and pragmatic, and his delegation found it acceptable in its general outlines, although there was room for improvement. The recommendations and suggestions regarding the programme (*ibid.*, annexes II and III) should be carefully examined with a view to including some of the useful provisions.

32. The Government of Turkey would do everything possible to translate the provisions of the draft programme into reality. At the national level, the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs had the previous year signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and, following the general elections which were to be held in the current month, the Turkish Parliament would be in a position to ratify that Convention. In the context of international measures, Turkey had never supported the Government of South Africa or the illegal minority régime in Southern Rhodesia. It should be pointed out that the Constitution of Turkey of 1960 was among the most advanced Constitutions in the world as far as human rights were concerned. Racial discrimination and the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority and hatred were offences punishable under the Turkish Criminal Code.

33. Moreover, Turkey had made symbolic modest contributions to the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa in the past and would continue to do so, as it believed in the usefulness of that Programme. In the Turkish educational system, which was practically free from the elementary level to the university level, there was no discrimination of any kind. During the Decade the curricula for children and youth would include the study of human rights and the equality of all human beings. Furthermore, the evils of racial discrimination and *apartheid* would be constantly emphasized.

34. Turkey was ready to support and participate in a world conference on action to combat racism and racial discrimination. Such a conference should be a major feature of the Decade. Turkey had participated in the International Conference of Experts for the Support of Victims of Colonialism and *Apartheid* in Southern Africa, and considered that a similar conference on a larger scale would unquestionably serve to promote a better understanding of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and to publicize it more widely. There was no doubt that the ultimate success of the Decade would depend on the full adherence of the membership to the universal observance of human rights without distinction as to a race, colour, descent or origin, and on the vigour and degree of co-operation with which action was taken by Governments.

35. In the opinion of his delegation, the activities during the Decade would have to be financed from the regular budget of the United Nations, as voluntary contributions could not usually be counted on. The co-ordination of those activities should be the most important practical aspect of the programme. Among the various alternatives, his delegation would be willing to support any proposal which made use of the existing organs of the United Nations, such as the Commission on Human Rights or the Economic and Social Council. The establishment of a new and independent committee for that purpose would only contribute to the proliferation of organs and the duplication of activities in the United Nations.

36. Mr. BRUNO (Uruguay) said he wished to state once again that, because of Uruguay's traditions and positive law, its attitude was one of opposition to any form of racial discrimination. Uruguay had been the first country to make the declaration provided for in article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination recognizing the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to receive and consider communications from those claiming to be victims of racial discrimination. Although there was no place for racial discrimination in Uruguay because of the country's history and its positive law, his delegation understood the problems which other countries might face in that connexion because of their traditions, their social environment, their history, or other factors, and it felt that the international community could not be indifferent to the question of whether those practices which violated fundamental human rights were declining or spreading, or to the absence of a trend towards the elimination of all possible forms of racial discrimination. The adoption of international standards for the abolition of racially discriminatory practices or any acts

¹ E/AC.51/70.

injurious to human rights was always a matter of high priority in Uruguay. In keeping with its position in the past, Uruguay had supported in the Committee all initiatives aimed at strengthening the impact of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

37. In Uruguay, there was absolutely no racial discrimination, either in its legislation or as a tolerated or permitted practice. Uruguay's legislation and positive law embodied very liberal principles, such as freedom to enter the country and the right of aliens to vote, without discrimination on grounds of sex, race or religion. Consequently, Uruguay wished to reaffirm once more its desire to contribute, to the full extent of its means and resources, to the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination wherever they existed. There were still frequent infringements of human rights in the modern world and many other forms of discrimination on grounds of ideology, politics, religion or other factors, but no form of discrimination was more odious or reprehensible than that based on the colour of a person's skin.

38. Mrs. DE BARISH (Costa Rica) reaffirmed her country's vigorous rejection of discriminatory theories and practices. In general, she supported the draft programme for the Decade and she felt it very appropriate that it had been included as the first item on the Committee's agenda. She believed that emphasis should be given to the importance of the idea expressed in paragraph 15 (a) of the draft, relating to the updating of research and studies on the question of racial relations, the evils and results of racism, and *apartheid*. She recalled in that connexion the observation made by the representative of Peru (1980th meeting) that a large part of the material distributed by the United Nations had not been published in Spanish, thus limiting its dissemination in Latin America.

39. The measures proposed at the national level were timely and positive, particularly those relating to the inclusion of the subject of human rights in the curricula of children and youth. Of particular interest was the proposal to hold a world conference on action to combat racism and racial discrimination, which would constitute a very effective forum for those efforts. It should be emphasized that, in putting those proposals and the other suggestions included in the programme into effect, the Division of Human Rights should be provided with the resources to enable it to carry out the tasks assigned to it, without any detrimental effects on the activities for which it was responsible in the field of human rights.

40. Her delegation would be prepared, if the Committee so desired, to support the establishment of a special committee entrusted with the task of co-ordination, review and appraisal, and reporting, but it felt that the work to be carried out by the special committee could also be handled by the Economic and Social Council, as had already been observed. It was ready to co-operate with enthusiasm in the preparation of a programme enjoying the support of the majority of delegations, for the purpose of initiating a decade of intense action aimed at the earliest possible elimination of evil racist theories and practices, racial discrimination in all its forms and *apartheid*.

41. Mr. FØNS BUHL (Denmark) said that his delegation welcomed and supported the Decade for Action to

Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which would represent a significant step towards the fulfilment of the most important principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the Charter of the United Nations. The draft programme provided a constructive basis for action to be taken during the Decade at the national and regional levels under the guidance of the United Nations. However, in executing the programme it should be borne in mind that there were many forms of racism, and that the problems which were most urgent in one country would not necessarily be identical to those which were of primary concern to others.

