

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Distr. GENERAL

A/9133 14 September 1973

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH/ RUSSIAN/SPANISH

Twenty-eighth session Item 56 of the provisional agenda*

OBSERVANCE OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

| | | Paragraphs | Page |
|-----|--|------------|--------|
| I. | INTRODUCTION | 1 - 4 | 14 |
| II. | MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED | _ | - |
| | BY GOVERNMENTS | 5 | 5 6 |
| | Bulgarîa | | Ь |
| | Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic | • | 7 |
| | Canada | | 9 |
| | Denmark | | 9 |
| | Dominican Republic | | 10 |
| | Egypt | | 10 |
| | Finland | | 11 |
| | German Democratic Republic | | 12 |
| | Guatemala | | 15 |
| | India | | 15 |
| | Iran | | 15 |
| | Italy | | 17 |
| | Japan | | 17 |
| | | | |
| | * A/9100. | | |

CONTENTS (continued)

| | | Paragraphs | Page |
|------|--|------------|------------|
| | Malta | | 18 |
| | Mongolia | • | 18 |
| | Pakistan | | 19 |
| | Peru | • | 20 |
| | Philippines | • | 20 |
| | Republic of Korea | • | 20 |
| | Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic | • | 21 |
| III. | MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED BY THE UNITED NATIONS | . 6 - 56 | 24 |
| | Action taken by the Secretary-General | . 7 – 8 | 24 |
| | Special meeting of the General Assembly | | 24 |
| | Human Rights Day concert | . 10 | 24 |
| | Award of human rights prizes | . 11 - 12 | 25 |
| | Office of Public Information | . 13 - 39 | 25 |
| | United Nations Postal Administration | . 40 - 43 | 30 |
| | United Nations Institute for Training and Research | . 44 - 45 | 31 |
| | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees | . 46 - 48 | 32 |
| | United Nations Development Programme | . 49 - 50 | 33 |
| | United Nations Industrial Development Organization | . 51 | 3 3 |
| | United Nations Research Institute for Social Development | . 52 - 54 | 34 |
| | United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East | . 55 | 34 |
| | United Nations Children's Fund | . 56 | 35 |
| IV. | MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED BY SPECIALIZED AGENCIES | 57 - 75 | 36 |
| | International Labour Organisation | _ | 36 |
| | Food and Agruculture Organization of the United | • | 5- |
| | Nations | . 59 - 61 | 37 |
| | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization | . 62 - 70 | 38 |
| | Universal Postal Union | . 71 - 72 | 39 |
| | | | / |

CONTENTS (continued)

| | | Paragraphs | Page |
|-----|---|----------------|-------------|
| | World Health Organization | 73 - 74 | 39 |
| | World Food Programme | 7 5 | 40 |
| v. | MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED BY REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS | 76 – 79 | 1 41 |
| | Council of Europe | 76 | 41 |
| | Organization of American States | 77 - 79 | 41 |
| JI. | MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED BY NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL | | |
| | ORGANIZATIONS | 80 - 89 | 42 |
| | Action taken by the Secretary-General | 80 - 85 | 42 |
| | Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (New York) | 86 - 87 | 43 |
| | World Federation of United Nations Associations (Geneva) | 88 – 89 | 43 |

ANNEX

List of organizations which reported on measures and activities undertaken or contemplated in connexion with the programme for the observance of the anniversary.

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. At its twenty-seventh session the General Assembly had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the programme for the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/8820 and Corr.1), submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2860 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971. In that resolution the General Assembly expressed the desire to mark, in 1973, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in a manner which would fit the occasion and serve the cause of human rights, and requested the Secretary-General to present for its consideration at the twenty-seventh session, such suggestions as he considered appropriate concerning activities which could be undertaken in celebration of that anniversary.
- In resolution 2906 (XXVII), entitled "Programme for the observance of the 2. twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights", adopted at its 2068th plenary meeting on 19 October 1972, the General Assembly reaffirmed its adherence to the principles, values and ideals contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, reiterated the hope that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration would be celebrated by the world community in a manner befitting the occasion and serving the cause of human rights, and decided to hold a special meeting on 10 December 1973 at which will be launched the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. The General Assembly took note with appreciation of the suggestions presented by the Secretary-General, and requested him: (a) to transmit his report to Governments, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for such action as they may wish to undertake in order to give effect to the suggestions contained in the report; (b) to take the necessary measures for the implementation of those suggestions which fall within the Secretary-General's area of responsibility or which require action by other organs of the United Nations; (c) to organize as soon as possible seminars on a regional level under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights with the purpose of studying new ways and means for promoting human rights in the light of the present resolution, with special attention to the problems and needs of the various regions of the world: (d) to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session a progress report on the preparations made and the measures taken in accordance with that resolution.
- 3. In accordance with resolution 2906 (XXVII), the Secretary-General submits the present progress report, which contains information received or made available to him up to 31 August 1973, on measures and activities undertaken or contemplated in connexion with the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Information received after 31 August 1973 will be circulated in addenda to the present document.
- 4. Information received by the Secretary-General on measures and activities undertaken or contemplated by Governments is set out in section II of the present report. Section III deals with activities undertaken or contemplated by the

United Nations. Section IV contains information received from specialized agencies as to measures undertaken or contemplated by them. Section V contains information received on action taken or contemplated by regional intergovernmental organizations. Section VI summarizes the activities undertaken or contemplated by the non-governmental organizations concerned.

II. MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED BY GOVERNMENTS

5. The Secretary-General has received the following information on measures and activities undertaken or contemplated by Governments in observance of the anniversary:

BULGARIA

/Original: French//
/11 July 1973/

The People's Republic of Bulgaria is gratified by the arrangements for the solemn observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Our country, which has witnessed the translation into fact of the principles of the Declaration regarding respect for the dignity of the human person, regardless of race, colour, language or religion, has more than once proved its loyalty to the noble ideals and purposes which are served by that historic document. The fact that the People's Republic of Bulgaria was one of the first countries to ratify the Covenants on human rights is the most striking proof of that.

As part of the United Nations programme for the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the People's Republic of Bulgaria has planned the following activities, among others:

- 1. On 10 December, the date of the adoption of the Declaration, a solemn meeting and concert at which a report on the importance of the anniversary will be presented by a prominent person;
- 2. A special scientific meeting in which the Bulgarian Academny of Sciences and other scientific institutions will take part; reports on the anniversary and on Bulgaria's contribution to the implementation of the Universal Declaration will be presented;
- 3. School syllabi will include special lectures on the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which will be given on the eve of 10 December;
- 4. The Bulgarian press, radio and television will devote special articles and broadcasts to the anniversary.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria is prepared, as it has always been, to do its utmost to contribute to the full implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

/Original: Russian/ /20 July 1973/

The Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic has always favoured freedom and equality for all peoples and firmly supports the just struggle for liberation from colonial and foreign domination being waged by the peoples of southern Africa - Zimbabwe, Namibia, Angola, Mozambique and Guinea (Bissau) - and of other parts of the world.

