



Twenty-first session
Agenda item 57 (b)

ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION
OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Note by the Secretary-General

ADDENDUM

As of 14 October 1966, the following States, in addition to those listed in documents A/6405 and Add.1, have signed, ratified or acceded to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination:

<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of receipt of instrument of ratification or accession (a)</u>
Finland	6 October 1966	
Czechoslovakia ^{1/}	7 October 1966	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ^{1/}	11 October 1966	
Australia	13 October 1966	

^{1/} The texts of declarations and reservations made by these States are given below.

Declarations and reservations

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Original: English

The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic considers that the provision of article 17, paragraph 1, is not in keeping with the aims and objectives of the Convention since it fails to ensure that all States without any distinction and discrimination be given opportunity to become Parties to the Convention.

The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic does not consider itself bound by the provision of article 22 and maintains that any dispute between two or more parties over the interpretation or application of the Convention, which is not settled by negotiation or by procedures expressly provided for in the Convention, can be referred to the International Court of Justice only at the request of all the parties to the dispute, if they did not agree to another means of settlement.

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Original: English

Reservation

... in the present circumstances deriving from the usurpation of power in Rhodesia by the illegal régime, the United Kingdom must sign subject to a reservation of the right not to apply the Convention to Rhodesia unless and until the United Kingdom informs the Secretary-General of the United Nations that it is in a position to ensure that the obligations imposed by the Convention in respect of that territory can be fully implemented.

Interpretations

... the United Kingdom wishes to state its understanding of certain articles in the Convention. It interprets article 4 as requiring a party to the Convention to adopt further legislative measures in the fields covered by sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of that article only in so far as it may consider with due regard to

the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of the Convention (in particular the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association), that some legislative addition to or variation of existing law and practice in those fields is necessary for the attainment of the end specified in the earlier part of article 4. Further, the United Kingdom interprets the requirement in article 6 concerning "reparation or satisfaction" as being fulfilled if one or other of these forms of redress is made available and interprets "satisfaction" as including any form of redress effective to bring the discriminatory conduct to an end. In addition it interprets article 20 and the other related provisions of part III of the Convention as meaning that if a reservation is not accepted the State making the reservation does not become a party to the Convention.

... The United Kingdom maintains its position in regard to article 15. In its view this article is discriminatory in that it establishes a procedure for the receipt of petitions relating to dependent territories while making no comparable provision for States without such territories. Moreover, the article purports to establish a procedure applicable to the dependent territories of States whether or not those States have become parties to the Convention. Her Majesty's Government have decided that the United Kingdom should sign the Convention, these objections notwithstanding, because of the importance they attach to the Convention as a whole.
