



Twentieth session

DRAFT DECLARATION ON THE RIGHT OF ASYLUM

Note by the Secretary-General

1. By resolution 772 E (XXX) of 25 July 1960, the Economic and Social Council transmitted to the General Assembly the text of a draft Declaration on the Right of Asylum prepared by the Commission on Human Rights, together with the comments of Governments of States Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies on this draft Declaration (E/3403 and Add.1 to 5, A/4452/Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and A/4793).
2. At the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, the Third Committee began its consideration of the draft Declaration on the Right of Asylum and approved texts for the preamble and article 1. In resolution 1839 (XVII), adopted at the 1198th plenary meeting on 19 December 1962, the Assembly decided to take up the draft Declaration as soon as possible at its eighteenth session and to devote as many meetings as necessary to the completion of it.
3. The text of the Declaration as proposed by the Commission on Human Rights is reproduced in paragraph 6 of document A/5359;^{1/} the texts of the preamble and article 1 as approved by the Third Committee are reproduced in the annex to the same document. A brief account of the work on the Declaration in the Commission on Human Rights and in the Economic and Social Council may be found in document A/4792.^{2/}
4. During the seventeenth session, several amendments to the draft Declaration were proposed in the Third Committee which were not considered by the Committee.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 46.

2/ Ibid., Sixteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 38.

These are contained in the following documents:^{3/} A/C.3/L.1035 and Add.1 (Costa Rica, Norway and Togo); A/C.3/L.1036 (Brazil); A/C.3/L.1037 (Greece); A/C.3/L.1038 (Poland); A/C.3/L.1039/Rev.3 (Belgium); A/C.3/L.1043/Rev.1 (USSR); and A/C.3/L.1045 (Algeria, Guinea, Iraq, Mali, Morocco and United Arab Republic).

5. On the recommendation of the Third Committee the Assembly, at its 1279th plenary meeting on 12 December 1963, postponed consideration of the draft Declaration to its nineteenth session. The Secretary-General drew the attention of the nineteenth session of the General Assembly (A/5704) to this decision in connexion with item 56 of the Assembly's provisional agenda (Draft Declaration on the Right of Asylum).

6. Because the Assembly was not able to consider this item at its nineteenth session, the Secretary-General has included it in the provisional agenda of the twentieth session.

^{3/} Ibid., Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 46.