On the eve of observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Byelorussian SSR, in staadfast solidarity with its brother peoples of the Soviet Union, the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of which was widely celebrated last year, has achieved enormous success in guaranteeing the exercise of human rights and freedoms. Much has been done in the Republic by way of developing and improving the legislation in force, and a number of important legislative enactments have been adopted for the purpose of strengthening further the democratic foundations of the Soviet system and improving the welfare of the workers.

During the years of Soviet power, the Byelorussian Republic has developed a dynamic, diversified national economy. Industrial output in the Byelorussian SSR is more than 350 times as great as it was in 1922 and is 15 times the figure for the pre-war year 1940. The nature, scale and level of agricultural production has been transformed beyond recognition. The Republic has set out on the broad path of swift scientific and cultural progress, and the life of the people is truly flowering in all its aspects.

True to its principles, at the twenty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly the Byelorussian SSR vigorously advocated the observance and protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms throughout the world. In connexion with the approaching twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Byelorussian delegation voted for the draft resolution in which the General Assembly decided "to hold a special meeting on 10 December 1973 at which will be launched the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination".

During the discussion of the draft programme for the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration, the representatives of the Byelorussian SSR drew attention to one of the significant shortcomings of the draft, namely, that it makes no reference whatsoever to the flagrant, large-scale, systematic violations of human rights which are taking place in southern Africa, in the occupied Arab territories and in other parts of the world.

To ensure that this historic date is observed in a spirit "befitting the occasion and serving the cause of human rights", the draft programme should have included a number of provisions exposing the colonialist and expansionist policies of Portugal and Israel and the policies of those States which are actively assisting them in the struggle against the national liberation movement and provisions

A/9133 English Page 8

condemning racism and <u>apartheid</u> as crimes against humanity. The Byelorussian SSR considers that this should be the purpose of the various seminars, the publications and radio and television broadcasts arranged under United Nations auspices and at the national level both during and after the observance of this anniversary.

This year the Byelorussian SSR intends to organize a number of measures to ensure wide observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration, including gatherings of leading public figures which will be devoted to this historic occasion. Lectures will be given in towns and other population centres by the most distinguished public figures in the Republic and by representatives of social institutions and trade unions active in the field of human rights. The mass information media - press, radio and television - will be used to publish and broadcast material exposing the imperialist policy of suppression of elementary rights and freedoms, condemning colonialism, apartheid and racism, and publicizing the struggle of the forces of peace and progress, including international organizations, for the speedy elimination of the remnants of colonialism, racism and apartheid and the implementation of all the positive decisions of the United Nations relating to guarantees of the protection of human rights.

CANADA

 $\frac{\sqrt{0}\text{riginal: English}}{\sqrt{3}0 \text{ July } 1973}$

The Secretary-General's report, as well as the draft programme for a "Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination," are currently under consideration in Canada.

The Canadian Government has undertaken consultations on the subject in the course of the past few months and, on 3 May, hosted a meeting of some 40 representatives of the provincial human rights agencies and the voluntary sector active in human rights, to gather their views on ways and means to mark this anniversary in Canada.

Numerous suggestions, now under consideration, were gathered from these consultations. It is the feeling of the Government that Canadians want priority to be given on that occasion to measures to foster human rights in Canada rather than to short-lived celebrations which, although valuable, do not necessarily stimulate the desired developments.

It is therefore along those lines that various possibilities are being studied. By early autumn, the Canadian Government will be in a position to provide the Secretary-General of the United Nations with complete information on the measures which will be undertaken in Canada to mark this anniversary.

DENMARK

 $\frac{\overline{0}\text{riginal: English}}{\overline{6}}$ July 197 $\overline{3}$ /

/...

The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed the Folketing (Parliament) and a number of government departments and organizations of General Assembly resolution 2906 (XXVII) of 19 October 1972, and of the Secretary-General's report.

Deliberations on an appropriate observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary have not yet been completed. However, information available by mid-June, 1973, indicates the following:

The Danish United Nations Association, which includes a large number of national organizations (political, trade, workers, students, teachers, women, etc.) has initiated co-ordination of the preparations by several member organizations on the occasion of the anniversary. As a joint project these organizations will have stickers containing the anniversary symbol printed and distributed nation-wide. In addition, the Association is planning a series of lectures on human rights, distribution of the Danish edition of the Declaration on Human Rights and other relevant printed material, mailing to newspapers of articles, and publication in Danish of the United Nations booklet, "FACTS ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA". The Association will also arrange an exhibition, whose theme is to be "discrimination as a violation of human rights", and offer Danish libraries a bibliography on human rights with the suggestion that they set up book exhibits, etc., on the subject.

The Association further plans to ask the Ministry of Education and Danish schools to arrange teaching programmes featuring human rights just as Radio Denmark, in collaboration with the (local) United Nations Information Office, will be urged to programme special broadcasts on human rights for transmission on 10 December.

The Danish section of Amnesty International, which is a member organization of the Association, will launch a collection of signatures as a protest against the use of torture prevalent in many parts of the world.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

 $\frac{\overline{0}\text{riginal: Spanish}}{\overline{2}5}$ May $197\overline{3}$

The Department of Posts of the Dominican Republic will issue postage stamps commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, using as a model the design supplied by the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union.

EGYPT

 $\sqrt{0}$ riginal: Englis $\overline{h}/\sqrt{28}$ August 197 $\overline{3}/\sqrt{28}$

The Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt has planned to observe the anniversary in a manner which would fit the occasion and serve the cause of human rights.

Hereinafter are some of the plans which have been undertaken to observe that anniversary:

- Television and radio programmes would cover the significance of the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 25 years ago, its contents, and its relation with the activities of the United Nations in the field of the international protection of human rights.
- A regular radio programme about the constitutional legal rights and duties of citizens would continue to elaborate on the rights and freedoms accorded to all citizens without distinction of any kind.
- Special television programmes will continue to expose the massive and continuous violations of human rights committed by the colonial and racist régimes against the peoples of southern Africa and Palestine, as well as the population of the Arab territories occupied by Israel.

- The statement of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the occasion of the anniversary will be televised and broadcast, and will also be included in booklets and leaflets which will be published, on the occasion, by the information authority in Egypt.
- The Post Office public authority will issue a special memorial stamp during the month of December 1973, to mark the anniversary.

It is to be noted that the plans mentioned above are but a part of the wider programme envisaged by the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt in order to continue rallying national and international public opinion behind the lofty goals and principles contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

FINLAND

<u>/Original: English/</u> <u>/Il July 1973/</u>

Finland gives special attention each year to the observance of the anniversary. Among other things, the Finnish United Nations Association is responsible for the translation and the distribution of the Human Rights Day message of the Secretary-General. In 1972 a new edition of the Declaration of Human Rights was issued in Finnish.