42. On the whole, his Government supported the text of the draft programme for the Decade and the philosophy underlying it, and felt that it represented a compromise which struck a proper balance between the differing interests and views of the world community. With reference to the goals of the Decade set forth in paragraph 8 of the draft programme, he endorsed the definition of those objectives, which were the same as those contained in article 1 of the International Convention, but he would welcome a restatement of the basic objectives of the Decade in paragraph 13 (a) on the proposed world conference. In that way a more precise definition of the mandate of the body to be entrusted with the co-ordination and preparation of the conference would be obtained. Referring to paragraphs 9, 12 (b), 15 and 16, which stressed the need for education, especially of children and youth, in the field of human rights, he emphasized the importance that his country attached to that point in the programme, which it considered essential.

43. With regard to paragraph 17, Denmark did not consider it necessary to establish a new international fund which would have practically the same objectives as those of existing funds, and feared that a proliferation of funds would weaken their position and lessen interest in them. With regard to paragraph 18, it was important to maintain continuity in the work of existing United Nations bodies. Denmark endorsed the idea of entrusting the task of co-ordination and review and appraisal of the Decade to the Economic and Social Council, as proposed by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in the original draft programme. The Social Committee of the Economic and Social Council would be a suitable body for carrying out that task. It would have the added advantage of enabling a large and representative number of Member States and non-governmental organizations to participate in the preparation of the Decade. If, for some reason, a special committee was established, non-governmental organizations should maintain continuing and specific relations with it, as proposed in paragraph 2 of the suggestions made by the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations on Human Rights (A/9094 and Corr.1, annex III).

44. Mr. VARCHAVER (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), speaking at the invitation of the Chairman, said that it gave him great pleasure to speak before the Third Committee, because the Executive Board of UNESCO, which was currently concluding its ninety-third session in Paris, had just given its approval to the outline programme for UNESCO's participation in the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. That outline had been elaborated in close contact with the Sub-

Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, with the Commission on Human Rights and, of course, with the United Nations Secretariat. It also reflected the views of a wide range of individuals and groups throughout the world, since the initial proposals for the Decade submitted by UNESCO to the Third Committee at the twenty-seventh session (1916th meeting) had been circulated to the national commissions of all member States, to all international non-governmental organizations having consultative status with UNESCO, to a number of research centres on race relations and to 220 individuals in academic life. Moreover, the programme would be supplemented by projects evolved by the national commissions of Argentina, Brazil, India, Malaysia and the United States, and by independent research programmes of 25 universities.

45. In view of current realities, there had been a deep feeling in UNESCO that the struggle against racism must take new directions, and that new planning would call not only for moral commitment, but also for scholarship and reflection at the highest levels. Developments in post-colonial and post-industrial societies posed new challenges and new ways of thinking were required to cope with the complexity of the problems of discrimination which had begun to emerge in the 1960s. Therefore a major UNESCO seminar on the race question, held in July 1972, had been entitled "The concepts of race, identity and dignity". The conclusions of that seminar, along with other investigations which had been undertaken as part of UNESCO's ongoing programme in race and human rights, would be reflected in a declaration on race and racial prejudice which would be submitted to the General Conference of UNESCO at its eighteenth session.

46. The deliberations of that seminar had also been a prime factor in the shaping of UNESCO's research plans for the Decade. A major part of the research would be directed to a reassessment of the usefulness of the integration model of societal development, which assumed that eventually, through a variety of processes, all the disparate groups within a society would be assimilated into a more or less homogeneous whole. A study of conflict models as well would provide a better understanding of such phenomena as separatist movements and a whole range of related problems which had to be faced in any realistic attempt to bend social change in the direction of equality. It would involve an examination of the mechanisms by which societies allocated different roles to differing groups. In that connexion, UNESCO planned to carry out a study of the ways in which new immigrants had recently been incorporated into industrialized areas.

47. It was also necessary to learn more about how the concept of "race" or "ethnicity" became a dividing line for competing segments within a society as well as how group boundaries were maintained in a plural society and how hostility operated between subordinate groups in such societies. The investigations would be further complicated by the fact that in most countries society was composed not of two ethnic groups but of a hierarchy in which some groups sometimes managed to change their rank or even to become dominant. Underlying all those problems was the question of culture, of the particular values of a society which engendered expectations about the role and behaviour of a differing group. UNESCO therefore planned to call upon social scientists, psychologists, historians and archaeologists to study the way in which prevailing social images affected dominant and dominated groups. UNESCO was shortly to issue several publications which dealt with significant aspects of those problems.

48. However, research had little meaning without reform, and reform in one field was often meaningless without reform in another. The situation of migrant workers posed complementary challenges to both the ILO and UNESCO. A group of experts would therefore be meeting at UNESCO House during the current month in order to draw up a long-term programme of education assistance to migrant workers and their children.

49. During the Decade UNESCO would intensify, in consultation with the liberation movements and through the Organization of African Unity, its assistance to the victims of the régimes of southern Africa in education and in training. It was essential to complement those necessarily limited efforts by stimulating public awareness as to the effects of racism on the very quality of life in southern Africa. To that end, UNESCO planned to continue with its programme of publications on the situation in southern Africa.

50. At its eighteenth session the General Conference of UNESCO would elaborate in further detail the plan which he had outlined for the Decade. UNESCO welcomed the initiative of the United Nations in launching the concept of the Decade, because it gave UNESCO's programme on race and human rights a new intensity born of the knowledge that the efforts made in its particular fields of endeavour would be complemented and strengthened by the co-ordinated efforts of all other members of the United Nations family.

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.