

United Nations
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

EIGHTEENTH SESSION

Official Records

THIRD COMMITTEE, 1286th
MEETING

Wednesday, 11 December 1963,
at 3.25 p.m.



NEW YORK

CONTENTS

	Page
<i>Agenda item 47:</i>	
<i>Measures designed to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples (continued)</i>	399

Chairman: Mr. Humberto DIAZ CASANUEVA
(Chile).

AGENDA ITEM 47

Measures designed to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples (A/5364, A/5445, E/3638 and Add.1, A/C.3/L.1183/Rev.3, A/C.3/L.1185-1190) (continued)

1. Mr. ATAULLAH (Pakistan) said that, as he had already stated, he was inclined to agree with the delegations which had spoken against the hasty adoption of the draft declaration contained in the third revision of the draft resolution before the Committee (A/C.3/L.1183/Rev.3). He had therefore joined the Australian delegation in sponsoring a draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1188), which would invite UNESCO to study the matter further and to submit recommendations to the General Assembly at its nineteenth session. He had done so, in particular, because UNESCO had recommended the inclusion of the question of measures designed to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples in the agenda of the International Conference on Youth.

2. It would be helpful for the Third Committee to know what the young people, and experts and leaders in youth education, from different parts of the world had to say about the form and context of the proposed declaration, and there seemed no compelling reason why the Committee should not wait for their comments before adopting the declaration. Since it would be the responsibility of the leaders of youth to implement the various principles and measures recommended, it was only fair and proper to consult them before adopting a solemn declaration which was meant to be of universal application. The representative of UNESCO had stated (1282nd meeting) that the UNESCO secretariat expected to produce a publication on the question in 1964; it might be wise for the Third Committee to keep in mind the conclusions and recommendations of the authors. That was another reason to postpone final consideration of the question until the nineteenth session. He hoped that the delegations concerned would not press for a hasty vote on an important and solemn text which, if it was voted upon at the nineteenth session, had every chance of receiving unanimous support.

3. Miss JAMES (Jamaica) remarked that the adoption of a declaration on the promotion among youth of the

ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples would constitute a universal decision to orient the education of youth throughout the world towards a specific goal, that of peace. No one denied the need to promote those ideals among the younger generation, on whom the future of the world depended, but opinions differed about the way in which to achieve that end. If the Committee believed that the adoption of a declaration was desirable and possible—and that was a view which the Jamaican delegation shared wholeheartedly—it must see to it that the draft which it presented to the General Assembly received the widest possible support. Moreover, the declaration, once adopted, must have as wide a scope and as great an influence as, for example, the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples (General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV)).

4. Since the United States amendments (A/C.3/L.1187) to draft resolution A/C.3/L.1183/Rev.3 would not permit the attainment of that objective, and bearing in mind the course taken by the debate, her delegation had joined twelve other delegations in sponsoring the draft resolution recommending further study of the matter by States Members of the United Nations and by UNESCO (A/C.3/L.1189). That draft resolution would postpone the elaboration of a declaration until the nineteenth session. Furthermore, in response to the very pertinent question raised by UNESCO in its report (see E/3638, para. 336), operative paragraphs 2 and 3 of the draft resolution proposed measures would give an opportunity to educators and representatives of youth to take part in the preparation of the declaration. She hoped that the joint draft resolution would receive wide support.

5. Mr. CUEVAS CANCINO (Mexico) said he would confine himself to presenting draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189 which his delegation was co-sponsoring with twelve other delegations. He reserved the right to speak later on other drafts before the Committee which expressed ideas which his delegation was in general agreement.