The twenty-fifth anniversary will be observed in a special manner. Among other things the Finnish United Nations Association has prepared teaching material for schools regarding children's rights. On the whole, the emphasis in the work of the Association will be put on the human rights, and a United Nations circular on the question of southern Africa will be circulated. The UNESCO Commission will also organize a seminar on human rights in Finland.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Original: English

The Government of the German Democratic Republic welcomes and supports the programme for the observance of the anniversary approved by the General Assembly in resolution 2906 (XXVII). The following measures have already been carried out by government bodies and non-governmental organizations:

In March 1973 the German Democratic Republic acceded to the following conventions in the field of human rights:

- Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 9 December 1948;
- Convention on Political Rights of Women of 20 December 1952;
- International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination of 21 December 1965;
- Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity of 26 November 1968.

On 27 March 1973 the following multilateral agreements were signed by the Government:

- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 16 December 1966; and
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 16 December 1966.

The Government intends soon to accede to the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education of 15 December 1960.

On the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on 21 March 1973 Mr. Otto Winzer, Minister of Foreign Affairs, sent a telegram to the United Nations Secretary-General in which the position of the Government, to strictly observe the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and the United Nations General Assembly against the apartheid régime, was reaffirmed. At the same time the Government expressed again its sympathy and active solidarity with the peoples of Africa fighting against colonial and racial suppression and its determination in future to do everything in its power to contribute towards the total elimination of racism and racial discrimination.

In a joint statement by the Committee for Human Rights, the Solidarity Committee and the League for the United Nations, the firm solidarity with all peoples and national movements fighting against racism and colonialism and for national and social liberation was expressed.

At the same time these organizations welcomed the draft convention on the suppression and punishment of the crime of apartheid and advocated its earliest possible entry into force so that it could be used as an instrument for effective and co-ordinated action against the protagonists of apartheid. Furthermore, they welcomed the observance of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, starting on 10 December 1973, and promised their active support.

On 24 May 1973 the Week of Solidarity with the colonially-suppressed peoples in southern Africa, Guinea (Bissau) and the Cape Verde Islands was opened in the capital by a meeting of the Solidarity Committee in which the acting Secretary-General of the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) and other notable personalities took part. The Week of Solidarity was observed beginning 25 May 1973, the Day of African Unity and the tenth anniversary of the OAU's foundation.

In a joint statement by the GDR Solidarity Committee, the National Council of the National Front, the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions, the Free German Youth, the Peace Council and the Friendship Society GDR-Africa the peoples of South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Angola, Guinea (Bissau) and the Cape Verde Islands, Mozambique and other colonially-suppressed territories were assured of the unbreakable friendship and deep solidarity of the people of the GDR.

An international scientific seminar on "New forms and methods of the neo-colonialist policy of imperialism" was organized by the AAFSO at Eisenhuettenstadt on the eve of the Solidarity Week. Representatives of almost 30 member organizations of the AAFSO participated in this two-day meeting.

The Week of International Solidarity with the Arab Peoples in the German Democratic Republic was opened by a manifestation in Berlin on 4 June 1973. In meetings in factories, schools and institutions many citizens demanded a political solution of the Middle East problem on the basis of resolution 242 of the Security Council.

The Solidarity Committee addressed a message of greetings to the international conference of experts in Oslo on support for victims of colonialism and apartheid in the southern part of Africa. In this message the Committee declared that it expects an effective contribution of the conference to support the liberation struggle.

The following additional measures are planned:

The Government has decided to prepare a new Youth Law. A draft of the law was submitted on 16 June 1973 to public discussion of the youth and of all members of the population. It corresponds to the demands concerning the rights of youth put forward in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Declaration on Rights of the Child and the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples.

A/9133 English Page 14

The GDR acted as host for the Tenth World Youth and Students' Festival from 28 July 1973 to 5 August 1973 under the slogan, "For anti-imperialist solidarity, peace and friendship". The people and the Government are convinced that this meeting of world youth has made a constructive and significant contribution towards further implementing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In preparation for the anniversary, the traditional mass rallies marking the memorial day for the victims of fascism were held in September 1973 in the capital and in other cities and towns. Meetings and functions were also held in factories, institutions and schools during the solidarity campaign under the motto "Freedom for Peace". This campaign is held every year to promote the cause of international solidarity with all victims of aggression, racism, neo-fascism and colonialism.

In numerous publications and programmes the press, radio and television and mass organizations will make their contribution toward the further development of international co-operation, for the promotion and protection of human rights, In this, multiple use is made of the special design symbolizing the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Committee for Human Rights will publish a scientific paper in several languages entitled "The equality of women in the GDR", making a detailed comparison between the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the pertinent United Nations conventions, and the valid laws and legislation in the GDR. This publication will also serve as a contribution to the International Women's Year (1975).

A number of other activities are planned by the State and social organs in connexion with the anniversary.

GUATEMALA

/Original: Spanish/

The Guatemalan Ministry of Education will do its utmost to have the special symbol referred to used in its publications and to have it publicized on the date with an explanatory caption. It is also having a poster showing the special symbol for the twenty-fifth anniversary printed and distributed throughout the country. In addition, the Ministry has printed 10,000 copies of the Declaration of Human Rights for distribution to the general public.

INDIA

/Original: English/ /13 February 1973/

The symbol approved for use in connexion with the anniversary was circulated amongst all the concerned ministries, departments and other institutions of the Government for their comments. Many of them are interested in having the design suitably displayed in the publications of their organizations. The Posts and Telegraph Department may also decide to have this published aska postal mark at the appropriate time.

IRAN

/Original: English/
/ 31 August 1973/

The Iranian Committee for Human Rights is to set up an Executive Committee consisting of representatives of all the organizations and private institutions concerned with human rights for the implementation of the above-mentioned Programme.

This Committee will, in addition, award silver medals to five individuals having played effective roles in the protection and promotion of Human Rights. These medals will bear the seal of the United Nations and the approved United Nations symbol of the anniversary.

On the occasion of "Human Rights Day", 10 December 1973, the following Programme is being arranged in Iran:

- In Tehran and other provinces, public city squares will be decorated with the flags of Iran and the United Nations, colourful lights and "Human Rights" posters.

- A special ceremony will be arranged in Tehran and messages from His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamehr; Her Imperial Highness Princess Ashraf, Honorary President of the Iranian Committee for Human Rights; and the Secretary-General of the United Nations will be read. The Secretary-General of the Iranian Committee for Human Rights will speak on the past and present activities of the Committee.
- Arrangements will be made for lectures on the subject of social justice and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at specially-organized meetings. A seminar will be held in which University professors and law experts will be invited to participate.
- Women's organizations of Iran will arrange a conference in Tehran on the rights of women in general and on the political and social rights granted to Iranian women as a result of the White Revolution.
- The Ministry of Post, Telegraph and Telephone is to issue a series of stamps carrying the approved United Nations symbol for use in connexion with the anniversary and for a period of two weeks all mail will be stamped before delivery with slogans in Persian, English or French commemorating the anniversary.
- Telephone directory assistance operators will answer callers with an appropriate greeting on Human Rights Day.
- The Ministry of Justice will arrange for the release of a group of prisoners on this occasion upon the recommendation of its Clemency Commission.
- The Iranian Committee for Human Rights will prepare and publish a book, in Persian and English, entitled "Iran and Human Rights". This Committee will also publish a collection of International Labour Agreements (International Conventions adopted by the ILO) indicating the date of their approval by each Member State and containing a comparison of their provisions with labour laws and regulations in Iran.
- The Ministry of Education is making arrangements for special lectures at schools on the observance of Human Rights Day. Students will be encouraged to write papers on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.
- The text of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, messages, and special bulletins will be prepared for wide distribution throughout the country.
- A special film on human rights and the progress achieved in the elimination of racial discrimination, produced by the Iranian Committee for Human Rights, will be distributed for showing at cinemas throughout the country. An exhibition of photographs and publications on these subjects will be organized in Tehran during the first half of December 1973.

