



Fourteenth session

DRAFT DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Note by the Secretary-General

1. By resolution 728 C (XXVIII), adopted on 30 July 1959, the Economic and Social Council decided to transmit to the General Assembly for consideration at its fourteenth session chapter VII of the report of the fifteenth session of the Commission on Human Rights relating to the draft Declaration of the Rights of the Child, together with the documents before the Council.
2. The report of the Commission on Human Rights is contained in document E/3229.^{1/} The documents before the Council were E/AC.7/L.325 containing amendments submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the draft Declaration, and E/AC.7/SR.393-396 and E/SR.1088 which summarize the discussions in the Social Committee and in the plenary meetings of the Council.
3. The proceedings at the United Nations regarding the draft Declaration go back to 1946, when the Temporary Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council stated that the terms of the Declaration of Geneva, adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations, "should be as binding on the peoples of the world today as they were in 1924".^{2/} Subsequently, the Social Commission in 1950 adopted a draft Declaration on the Rights of the Child, and transmitted it to the Economic and Social Council with the recommendation that the Commission on Human Rights be requested to inform the Council of its observations on the draft with a view to its approval by the General Assembly.^{3/}

^{1/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-Eighth Session, Supplement No. 8.

^{2/} Ibid., Second Session, annex 6, document E/41, para. 14, p. 283.

^{3/} Ibid., Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 3, II, draft resolution No.1V, (E/1678).

4. The Economic and Social Council, on 13 July 1950, adopted resolution 309 C (XI), in which, after noting the close relationship between the draft Declaration and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it requested the Commission on Human Rights to communicate to the Council "its observations on the principle and contents" of the draft Declaration.
5. The Commission on Human Rights discussed the draft Declaration at its thirteenth and fifteenth sessions in 1957 and 1959 and transmitted to the Council its observations in the form of a revised draft Declaration, together with the records and documents of its proceedings.
6. The drafts of the Declaration prepared by the Social Commission and the Commission on Human Rights are reproduced at the end of chapter VII of the report of the fifteenth session of the Commission on Human Rights.