6. The draft resolution referred first of all to General Assembly resolutions 1572 (XV) and 1842 (XVII) because the sponsors had thought it useful to recall that the problem was not a new one. The second pre-ambular paragraph supported the view of those delegations which regarded the adoption of a declaration as an essential measure for promoting among youth the ideals of peace and understanding between peoples, and it constituted something like a commitment on the part of the General Assembly to adopt such a declaration in the near future. The Latin American delegations recognized the need to adopt a declaration, but they also wanted such a declaration to mark a decisive step along the way to understanding among youth, today as in the future; they also, as stated in the third pre-ambular paragraph, wanted a declaration capable of arousing intense interest among the young. For that

reason, the draft declaration must be given thorough study, based on the experience of Member States—that view, incidentally, according to the UNESCO report, had been expressed by the USSR National Commission (see E/3638, para. 341)—and undertaken in collaboration with the UNESCO national commissions and youth organizations. A number of delegations had emphasized that any declaration on the subject must first and foremost take into account the point of view of the young people themselves; that could not be said of the draft declaration before the Committee (A/C.3/L.1183/Rev.3).

7. The final preambular paragraph stressed the need to continue efforts to promote understanding among youth, for the adoption of a declaration, despite its importance, was only one of many means of achieving that goal. That was why the draft resolution was divided into two parts, one dealing with measures for drafting a declaration, the other with measures which could be taken immediately to contribute to the realization of the proposed ideals.

8. In part I (operative paragraphs 1-5), the sponsors outlined measures aimed at ensuring a wide technical participation of Member States and youth in the framing of the declaration, in which UNESCO, too, must play an important part. In order that the General Assembly should have before it, at its nineteenth session, not a variety of proposals but a well-thought-out text which would enable it to adopt a truly universal declaration, it was proposed that the framing of the draft declaration should be assigned to a special committee whose meetings would not entail any additional expenditures for the United Nations, since it would be composed of representatives of Member States.

9. In part II of the draft resolution (operative paragraphs 6-8), UNESCO was rightly congratulated on convening an International Conference on Youth at Grenoble in 1964; fruitful results could be expected of that conference. The possibility was also envisaged of setting up regional documentation and study centres, which would promote the attainment of the desired goals and strengthen the proposed declaration by giving it a practical character. Finally, it was proposed that the item should be included in the agenda of the nineteenth session of the General Assembly.

10. In conclusion, he stated that Nicaragua should appear among the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189.

11. The CHAIRMAN wished to make two practical comments about the draft resolution. He believed, first, that operative paragraph 1 should mention the document number of the draft declaration and request the Secretary-General to communicate to Member States not only that draft and the records of the discussions, but also the amendments and other draft resolutions submitted to the Committee. Furthermore, under rule 154 of the General Assembly's rules of procedure, a committee could not recommend a resolution involving expenditure unless it was accompanied by an estimate of the expenditure. The Secretary-General's statement on financial implications (A/C.3/L.1190) would be circulated shortly, but he believed it would be difficult, at that late date, to obtain a decision from the Fifth Committee.

12. Mr. DAS (Secretary of the Committee) read out the statement of financial implications (A/C.3/L.1190) of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189.

13. Mr. ACOSTA (Colombia) recalled that he had already stated (1282nd meeting) that his Government was keenly interested in all problems of children and youth, from whose ranks would emerge the leaders of the future. In principle, his delegation favoured the adoption of a declaration, provided that the text was free of political undertones, but it believed that the adoption of practical steps, such as the setting up by UNESCO of study and documentation centres, or measures to encourage the teaching of foreign languages and to facilitate travel, would constitute a more realistic programme of action for promoting the ideals of peace and understanding among youth.

14. While appreciating the constructive attitude of the Romanian delegation and the other sponsors of the revised draft declaration who were prepared to examine any suggestion for improving the text, the Colombian delegation had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189. It believed that, before adopting a declaration, the General Assembly must take into account the views of Member States whose replies did not appear in the UNESCO report (E/3638 and Add.1), the experience acquired by UNESCO since the publication of that report in 1961, the results of the International Conference on Youth to be held at Grenoble in 1964, the data which could be collected by the regional youth centres established by UNESCO and, finally and above all, the views of youth organizations. Draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189, which provided for consultation with Member States as well as with UNESCO national commissions, youth organizations and the International Conference on Youth, would enable the special committee, on the basis of the replies received, to draft a declaration more in conformity with the aspirations of the young.

