



Eleventh session

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The General Assembly, at its 554th plenary meeting on 14 December 1955, decided to continue its consideration of the draft International Covenants on Human Rights at its eleventh session.
2. At its ninth session, the General Assembly held a first reading of the draft International Covenants on Human Rights. At the tenth session of the Assembly, the Third Committee decided^{1/} to adopt the following procedure for the further consideration of the draft Covenants:
 - (1) Discussion of the preambles to both drafts;
 - (2) Discussion of those operative parts common to or similar in both drafts beginning with part I of the two Covenants, continuing with part II, and so on;
 - (3) Discussion of the remaining articles in their present order in the two drafts beginning with the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
3. At the tenth session, the Third Committee adopted the text of the preambles to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It also adopted the text of article 1 for both draft Covenants relating to the right of peoples and nations to self-determination. The Committee, after considering article 2 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, decided not to vote on this article until it had considered, discussed and adopted the articles in part III of that draft Covenant. The proceedings of the Third Committee are reported in document A/3077.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Annexes,
agenda item 28, document A/3077, paragraph 15.

4. The text of the draft covenants and proposals relating thereto are contained in the report of the tenth session of the Commission on Human Rights.^{2/} The observations of Governments and specialized agencies on the draft Covenants submitted in response to General Assembly resolution 833 (IX) are contained in documents A/2910 and Add. 1-6, and A/2907 and Add. 1-2.^{3/} An annotation of the text of the draft Covenants prepared by the Secretary-General, pursuant to the same resolution of the General Assembly, was distributed as document A/2929, and a compilation of amendments and proposed new articles will be found in documents A/C.3/L.460 and Corr. 1.^{4/}

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- ^{2/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/2573), Annexes I, II and III.
- ^{3/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 28.
- ^{4/} Ibid.