- Wide coverage will be given by the press, radio and television to all activities connected with the observance of Human Rights Day.
- Articles specially prepared by the Iranian Committee on Human Rights will be forwarded to the press emphasizing the historical and universal significance of the Declaration of Human Rights, the steps taken by Iran in this field and the progress achieved in the implementation of the aims of the Declaration and the elimination of racial discrimination.
- Provincial information offices across the country, to whom copies of this entire programme will be sent, will, as far as possible, arrange similar programmes in those provinces. A complete report on the action taken with respect to the observance of the anniversary will be prepared and forwarded later to the Secretary-General.

ITALY

<u>/Original: English/</u>
<u>/3</u>1 July 197<u>3</u>/

The National Institute of Architecture, in order to celebrate the anniversary, will hold a national conference on Human Rights Within Human Settlements from 15 to 17 December 1973. In order to lay a particular stress on this problem, in which so many countries are involved and which has already been the subject of a debate in the United Nations, the Institute would greatly appreciate it if the scheduled conference could receive the high patronage of the United Nations. The presence at the conference of a representative of the Organization would be appreciated and welcomed.

JAPAN

<u>/</u>Original: English//
/21 August 1973/

For Human Rights Week, from 4 to 10 December 1973, many nationwide public information activities are scheduled, including lectures, round-table discussions and placement of posters, buntings, standing signboards, etc., to celebrate the anniversary. In this connexion, the United Nations special designs symbolizing the anniversary are going to be used for the above posters and also for signboards at lecture halls, etc. throughout the country.

A/9133 English Page 18

MALTA

As part of the celebration commemorating the anniversary, the Government of Malta will be issuing a commemorative stamp incorporating a symbol of same. This symbol is shown in the enclosed 1/ photograph and colour transparency of the stamp, which will be issued on 6 October 1973.

In addition, the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Government of Malta will or ranize special activities in all schools to commemorate this great occasion. More specific details of these activities will be forwarded at a later date.

MONGOLIA

<u>/</u>Original: English//
/14 June 1973/

The anniversary will be commemorated in the Mongolian People's Republic on 10 December 1973. In this connexion it is expected to give wide coverage in the press of the events to be held in marking the anniversary, including the publication of articles and reports in the leading national newspapers such as "Unen" and "Khudulmur". It is also envisaged to arrange special programmes for the broadcasting media throughout the country.

¹/ The photograph and transparency are available in the records of the Secretariat.

PAKISTAN

<u>/Original: English</u>/
<u>/27 August 1973</u>/

Human Rights Day, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, will be celebrated in a befitting manner in Pakistan. The various fields of activities programmed for the observance of the Day are detailed below:

- (1) Messages from the high dignataries such as the President, Prime Minister and some other Ministers will be released.
- (2) It is proposed to have a resolution passed by the National Assembly of Pakistan (provided it is in session in December 1973) affirming faith in the dignity and worth of human being and our dedication to the implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
 - (3) Commemorative postage stamps will be issued.
- (4) Posters of the special design symbolizing the anniversary as approved by the United Nations, will be widely displayed in public places, in functions of schools and colleges etc., and will be published in newspapers.
- (5) Functions would be arranged in various schools and colleges, universities and public libraries to celebrate the anniversary. Lectures and discussions will be held on suitable topics relating to human rights emphasizing the importance and ultimate benefits of the Declaration of Human Rights.
- (6) Seminars on the subject of human rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be held under the auspices of Pakistan Centre and other organizations and institutions.
- (7) Universities etc., will be requested for marked extension in the teaching of the international system of protection of human rights and for observance of the occasion by holding public discussions.
- (8) (a) Articles and editorials will be written and published in daily local newspapers.
 - (9) Articles will be published in Pakistan Pictorial.
- (10) Activities and functions held under the programme, will be included in the Pakistan News Pictorial (Weekly film newsreel) which will be displayed in cinema houses all over Pakistan.
- (11) The message of the United Nations Secretary-General will be broadcast on Radio Pakistan in national hook-up.

- (12) Discussion in the national language will be held on Radio Pakistan about the role of the United Nations in protecting the human rights.
- (13) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the efforts of the United Nations in upholding it will be projected in all regional language programmes of the Radio Pakistan.
- (14) T.V. documentary programmes will be produced on the significance and importance of the Declaration. The documentary will deal with the history and impact of the Declaration on world communities.
- (15) Necessary coverage to the events connected with the Human Rights Day will be given in news bulletins.

PERU

<u>/Original</u>: Spanis<u>h</u>//
/3 July 1973/

Firstly, 10 December 1973 will be officially designated "Universal Declaration of Human Rights Day". On that date, 10 December, the Prime Minister or a person of equal standing will read a message to the country stressing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Other plans for observing the anniversary include organizing lectures in centres of higher education, schools, labour institutions and cultural organizations and disseminating the Universal Declaration more widely by all communications media, such as radio, television, newspapers, documentary films, posters and leaflets.

PHILIPPINES

/Original: English/ /12 April 1973/

The Government has taken appropriate steps for the observance of the anniversary on 20 December 1973. The special design symbolizing the anniversary of the Declaration has been circularized, and is expected to be used as widely as possible in connexion with the celebration.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

The special design has been duly forwarded to the authorities concerned to make use of it in their preparations for the observance of the anniversary.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

<u>/</u>0riginal: Russian// <u>/</u>31 July 197<u>3</u>/

The adoption 25 years ago of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights symbolized the triumph of lofty humanitarian ideals over the inhuman ideology of fascism and racism. The Declaration, which was drafted with the active participation of the socialist States, including the Soviet Ukraine, gave formal expression to a number of important political, civil, social and economic rights which everyone in every country is entitled to enjoy without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is all the more significant because it formed the basis, together with the United Nations Charter, for the elaboration in subsequent years of important international instruments directed against colonialism and racism, genocide and oppression. The historic 1960 Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the 1963 Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Covenants on Human Rights, the Conventions against genocide and racial discrimination and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development - these vital international instruments reflected the categorical demand of the peoples of the world that the shameful system of colonialism and racial discrimination should be ended and that peoples should be guaranteed democratic rights and freedoms.

In the opinion of the Ukrainian SSR, significant further progress could be made in this matter by adopting the Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid - an important political instrument dealing with one of the most pressing problems of our time.

