

**INTERNATIONAL
COVENANT
ON CIVIL AND
POLITICAL RIGHTS**



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HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Fifth session

SUMMARY RECORD (PARTIAL)^{**}/ OF THE 122nd MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Friday, 3 November 1978, at 9.30 a.m.

Chairman:

Mr. MAVROMMATIS

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Closure of the session

*/ No summary record was issued for the 121st meeting.

**/ No summary record was prepared for the rest of the meeting.

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The meeting was called to order at 9.50 a.m.

The discussion covered in the summary record began at 12.45 p.m.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

1. The CHAIRMAN said that, in the two years since it had been established, the Committee had held four regular sessions as well as an additional, fifth, session which was likely to be the forerunner of similar additional sessions in future years. During that period, much had been achieved, as could be appreciated from the number of reports submitted by States that had been examined. The members of the Committee, who were all of the highest competence and integrity, had devoted themselves unstintingly to their task and the excellence of their personal and working relationships was reflected in the consensus of opinion reached on all decisions.
2. The Committee had completed its consideration of the provisional rules of procedure which related to those parts of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights that were in force, and had issued guidelines for the preparation of State reports. It had also evolved an elaborate procedure for communications and had drafted a model communication for the guidance of authors. All communications that had reached the Committee in time had been examined, and he wished to pay tribute to the various working groups appointed in that connexion for their contribution.
3. The terms of office of four members of the Committee - Mr. Ben-Fadhel, Mr. Espersen, Mr. Mora Rojas and Mr. Seminega - were due to expire at the end of 1978. On behalf of the Committee, he thanked them for their co-operation and wished them every success for the future.
4. Lastly, he thanked the members of the Bureau and the Secretariat for their assistance.
5. Mr. MORA ROJAS, Rapporteur, said that it had been an honour for him to work with the Committee. Like the maintenance of peace, the protection of human rights was one of the fundamental objectives of the United Nations; yet far more bodies has been set up to promote the maintenance of peace than had been established for the defence of human rights. The effective application since 1977 of the International Covenants on human rights and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights had given new hope to the peoples of the world. The Committee's task was of the utmost importance and it would one day undoubtedly earn the gratitude of all mankind.
6. He thanked the Secretariat for the assistance extended to him as Rapporteur and wished the Committee every success in its future work.
7. Mr. BEN-FADHEL said that he was proud to have been able to participate in the work of the Committee from the outset. That had been an enriching experience for which he was most grateful, and he wished the Committee every success in the task that lay ahead.

8. Mr. MOVCHAN said that the Committee's deliberations had taken place in a friendly yet businesslike atmosphere, notwithstanding the many different legal systems in the countries of origin of its members. Its achievements constituted an outstanding example of international co-operation in the field of human rights.
9. He thanked all members of the Bureau and the Secretariat for their assistance, and expressed admiration for the speed with which the excellent draft report had been prepared and submitted.
10. The CHAIRMAN declared the fifth session of the Human Rights Committee closed.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.