15. In any event, it would be impossible for the Committee, in the short time remaining to it at the current session, to adopt a draft declaration acceptable to a sufficient number of delegations. He therefore appealed to the sponsors of the draft declaration, and to the other delegations which favoured its adoption, to vote in favour of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189 which, at that stage of the session, represented the most constructive solution.

16. Mr. MOLINA SALAS (Argentina) remarked on the goodwill and sincerity of delegations which had so far enabled the Committee to consider controversial matters in an atmosphere of understanding, and stressed the vital importance of the item under discussion. Most representatives had whole-heartedly endorsed that and had indicated basic agreement. But there were clear differences of view regarding the best way of achieving the noble and meaningful goal which had been set. Some thought it necessary to adopt a declaration, while others proposed that UNESCO, bearing in mind the deliberations of the Third Committee, should make a comprehensive study of the question and submit recommendations to the General Assembly at its nineteenth session. The different points of view were set forth in the report by the Acting Director-General of UNESCO.

17. After listening to the observations of various delegations, he had come to the conclusion that the services of UNESCO should be used as widely as possible and hence draft resolution A/C.3/L.1188 deserved careful consideration, for it contained ideas which might lead to a solution. The Argentine delegation fully appreciated the initiative taken by Romania and paid a tribute to the spirit of conciliation of the

sponsors, who had endeavoured to remove from their revised text of the draft declaration (A/C.3/L.1183/Rev.3) all references to controversial matters. It felt, however, that at the present stage the best course would be to adopt draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189.

18. Mrs. DICK (United States of America) introduced her delegation's draft resolution on the promotion of international understanding among youth (A/C.3/L.1186), which was intended essentially as a tribute to the excellent work carried out by UNESCO.

19. Mr. BOURCHIER (Australia), commenting on a question which was of genuine concern to a number of delegations, said that, if declarations were to have their full effect, they should be introduced relatively rarely and should carry the maximum possible prestige, being submitted for careful consideration by Governments and drafted in the best possible manner. All haste should be avoided, and delegations should be given an opportunity of receiving instructions from their Governments. The draft resolution before the Committee was sponsored by eighteen Powers and had been supported by other delegations, but he wondered whether it could be said to have been adequately considered. He had no doubt that the Committee could produce a declaration without the help of legal and other experts, but he questioned whether it would be the best possible declaration. The Australian Government always allocated the study of important legal documents to the highest legal authorities in the country; it regarded United Nations declarations as important instruments and treated them accordingly. But any serious legal study took time, and in the present case delegations had not had the time to refer the proposed text to the Governments and legal authorities of their countries.

20. Nor could the Committee ignore the fact that the International Conference on Youth would be discussing the present subject within a few months. It would be quite inappropriate to present that Conference with a *fait accompli*. The persons directly concerned should be consulted and, since the Committee had a most unusual opportunity to learn the views of youth leaders, it should take advantage of it. He was sure that those who formulated government policies were awaiting the results of the Conference before deciding on positive measures, and there was no reason why the General Assembly should not do the same.

21. One representative had said that, since UNESCO had not itself decided whether there should be a declaration or not, it was for the General Assembly to do so. It was certainly for the Assembly to give directives, but if UNESCO was unequivocally invited to take a decision, then no doubt it would. If its decision was affirmative, the General Assembly would make the necessary arrangements; if it was negative, the matter was ended. It should be remembered that the General Conference of UNESCO and the General Assembly had basically the same membership, and that a Member State of the United Nations could pursue the same policies in the General Conference as it did in the General Assembly. However, delegations to the Thirteenth General Conference would be better informed than were delegations at the present session of the Assembly, since they would know the findings of the International Conference on Youth. In addition, the General Conference would have before it the records of the Third Committee's deliberations and all other pertinent documents. If it did not take any decision, it would still be open to the General Assembly at its

nineteenth session to decide the matter itself. It could not be claimed that the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1188 were seeking to delay consideration of the question as long as possible, since they indicated the time when it would be possible to adopt a decision—the time when the outcome of the International Conference on Youth was known.