The celebration of Human Rights Day in the Ukrainian SSR will take place amid the further strengthening and all-round development of socialist democracy. In our country everyone enjoys the most extensive rights and freedoms, which are not only proclaimed in the Constitution but also guaranteed materially, politically and legally.

The Ukraine has already carried out a number of specific measures in observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and further steps are planned. They include publicity measures - the dissemination of information through the mass media on various aspects of international co-operation in the defence and observance of fundamental human rights and freedoms. This year, for example, the basic problems considered at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights and the fifty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Council were explained to the people.

Articles on a number of current human rights problems of both an internal and

an international nature were published in the legal journal Radyanske pravo and in other periodicals. Similar material was used in radio and television programmes.

In 1973 the Ukraine carried out a series of measures in connexion with the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the week of solidarity with the peoples of southern Africa and the Portuguese colonies and the week of solidarity with the peoples of the Arab countries fighting against the consequences of Israeli aggression.

The "Knowledge" Society carries out important work in publicizing the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Public figures, scholars and speakers from the Society deliver lectures and conduct discussions and seminars on a number of current human rights problems at enterprises, building sites, collective farms, institutions and educational establishments in the Ukrainian SSR.

These and other measures will continue to be carried out, in December of this year, particularly in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Thus, on 10 December we plan to publish and broadcast articles and discussions through the mass information media and to show still and motion pictures which will explain the current problems of guaranteeing and protecting fundamental human rights and freedoms, including measures being carried out by the United Nations. Meetings of leading public figures will also be held on this day.

In observing the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Ukrainian SSR realizes that full protection of human rights in the world cannot be achieved without a further concentration of international efforts, including efforts made through the United Nations. The Ukrainian SSR proceeds on the assumption that the essential condition for the liberation of man and the affirmation of his rights is to be found in crucial social changes which will ensure the elimination of the exploitation of man by man and enable society to develop in a planned manner that promotes the complete fulfilment of the individual. The representatives of the Ukrainian SSR defend this viewpoint and will continue to do so together with the representatives of the other socialist countries in all international forums where the problems of social development and the securing of human rights are considered.

The question of the protection of human rights in the situation which has resulted from the imperialist and racist policies of certain States is today extremely urgent.

We have all seen the shameless flouting of human rights in the colonial possessions and the merciless suppression of peoples fighting to cast off the yoke of colonialism. The racist régimes, the <u>apartheid</u> system, genocide and the other loathsome consequences of the undivided and arbitrary rule of the imperialist Powers in Asia, Africa and other parts of the world are flagrant examples of the violation of human rights. Nor can we ignore the violations of human rights being committed by the Israeli occupation authorities against the indigenous Arab population in the territories which they have seized.

All these facts demonstrate that if the great principles underlying the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are to triumph, a hard, stubborn, persistent struggle is still necessary. The United Nations must continue to play its important role in this struggle.

III. MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED BY THE UNITED NATIONS

6. The following information refers to measures and activities undertaken or contemplated by the United Nations in connexion with the observance of the anniversary:

Action taken by the Secretary-General

- 7. As requested in operative paragraph 5 (a) and (b) of General Assembly resolution 2906 (XXVII), the Secretary-General transmitted his report (A/8820 and Corr.1) containing suggestions as to a programme of suitable activities which could be undertaken to observe the anniversary to Governments, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations and to non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for such action as they wished to undertake in order to give effect to the suggestions contained in the report. In addition, he took the necessary measures for the implementation of those suggestions which fell within his area of responsibility or which required action by other organs of the United Nations. The measures and activities undertaken or contemplated as a result are summarized below.
- 8. With regard to the request of the General Assembly, in operative paragraph 5 (c) of the resolution, the Secretary-General undertook to organize seminars on the regional level under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights with the purpose of studying new ways and means for promoting human rights, with special attention to the problems and needs of the various regions of the world. The first such seminar is scheduled to be held in Dar es Salaam from 23 October to 5 November 1973.

Special meeting of the General Assembly

9. In paragraph 3 of resolution 2906 (XXVII), the General Assembly decided to hold a special meeting on 10 December 1973 at which will be launched the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

Human Rights Day Concert

10. A concert will be held on Human Rights Day (10 December) at United Nations Headquarters. The tentative programme for this commemorative event includes an address by the President of the General Assembly. Efforts will be made to arrange for widest possible dissemination, by radio and television, of the concert.

Award of human rights prizes

- 11. Recommendation C of the annex to General Assembly resolution 2217A (XXI) provides for the selection of the winners of human rights prizes by a special committee, composed of the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights, the Chairman of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Chairman of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. It is contemplated that this Committee will be convened at the Headquarters of the United Nations soon after the election of the President of the twenty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly. In order to give adequate time for the submission of nominations under subparagraph (d) of Recommendation C, the Secretary-General, following the procedures utilized in 1968 for seeking nominations, requested those entitled to do so to submit their nominations for a prize or prizes in the field of human rights, so that he may be in a position to present a preliminary list of candidates to the Special Committee.
- 12. It is contemplated that, as in 1968, winners of Human Rights Prizes will be invited to attend the special meeting of the General Assembly on 10 December. At that meeting prize winners will be presented with a metal plaque bearing the United Nations seal and an artistic design, engraved with an appropriate citation, as a concrete and lasting token of the award.

Office of Public Information

- 13. The Office of Public Information has concentrated its efforts upon promoting and publicizing, as well as encouraging, observances of the anniversary.
- 14. Particular emphasis was given to the production and distribution of informational and support materials, and to enlisting the support of United Nations Information Centres and regional offices, as well as of non-governmental organizations. OPI mobilized its resources to attain a dignified and successful observance.
- 15. During the forty-first session of the Consultative Committee on Public Information and the Visual Information Board, held at New York in February 1973, a co-ordinated effort of the information bodies of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations family, to promote the anniversary, was initiated.
- 16. United Nations Information Centres were supplied with a series of background circulars, informing them of the availability and supply of information materials on the human rights in all media and urging them to utilize all resources at their disposal to publicize the event. Special emphasis was given to efforts to obtain co-operation and support from non-governmental organizations.

Radio and Visual Information Services

- 17. Letters were addressed by the Director of the Radio and Visual Services of the Division to Directors-General and programme officers of television and broadcasting organizations throughout the world, bringing to their attention the decisions and requests from the General Assembly for support of the aims of the anniversary and providing them with texts of the Declaration in appropriate languages and other materials dealing with the themes of human rights. The initial response to these promotional efforts indicates widespread interest on the part of co-operating organizations in the field of television, film and radio broadcasting.
- 18. A special news-film package, in colour and black and white, including historical and illustrative material, was compiled and offered to television producers for their own human rights observances. Similarly, television stations received notifications of available documentary programmes for use during the observance. United Nations Information Centres received stocks of documentary programmes relevant to the human rights theme. While these programmes, dealing with the questions of apartheid, women's rights, self-determination, the rights of the child, etc., are suitable for direct telecast, the basic human rights film compilation is intended particularly to help producers construct their own documentary programmes on the anniversary. Accredited correspondents will have access to these materials to stimulate visual productions.
- 19. Special attention was given to the selective placement of a television documentary, "West Meets East", filmed during the performance at the Human Rights Day concert of 1967, in which Yehudi Menuhin and Ravi Shankar join in the performance of an Indian raga. As a result of the initial offering of this programme, a number of networks have undertaken to broadcast this programme during the week preceding Human Rights Day 1973.
- 20. Additional language versions of the film, "Twentieth Century Slavery-Apartheid", in Arabic, Italian and Swahili, were produced.
- 21. Documentary programme plans for future months include a half-hour production for television broadcasting, now being filmed in Africa, dealing with the victims of <u>apartheid</u>, and a programme recorded in French describing the life of an exile from southern Africa now living in Europe. Negotiations are also taking place for a co-production with a prominent film producer and distributor intended to yield an authoritative documentary on the subject of race, emphasizing the non-scientific basis for racial prejudice and discrimination.

