



Sixteenth session

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. At its 943rd plenary meeting on 12 December 1960, the General Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixteenth session the item, "Draft International Covenants on Human Rights".
2. The draft Covenants have been before the General Assembly since the ninth session. So far, the Third Committee has adopted the preamble and article 1 of each Covenant, articles 6 to 16 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and articles 6 to 18 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The texts of these articles are reproduced in documents A/3077, A/3525, A/3764, A/4045, A/4299 and A/4625.<sup>1/</sup>
3. At the eleventh session, the Third Committee decided that, after it had completed consideration of the substantive articles of both Covenants, it would take up the general provisions (part II of each Covenant), the measures of implementation (parts IV and V of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and part IV of the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights) and the final clauses (part VI of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and part V of the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights).

<sup>1/</sup> See, respectively, Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 28; ibid., Eleventh Session, Annexes, agenda item 31; ibid., Twelfth Session, Annexes, agenda item 33; ibid., Thirteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 32; ibid., Fourteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 34; ibid., Fifteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 34.

4. The original text of the draft Covenants and proposals relating thereto are contained in the report of the tenth session of the Commission on Human Rights.<sup>1/</sup>

5. An annotation of the text of the draft Covenants, prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 833 (IX) of the General Assembly, was published in document A/2929.<sup>2/</sup> The observations of Governments and of specialized agencies on the draft Covenants, submitted in response to the same resolution, are contained in documents A/2910 and Add.1-2.<sup>3/</sup> A compilation of amendments and proposed new articles appear in document A/C.3/L.460.<sup>4/</sup>

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<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/2573), annexes I, II and III.

<sup>2/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 28, part II.

<sup>3/</sup> Ibid., part I.

<sup>4/</sup> Ibid.