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 ASSEMBLY**

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**THIRD COMMITTEE, 1133rd
 MEETING**

Wednesday, 13 December 1961,
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Chairman: Mr. Salvador P. LOPEZ (Philippines).

Organization of work

1. The CHAIRMAN stated that the third Committee would have at most three more meetings in which to consider the remaining items on its agenda. He invited members' views on the manner in which the Committee should proceed.
2. Mr. BARODY (Saudi Arabia) said that article 5 of the draft Convention on Freedom of Information, which would normally be the next order of business, was extremely complicated and could probably not be finished in the short time remaining. The draft Declaration on Freedom of Information, on the other hand, was in his view secondary to the draft Convention and should not be considered while the latter was still before the Committee. The issues involved in the item on Manifestations of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance were very complex and should be examined when more time was available. Lastly, while the Committee had hoped to return to the draft Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age of Marriage and Registration of Marriages, it would do well to defer that question until the seventeenth session; in adopting the substantive articles of the draft Convention, the Committee had failed to take into account the views of a number of delegations, in particular those representing predominantly Moslem countries, and the interval between sessions would be well spent if members of the Committee would carefully ponder the constructive suggestions those delegations had put forward.
3. For those reasons, he would propose that the Committee should now conclude its substantive de-

liberations for the sixteenth session and proceed to adopt the appropriate resolutions remitting the remaining items to the seventeenth session of the General Assembly.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 85

Draft Convention and draft Recommendation on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age of Marriage and Registration of Marriages (A/4844) (continued)

4. Miss ORTIZ DE ZEVALLOS (Peru) remarked that she had greatly hoped to see the draft Convention adopted at the sixteenth session of the General Assembly. The draft of the substantive articles approved earlier in the session (1069th meeting) set forth clear and simple provisions which should meet all views. It appeared, however, that insufficient time remained for the Committee to do further useful work on the draft Convention, and her delegation was therefore prepared to submit a draft resolution which would have the General Assembly, at its seventeenth session, resume consideration of the draft Convention and draft Recommendation at the earliest possible time and devote to the draft Convention as many meetings as were necessary to ensure its completion.

5. Mr. MUNGUIA NOVOA (Nicaragua), Mrs. TILLET (United States of America) and Mr. FERREIRA ALDUNATE (Uruguay) endorsed the remarks of the Peruvian representative.

6. Mr. BOUQUIN (France) said that he could support a draft resolution on the lines suggested by the Peruvian representative. He pointed out however that a reference to the draft Recommendation would not be entirely in place since that document had been submitted to the Economic and Social Council and not to the General Assembly.

7. Mr. GORBAL (United Arab Republic) endorsed the move to defer further consideration of the draft Convention on marriage until the seventeenth session. The final and formal clauses of the draft Convention might require a considerable amount of work as they dealt with fairly intricate questions, such as territorial application, federal arrangements and reservations.

8. His delegation believed it would be very useful if the articles already adopted by the Committee were to be referred back to the Commission on the Status of Women in the interval between the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Assembly. Since the Commission had had no members representing African or Moslem countries when it had drawn up the draft Convention, it had been unable to hold a wide-ranging discussion such as the Third

Committee had held earlier in the session. Now that the Commission's membership was to be enlarged, a second reading would seem appropriate. He would not, however, press the point and would be able to accept a draft resolution on the lines suggested by the Peruvian representative.

9. It was to be hoped that between the present time and the seventeenth session members of the Committee would carefully reconsider the provisions of the draft Convention which had given rise to controversy. The second paragraph of article 1 had been adopted by a very small majority (1069th meeting), but it seemed to him that on such issues, where fundamental human rights were involved, the Committee would wish to seek a broader measure of agreement.

AGENDA ITEM 37

Draft Declaration on Freedom of Information

10. Miss HAMPTON (New Zealand) said that her delegation would submit a draft resolution remitting the draft Declaration on Freedom of Information to the seventeenth session.

11. Miss KUBOTA (Japan) hoped that the draft Declaration would at that time be discussed as fully as possible. The adoption of a declaration would greatly facilitate work on the draft Convention.

AGENDA ITEM 36

Draft Convention on Freedom of Information (continued)

12. Mr. GORBAL (United Arab Republic) said that his delegation would introduce a draft resolution remitting the remainder of the draft Convention on Freedom of Information to the seventeenth session and requesting that the usual priority should be given to it.

AGENDA ITEM 86

Manifestations of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance

13. Mr. MATE (Ghana) remarked that the item concerning Manifestations of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance was of very great interest to his delegation. It was in seeking to solve problems such as those that the Third Committee proved the ability of nations to work in harmony towards a better future for all. His delegation would accordingly be happy to submit a draft resolution urging a thorough consideration of the item at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly.

Organization of work

14. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to be prepared at the following meeting to vote on the draft resolutions it would have before it and to conclude its work for the sixteenth session.

The meeting rose at 4.55 p.m.