Special releases and messages

22. In observance of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Secretary-General recorded a statement at the beginning of March 1973, for release and use on 21 March, which was released in English, French and Spanish. This message, filmed in video-tape form, was distributed world-wide through news syndicators, and in a total of 112 prints to all

Information Centres and offices of Resident Representatives for dissemination. Radio broadcasters in some 120 countries and territories received this message in taped form for use during their news broadcasts.

23. Pre-filmed messages by the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General will be issued in connexion with Human Rights Day 1973 and will received distribution through the channels mentioned above. These messages will emphasize the launching of the Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

Radio coverage of human rights developments and themes

- 24. Since the adoption of the General Assembly resolution on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Radio Service gave the usual coverage in its daily news bulletins and weekly news summaries to all important events in the field of human rights. These news items were used by radio correspondents at Headquarters, by United Nations Information Centres, and in newscasts in the following 18 languages: Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Tagalog, Tai and Turkish.
- 25. The news magazine, "The Week at the United Nations", used by some 1,000 broadcasting organizations in North America, the Caribbean, Asia and Oceania, covered a number of human rights items.
- 26. The following recorded programmes within the <u>Perspective</u> series, used by broadcasting organizations in 120 countries and territories, were written, produced, and distributed on the general aspects of human rights:

African Slave Labour

- United Nations Efforts to Guarantee Equality for Women Thirteen Years after Sharpeville (to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination).
- 27. During the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly, meetings on human rights items, including the special meeting devoted to commemorating the anniversary, will be broadcast live. The following recorded programmes on human rights themes will be produced and transmitted during the rest of the year:
 - A programme on violations of trade union rights in southern Africa
 - A programme on violations of human rights in occupied territories of the Middle East
 - Two special documentary programmes to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the second timed for use on Human Rights Day, 10 December 1973.

- 28. Special commemorative messages by the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General will be recorded and distributed throughout the world.
- 29. News developments relating to human rights will be covered by "The Week at the United Nations" as appropriate, during the rest of 1973.
- 30. The following photographic and display materials were produced and made available to commemorate the anniversary:
- (a) A four-part poster-set illustrating the text of the Declaration in a total of 20,000 copies in the following languages: English: 8,000, French: 1,700, Spanish: 2,700, Blanks: 7,600 (for overprinting in local languages). This poster-set illustrates in simple, visually-understandable style the various articles of the Declaration. It is particularly suited for use in schools.
- (b) A wallsheet in poster form, containing the text of the Declaration in an easily-readable format, 22 x 34 inches (56 x 86 cm). The following quantities were produced and distributed in these languages: English: 6,500 copies, French: 3,250, Spanish: 2,250, Russian: 1,000, Chinese: 1,000, Arabic: 2,300, Total: 15,500.
- (c) A compilation of 16 photographs, size 8 x 10 inches, intended to support articles and special magazine and newspaper features marking the anniversary. This photographic package, of which 250 sets are available, contains a short guide sheet and leaflet, reproducing the text of the Declaration, for use by publishers and editors. It includes suggestions about how this photographic material might be used.
- (d) An Arabic version of the filmstrip on human rights, prepared by the Information Centre in Tunis, will be circulated.

Press and publications

- 31. The Press Service, in addition to coverage of the Commission on Human Rights and of the Economic and Social Council in 1973, provided the press at United Nations Headquarters and at the European Office with information about all major events connected with the observance of the anniversary by issuing press releases on relevant issues. Specific attention was given to the resolution entitled "Question of the violation of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East" and the launching of the Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.
- 32. The following materials are being published and distributed:
- (a) <u>United Nations and Human Rights</u> (OPI/501): an up-dated booklet containing a comprehensive review of human rights activities of the United Nations, including those concerned with women's rights; of approximately 100 pages printed in English, French and Spanish.

- (b) Questions and answers on human rights (OPI/493): a brief pamphlet to explain in layman's terms the rights enumerated in the Declaration, published in English, French and Spanish.
- (c) Equal rights for women (OPI/494): a brief commentary on the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, printed in all official languages. Quantities printed of the above publications are:

Chinese versions are also contemplated.

Periodicals

- 33. It is planned to devote the major portion of the October issue of Objective: Justice (Volume 5, No. 4) to the anniversary, in English and in French. Additional language versions and reprints, based on the articles in this issue will be available.
- 34. The following articles were published in the United Nations Chronicle:
- (a) Issue of January 1973: Reports on the various resolutions adopted by the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly.
 - (b) Issue of February 1973: Article on "Periodic Reports on Human Rights".
 - (c) Issue of March 1973: Article on the Commission on Human Rights.
- (d) Issue of April 1973: Article on the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and on various meetings of United Nations bodies dealing with human rights questions.
- (e) Issue of May 1973: Article on the twenty-ninth session of the Human Rights Commission.

Text of the Declaration

35. The Declaration is now available in 61 languages. Copies are being distributed by the networks of Information Centres and Offices of UNDP Resident Representatives within their areas of activities. An effective way of securing wide public attention for the anniversary will be to have the Declaration reprinted in local languages and magazines in full, and the above offices were urged to pursue this project in coming weeks.

Special articles

- 36. An effort is under way to have special articles on the anniversary either placed or commissioned in prestige publications throughout the world. The success of this project will depend on personal contacts with leading figures in the human rights field and the interest of publishers and their willingness to devote space in their publications to this matter.
- 37. In publicizing resolution 4 (XXIX) on the "Question of the violation of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East", adopted by the Commission on Human Rights in March 1973, OPI is taking the following measures:
- (a) The full text of the resolution is being published under the UN STORY series in English, French and Spanish;
- (b) A radio programme within the "Perspective" series will be produced on the resolution and other developments regarding the violation of human rights in the occupied territories. This radio programme will reach wide audiences through radio organizations in 120 countries and territories;
- (c) United Nations Information Centres have been instructed to give the widest publicity to the resolution and have been requested to report back on initiatives taken in this regard.
- 38. The Unit on Education Information Programmes issued a school pamphlet on human rights (OPI/496). It is aimed at the 9-12-year-old group and sets out in simple, easily-understandable terms the main tenets of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is accompanied by a Teacher's Guide giving specific recommendations on how to use the pamphlet and make the Declaration relevant to the child's own life. Initial reaction to this pamphlet from educators is most promising and it is expected that the approach used will make it accessible on a wide basis to school children in developing countries.
- 39. A total of 140,000 copies of this pamphlet has been produced in the following languages and quantities:

United Nations Postal Administration

40. A specially-designed commemorative stamp will be issued on 16 November 1973 in four denominations featuring the anniversary. Printed in an edition of more than 10 million, it will be available both at United Nations Headquarters (8* and 21 cents) and at the United Nations Office at Geneva (.40 and .80 Swiss francs).