22. In any case, it was impossible to reach agreement on the text of a draft declaration before the end of the present session. Ordinarily, the Committee could have referred the question, through the Economic and Social Council, to a functional commission, and he recalled in that connexion that, in its resolution 1922 (XVIII), concerning the 1964 session of the Commission on Human Rights, the General Assembly had pointed out that the Third Committee depended heavily on the Commission for the elaboration of draft declarations and conventions in the field of human rights. However, the most appropriate functional commission in the present case—the Social Commission—would not be holding a session in 1964. The best alternative therefore seemed to be the one proposed in draft resolution A/C.3/L.1188 which he commended to the Committee.

23. Mr. DAYRELL DE LIMA (Brazil) said that his delegation had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189, which sought to reconcile the divergent views reflected in the various other proposals before the Committee. His delegation was fully aware of the necessity of promoting among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples and it appreciated the efforts of the Romanian delegation and the other sponsors of the draft declaration. Many delegations thought that it would be difficult, however, to adopt a declaration at the present session, and his delegation therefore commended draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189 to the Committee, as it represented a more prudent approach and would establish the best possible conditions for the final phase in the elaboration of a declaration.

24. Mr. MONTANA (Venezuela) stressed the nobility of the principles which had inspired the sponsors of the revised draft declaration before the Committee and the importance of the Romanian initiative, which aimed at laying the groundwork for a peaceful world. He congratulated the Romanian delegation and those which had joined with it on their efforts in respect of a problem of concern to all mankind.

25. If the declaration was to be commensurate with the praiseworthy objectives sought by the sponsors, its terms must be very carefully weighed. That was not the case in the document under consideration, and the time available to the Committee now made it impossible to produce a final text which would come up to the standards of the earlier declarations adopted by the United Nations.

26. Being unable to declare itself either for or against the proposed draft declaration, his delegation had joined with others in presenting draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189, which offered the best procedure for preparing a declaration which would serve as an effective instrument in the fight for peace.

27. He reserved the right to speak again on the amendments that had been submitted.

28. Mr. GOODHART (United Kingdom) observed that his delegation had already (1284th meeting) indicated its general support of the main ideas embodied in the

revised draft declaration. He believed, however, that the procedure envisaged in draft resolution A/C.3/L.1188 was more appropriate, and he would vote for that text.

29. Draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189 was not without interest but, apart from the fact that the establishment of the special committee mentioned in operative paragraph 5 would have financial and other implications, as pointed out by the Secretary of the Committee, its session would clash with the International Conference on Youth which UNESCO was to hold at Grenoble in August 1964.

30. Since the Committee would obviously not be able to decide on the draft declaration in the short time remaining during the present session, he believed it would be best to refer the question to the Grenoble Conference and subsequently to the UNESCO General Conference, which would meet almost immediately afterwards and was obviously one of the best equipped bodies to study a text on the education of youth.

31. Miss WACHUKU (Nigeria) said that, after studying the various documents and draft resolutions, she felt that the Committee should keep to the study of the revised draft declaration it had before it; the great majority of delegations favoured it in principle, even if the wording raised differences of opinion, which were in any case inevitable.

32. Several delegations had referred to the need to consult youth on the one hand and the Governments of Member States on the other. She considered that the delegations to the General Assembly were qualified to represent both. Furthermore, she did not consider it desirable to transmit an uncompleted piece of work to the International Conference on Youth. She feared that the resolutions submitted to the Committee were only manoeuvres to retard the adoption of the draft declaration, and she urged the Committee to deal immediately with the text before it, so as to adopt at the present session at least the preamble, which had raised few objections.

33. Miss ADDISON (Ghana) said that draft resolution A/C.3/L.1188 did not take cognizance of the fact that a draft declaration on measures to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples was before the Committee. The fifth preambular paragraph merely referred to a proposal to that effect, whereas Romania and other Powers had submitted in good and due form a draft which was a United Nations document and could not be ignored. If Australia and Pakistan considered that the text did not quite live up to their expectations, as the sixth preambular paragraph suggested, there was nothing to prevent them from trying to improve it by means of amendments or suggestions. Furthermore, only lack of time had prevented the Committee from studying the draft declaration "fully and adequately" as envisaged in the seventh preambular paragraph, and the study could be postponed until the nineteenth session of the Committee.

34. She thought that the sponsors of draft resolutions A/C.3/L.1188 and A/C.3/L.1189 could profitably consult together with a view to drafting a joint text. However, if Pakistan and Australia insisted on their proposal being put to the vote, the Ghanaian delegation would vote against it.

35. Passing on to consider draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189, she endorsed the first two preambular paragraphs of the text, but the third preambular paragraph

was not a correct assessment of the draft declaration. It would be more accurate to say that a draft declaration had been prepared, thanks to the praiseworthy efforts made by some delegations. The fourth preambular paragraph should also be redrafted to read as follows:

"Considering further that it is necessary to make use of the experience of the Governments of Member States, national commissions of UNESCO and youth organizations throughout the world."

36. Furthermore, operative paragraph 5 raised various problems. The Secretary of the Committee had referred to several, but it might also be asked how the members of the special committee envisaged would be appointed, on what basis the representatives would be chosen, who would bear the cost of the Committee's work, and how long the Committee would take to draw up a draft declaration. For all those reasons the Ghanaian delegation considered that the paragraph should be deleted.

37. As for part II of the draft, it had no bearing on the question under examination, since it dealt with the establishment of regional documentation and study centres, whose purpose would be to train young people in a greater understanding of their common ideals. That idea was of real value, but should be dealt with in a separate draft resolution.

38. Like the Nigerian delegation, the Ghanaian delegation considered that the Committee could do useful work by dealing, without further delay, with the revised draft declaration before it. Admittedly the text was not perfect, and it had not been prepared by a specialized body, but when the Committee had adopted the draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1245th meeting), practically nothing had been left of the original text, though it had been prepared by the Commission on Human Rights. In her opinion the Third Committee should deal with the title and the preamble of the draft declaration submitted to it, take a decision on them and, if necessary, postpone consideration of the operative part until the nineteenth session.

39. She reserved the right to speak again on the other proposals or amendments before the Committee.

40. Mr. BOURCHIER (Australia) did not share the Nigerian representative's opinion that the delegations to the Assembly were entitled to speak for the youth of their countries. The participants in the International Conference on Youth to be held at Grenoble seemed much better qualified for that purpose, since they were specialists in the problems and education of young people. Consequently, he still maintained that the Third Committee was not in a position at the present session to produce a truly satisfactory draft declaration. That could only be done at a subsequent session, in the light of the proposals and discussions of the International Conference on Youth.

41. The Ghanaian representative's interpretation of the third preambular paragraph of the draft resolution submitted by Australia and Pakistan (A/C.3/L.1188) was incorrect. While acknowledging that the text of the draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination prepared by the Commission on Human Rights had been the subject of a great number of amendments, neither the structure of that text nor the order of the ideas formulated had been modified by the Committee.

42. In his view, any United Nations declaration should be a solemn affirmation of principle and have the character of an international instrument. That was not possible unless the text was prepared by a specialized body. A declaration worthy of the name could not be prepared by a few delegations and adopted without their Governments being consulted, otherwise the very prestige of the delegations in general would suffer and they would lose all their importance in the eyes of public opinion.

43. Mr. SALSAMENDI (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) thanked the Chairman for having given him the opportunity to comment on the remarks made by some delegations and on the draft resolutions before the Committee. For the benefit of the Colombian representative and the co-sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189, he pointed out that the Director-General of UNESCO was prepared to study, if requested to do so by the Secretary-General, the possibility of establishing regional documentation and study centres for the purpose of giving effect to the measures to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples. That would imply an intensification of UNESCO's work in that field, and in that connexion he wished to thank the delegations of Colombia, Romania and the United States for their commendation of his Organization. He was sure that the Director-General of UNESCO would communicate to the participants in the International Conference on Youth, as had been suggested, the records of the Third Committee's debates on the item under consideration as well as any resolution adopted.