- 41. A special souvenir card (size 6 by 8 inches) is being printed in 400,000 copies. A press release elaborating on this philatelic project is being prepared for early release.
- 42. To promote this enterprise further, a promotional mailing of a six-panel pamphlet, including the text of the Declaration, will be undertaken. Sixty thousand copies will be distributed in English, French, Spanish, German and Japanese.
- 43. A special slogan, "First Day of Issue" cancellation will be used starting 3 December 1973.

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

44. UNITAR has, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2906 (XXVII) and the programme for the anniversary drawn by the Secretary-General, devoted special attention in its 1973 training programmes to the question of human rights. In its general seminar on the functioning and procedures of the United Nations system organized for new members of Permanent Missions to the United Nations, it has included a special session on human rights questions. In addition, as part of its special course on United Nations regional structures and related organizations, it has arranged a seminar on co-operation between the United Nations and non-United Nations regional organizations in the field of human rights.

45. The following is the text of the Executive Director's message:

"I am very glad that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is to be celebrated in an appropriate manner, as the adoption and proclamation of the Declaration was undoubtedly one of the major landmarks in the histroy of the United Nations. We have made much progress since 10 December 1948, but a formidable task still lies ahead of us in our efforts to ensure that the provisions of the Declaration are fully applied throughout the world.

"I am thinking especially at this time of the continent of Africa. In 1948 almost all the continent was under colonial rule. Today, almost all the countries north of the Zambesi river are independent sovereign States. But south of that line many millions of our fellow men, women and children are still living in countries where they are denied the most elementary human rights. Let us on this twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption and proclamation of the Declaration of Human Rights rededicate ourselves to the task of gaining those rights for all the people to whom they are still denied, especially in the southern part of Africa.

"Another aspect of human rights in which there has been much progress since 1948 is that of discrimination on the ground of sex. Many opportunities have been opened to women which were closed to them 25 years ago. Nevertheless, we must admit that there is still much discrimination against

women throughout the world, even in the most developed countries. Even where discriminatory barriers have been formally broken down, they are often maintained by informal means. Too often the barriers are not in legal provisions, but in men's minds. Let us rededicate ourselves to the task of eliminating all kinds of discrimination on grounds of sex, in whatever form they may appear.

"We in UNITAR have always had the Universal Declaration of Human Rights very much in mind in framing our programmes of training and research, and we intend to give even more careful thought to this aspect of our work in the future. We have embarked on a new research project in the field of decolonization and we have made clear our desire to play an active part in the training of nationals of those countries which are still striving for their independence. Last year we organized a colloquium on the situation of women in the United Nations and we are fully aware of the importance of following up the points made in the report on it. We look forward to playing a full part in achieving fuller acceptance of the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights throughout the world."

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

- 46. The special design which the Secretary-General has approved for use in connexion with the anniversary, coupled with the words, "25th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 10 December 1973", was reproduced on page 6 of "UNHCR" (No. 1, February 1973).
- 47. The UNHCR also plans to devote ample space to the anniversary in its feature releases, as well as in other publications, and is also undertaking to produce a film on legal protection.
- 48. The following is the text of the High Commissioner's message:

"The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is pleased to be associated with arrangements being made for the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The establishment of UNHCR, which is entrusted with the task of protecting refugees, was part of the wider effort undertaken by the United Nations in the human rights field.

"Human rights have a direct bearing on the protection of refugees - a basic function which has been exercised by refugee organizations since the inception of international aid to refugees under the aegis of the first League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Dr. Fridtjof Nansen. The preamble to the 1951 Convention, which defines the basic standards for the treatment of refugees, specifically mentions the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, affirming the principle that human beings shall enjoy fundamental rights and freedoms without discrimination.

"Persons become refugees as a result of the non-observance or threatened non-observance of human rights. As long as we live in an imperfect world it is necessary to consider the granting of asylum as a basic human right - defined as such in Article 14 of the Universal Declaration - and to ensure that refugees enjoy at least minimum standards of treatment in their country of residence.

"The High Commissioner greatly welcomes the progress that has been achieved in the development and strengthening of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration, and very much hopes that substantial further progress will take place in the years to come, as this cannot fail to have favourable results, as regards both the avoidance of refugee problems and their solution."

United Nations Development Programme

- 49. UNDP plans to emphasize human rights in the December 1973 issue of its publication, "Commitment". UNDP has sent a memorandum to each of its Resident Representatives, suggesting ways in which they can observe Human Rights Day locally and asking for the widest possible circulation of the text of the Administrator's special message.
- 50. The following is the text of the Administrator's message:

"There are many kinds of prisons. Some encage our bodies. Some encage our minds. Some are made of stone and steel. Others of ignorance and hate. But surely the biggest prison of all is the one formed by human want and destitution. Its wretched walls stretch across every quarter of the earth and hold more than 2 billion men, women and children captive. Its conditions can be as oppressive, its cruelties as insufferable, as the worst devised by man.

"I think we must proceed systematically to tear down its walls. And I think nothing could better befit the 25th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights than that we rededicate ourselves to the task of eliminating all such forms of human degradation.

"Let there be no mistake about it: the walls of poverty can be breached. We have the skills and capabilities. We lack only the commitment. But the winning of all human rights begins and ends with a human commitment. It is that commitment which holds the key to the prisons of this world. It is that commitment to which we dedicate this day."

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

51. The public information service of UNIDO, which also acts as United Nations Information Service for Austria, is planning a series of observances which will involve not only the international organizations in Vienna, but also the Austrian Government, the academic community, non-governmental organizations, the mass media and the general public, along the lines indicated in the Secretary-General's report.

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

- 52. During 1973 a major occupation of the Institute will be the preparation of a report entitled "Unified Approach to Development Analysis and Planning". This is based on General Assembly resolution 2681 (XXV). According to the General Assembly the components of such an approach include the following objectives:
 - "(a) To leave no sector of the population outside the scope of change and development,
 - (b) To effect structural change which favours national development and to activate all sectors of the population to participate in the development process,
 - (c) To aim at social equity, including the achievement of an equitable distribution of income and wealth in the nation,
 - (d) To give high priority to the development of human potentials, including vocational and technical training, the provision of employment opportunities and meeting the needs of children".
- 53. This is a definition of development which moves much closer to considerations of human rights than past conceptions, and is in line with the statement in the Preamble of the <u>International Development Strategy</u> proclaimed by the General Assembly on 24 October 1970: "The ultimate objective of development must be to bring about sustained improvement in the well-being of the individual and bestow benefits on all. If undue privileges, extremes of wealth and social injustices persist, then development fails in its essential purpose."
- 54. The elected members of the Board of the Institute may contribute papers to a volume to be issued by the Institute to be entitled "Equity and Growth" to be issued by 10 December 1973.