44. Commenting on draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189, he said that, in operative paragraph 3, the words "Together with the draft declaration circulated by various delegations" were superfluous, since the records of the Committee's debates already included the text of that draft. Furthermore, UNESCO could not transmit its own views, as provided in operative paragraph 4, since the Director-General had not been instructed to do so. He suggested that the sponsors delete the words in question. On the subject of the same paragraph, he assumed that the words "as early as possible" implied as soon as the Director-General had received the replies from the organizations consulted.

45. Finally, prompted by the extremely pertinent remarks by the Mexican representative (1285th meeting), he suggested that, in operative paragraph 7, the word "principal" be inserted before "purpose", so as not to restrict unduly the functions of the centres which it was proposed to establish.

46. He thanked the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1188 for their words of praise with regard to UNESCO. He had, however, some misgivings about the text of the draft resolution: he would venture to predict that if, in accordance with the operative paragraph, the General Conference of UNESCO was asked to consider the question of measures to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples, it would reach the same conclusion as before, for two reasons. First, UNESCO was primarily concerned with the implementation of practical measures in that field; second, since neither the Executive Board nor the General Conference of UNESCO, nor the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations had been able, when examining UNESCO's report (E/3638 and Add.1) to the General

Assembly, to agree upon recommendations regarding measures to promote among youth ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples, it lay with the General Assembly to take a decision in the matter. As he failed to see what useful purpose that provision would serve, he asked the representatives of Australia and Pakistan to reconsider their position.

47. In conclusion, he pointed out that the Conference referred to in the operative part of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1188, the third preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1186 and operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189 was entitled "International Conference on Youth", not "International Conference of Youth".

48. Mr. COCHAUX (Belgium) said that the very words he had used, in speaking about UNESCO's activities, implied a high appreciation of that organization's work. He hoped that Mr. Salsamendi would inform the Director-General of UNESCO accordingly.

49. The Committee had before it a third revised version of the draft declaration on measures designed to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples, and some amendments to it; that showed how right UNESCO and some of its national commissions had been in pointing out that the drafting of a declaration on the subject was a most delicate undertaking, that it should not be rushed and that a text of that type should be the subject of long and detailed study.

50. It was obvious that all countries would like a declaration which was as perfect as possible to be drawn up. To do so, it was necessary to go back to the source, in other words, to give the greatest consideration to what young people thought, felt and longed for. He, for his part, did not feel that he represented the youth of his country and he could take no action without instructions from his Government.

51. Turning to the draft resolutions before the Committee, he thought that the United States draft resolution seemed somewhat arid. Draft resolution A/C.3/L.1189, on the contrary, was more generous but it called for a procedure which, according to the UNESCO representative, might raise certain difficulties. He supported the text of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1188 and was surprised at the prediction of the representative of UNESCO on the subject. He was convinced that the General Conference of UNESCO would take account of the wish, expressed in the Third Committee's debates, that a declaration on measures designed to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples should be drawn up. After all, in his report to the General Assembly, the Director-General of UNESCO had said that a declaration of that kind could be drawn up provided suitable means were adopted.

52. Miss GROZA (Romania) pointed out that the draft resolution submitted jointly by Australia and Pakistan A/C.3/L.1188 made no mention of the draft declaration before the Committee. She was surprised that the sponsors wanted to revert to the stage at which the matter had stood in 1961. She realized that the problem of the education of youth was within the competence of UNESCO, but that organization had already stated its views, in a report which the Economic and Social Council had noted and transmitted to the General Assembly for such action as the latter might deem appropriate. There seemed no reason to refer the

matter back to UNESCO, for in that case the vicious circle might go on forever. Moreover, assuming that the thirteenth General Conference of UNESCO was able to deal with the question, it would be unable to transmit its conclusions to the General Assembly before the end of the nineteenth session of the Assembly; at best, they would be studied at the twentieth session. If the General Conference was obliged, for lack of time, to defer the item until its fourteenth session, which would be held in 1966, the General Assembly would not be able to take a final decision until its twenty-second session. That would be all the more inadmissible in that the draft before the Committee had been worked out with care, was the product of some twenty Powers and had been favourably received by the majority of the delegations. She therefore hoped that Australia and Pakistan would not press for a vote on their proposal. Under rule 119 of the General Assembly's rules of procedure, she moved that the meeting should be suspended for a short time, so that the sponsors of the draft declaration could decide upon their position on the documents before the Committee.

The motion for suspension was adopted unanimously

The meeting was suspended at 5.25 p.m. and resumed at 5.45 p.m.

53. Mr. SOLODOVNIKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) agreed with the representatives of Nigeria, Ghana and Romania that the Committee should start to study the text before it at the present session. He noted that some delegations, which were opposed to the adoption of a declaration, were trying to kill the draft put forward by Romania and other Powers by swamping the Committee with draft resolutions. The Belgian representative said that he had no instructions from his Government, yet the question had been on the General Assembly's agenda since the sixteenth session and the Belgian Government and its representatives in the General Assembly had only themselves to blame if they had been unable to form an opinion so far. The truth was that they did not want a declaration; it would be better if they admitted that frankly. The Belgian and Australian representatives had spoken of the prestige of declarations adopted by the General Assembly; he would like to remind them that their refusal to support the draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in the Third Committee had certainly not helped to enhance that prestige. They had said, moreover, that they wanted to have a "good" declaration; that was what all delegations wanted, and any delegations that had wanted to improve the draft before the Committee had been free to propose amendments to it or to co-operate with the sponsors in the drafting of the different versions. The fact was that their arguments did not hold water and the negative attitude of a number of delegations was clearly reflected in the draft resolution of Aus-

tralia and Pakistan, which bore no relation to the Committee's true concern.

54. Mrs. RAMAHOLIMIHASO (Madagascar) was pleased to note that the successive revisions of the draft declaration were evidence of the sponsors' desire to work out a generally acceptable text. The third version, which was far superior to the preceding ones, was so satisfactory that her delegation would like to be included among its sponsors. She could see no reason for trying to defer the study of the text and she appealed to all delegations to enable the Committee to adopt the title and the first preambular paragraphs before the end of the current session.

55. Mrs. DEMBINSKA (Poland) felt that the constant references to the International Conference on Youth were out of place; apart from the fact that, as the UNESCO representative had pointed out, the Conference would not be attended by the young but by educators and those responsible for youth, she had had sufficient experience in that field to know that what the young wanted was not so much to be brought up in a spirit of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples as to be preserved from the scourge of war, to live in peace and freedom, to be able to obtain education and to find suitable employment, to enjoy their leisure fully and to meet young people from other countries. That being so, she saw no point in consulting young people on the contents of the draft declaration. However that might be, the declaration would not be adopted in full at the present session and delegations would have an opportunity before 1964 to consult experts and those responsible for youth in their respective countries. There was no reason to refer the matter to UNESCO, which would undoubtedly do its best, once the declaration was adopted, to ensure that it was put into effect, but which had its own problems and was not concerned with questions of general policy. It lay with the Third Committee to take a decision and it could do so without the intervention of technical organs.

56. Mr. COCHAUX (Belgium) regretted that the USSR delegation should question the Belgian delegation's motives. He would point out that, although the item had been on the agenda since the sixteenth session, the latest revised version of the draft declaration was dated 10 December 1963. The USSR representative did not want to believe that the Belgian delegation wanted a "good" declaration. The fact was that the Belgian delegation was not trying to deceive anyone, and when it said that it did not want a text that had been hastily drafted, it merely agreed with the National Commission of the USSR, which, to judge from the UNESCO report (see E/3638, para. 341), had recognized that the drafting of a declaration was no easy matter.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.