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

55. UNRWA is publishing a special issue of their newsletter "Palestine Refugees Today", restating various aspects of programme planning relevant to the Declaration. This newsletter will be published in English, French and German in a total of some 13,000 copies. A special Arabic edition is also planned.

United Nations Children's Fund

- 56. UNICEF produced and distributed display material for the observance of the anniversary as follows:
 - Poster in three colours, giving highlights of the United Nations Declaration of the Right of the Children 6,000 copies
 - Wallsheet illustrated by 10 photographs highlighting various articles of the Declaration on the Rights of the Child, with textual captions, printed in 30,000 copies, three language editions, and for overprinting locally.
 - 1973 UNICEF Poster, "The Rights of the Child", printed in 104,000 copies in the five official languages and for overprinting locally.

IV. MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED BY SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

57. The Secretary-General has received the following information on measures undertaken or contemplated by specialized agencies in connexion with the observance of the anniversary:

International Labour Organisation

58. The following measures are envisaged by the ILO:

<u>Director-General's message</u>. The Director-General proposes to issue a message on the occasion of the anniversary.

Public information. It is intended to issue a fact-sheet on human rights in the new series of ILO fact-sheets, and to publish in ILO Information general articles on "The ILO and Human Rights" and on "Work and Dignity", as well as an article on apartheid based on the special report which the Director-General will, as usual, be presenting to the International Labour Conference. An article on ILO action in relation to migrant workers is to be included in a forthcoming issue of press features.

Special design to mark the anniversary. It is intended to use the special design on appropriate ILO publications and documents wherever possible.

Action by ILO supervisory bodies. The attention of the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations and of the Conference Committee on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations will be drawn to the anniversary.

Apart from the continuing contribution made by these supervisory bodies to the promotion and protection of human rights dealt with in ILO instruments, they will have an opportunity in 1973 and in the following years to consider in detail the position throughout the world in regard to certain basic human rights standards, following decisions by the Governing Body to request reports under the procedure relating to reports on unratified Conventions and on Recommendations provided for in article 19 of the ILO Constitution. This year the Committee of Experts will make a general survey of the situation of law and practice relating to the implementation of ILO conventions on freedom of association, the right to organize and collective bargaining. This survey will be presented to the International Labour Conference for consideration by the Conference Committee on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations.

In view of decisions taken by the Governing Body, similar surveys will be made in 1974 on the Termination of Employment Recommendation, 1963 (No. 119), in 1975 on the Equal Remuneration Convention (No. 100) and Recommendation (No. 90) of 1951, and in 1976 on the Consultation (Industrial and National Levels) Recommendation, 1960 (No. 113).

Action in the field of discrimination. Special account will be taken of the anniversary in ILO activities in the field of discrimination in employment and occupation. Thus, the anniversary will be brought to the attention of a regional seminar which it is proposed to hold in the latter part of the year, and account will also be taken of it in the special report on apartheid in labour matters in the Republic of South Africa which the Director-General is required to present to the International Labour Conference each year.

International Covenants on Human Rights. In the Secretary-General's report on the programme for the observance of the anniversary (A/8820), he expressed the expectation that the anniversary would serve as a stimulant for appropriate national action on the Covenants so as to lead to their early ratification and entry into force. The Secretary-General emphasized the great significance which the entry into force of the Covenants would have for the effectiveness of the United Nations in promoting and protecting human rights, and referred in particular to the new functions in the implementation of the Covenants which would fall on United Nations bodies. In this connexion, initial discussions have already taken place regarding the role which the specialized agencies may be required to play in the arrangements for the implementation of the Covenants. Having regard to the increasing number of ratifications of the Covenants and the expectation that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration may further stimulate this process and lead to the early entry into force of the Covenants, the working out of appropriate arrangements for collaboration between the United Nations and the various specialized agencies concerned, with a view to their submission to, and approval by, the respective deliberative bodies, is becoming increasingly necessary. It is hoped that in the course of 1973 this matter can be actively pursued. The ILO will be glad to contribute to the consideration of this important matter.

The special fact sheet on The ILO and Human Rights will be printed in the official languages of the ILO, with additional versions to follow later. Among special features being prepared for publication in the ILO Information Bulletin is a picture spread illustrating some major aspects of ILO action to promote and safeguard human rights, equal opportunity and treatment, freedom of association etc. The Bulletin will also carry the message to be issued by the Director-General of ILO in a total of 14 languages on the occasion of the anniversary. Other articles, already published in relation to the protection of human rights, will be reprinted and distributed in co-operation with the International Labour Standards Department. These subjects will also be recorded for radio use.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

59. Preliminary plans of the FAO include widest use of the human rights emblem in all informational materials issued in regard to activities marking the anniversary, particularly in the monthly, "Ideas and Action Bulletin", published by the Coordinator of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign. In due course a special statement will be recorded by the Director-General of FAO and distributed to

- all media. A draft resolution will be put before the seventeenth session of the FACO Conference, meeting in Rome during November, to mark the anniversary. FAO will display and exhibit material received from United Nations Headquarters at a special human rights exhibit to be installed in the main building of FAO.
- 60. FAO will make use of the special design approved by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in any information material that is issued in regard to activities undertaken to mark this anniversary.
- 61. One activity that has long been promoting the anniversary is the FAO Coin Plan. In FAO's May/June 1972 Bulletin to Central Banks, it pointed out the desirability of issuing a silver coin for this silver jubilee, while for its 1973 Ceres medal the inscription will underline man's socio-economic rights to "food, education and full employment" found in articles 23-26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

- 62. A brochure will be published in the series UNESCO and its Programme in English, French and Spanish, under the title UNESCO and Human Rights Success, Obstacles, Hope. It will be distributed in large quantities. The brochure will trace the history of action by the international community in human rights, will describe UNESCO's achievements therein and will end by indicating new issues in the field which now face the organization.
- 63. In addition to the brochure, the regular publications of the organization such as the <u>UNESCO Features</u> and the <u>UNESCO Chronicle</u> will provide material on what has been done by the United Nations, <u>UNESCO</u> and the specialized agencies in the field of human rights.
- 64. The UNESCO Courier, now published in 15 languages (Arabic, Dutch, English, French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Tamil and Turkish) is devoting two issues in 1973 to human rights. The first appeared in July. It is devoted to "The Threat to Privacy" and is based on a recent United Nations inquiry and on UNESCO's research on the protection of privacy (International Social Science Journal, Volume XXIV, No. 3, 1972). The second issue, to appear in October, will treat various other aspects of human rights, such as (a) internationalization of human rights; (b) rights and responsibilities of youth: an international inquiry on age of voting, age of majority, marriage, work etc. ...; (c) rights of children; and (d) human rights through stamps.
- 65. In June a radio news item (in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish), based on the July issue of the <u>UNESCO Courier</u> and entitled <u>The Right to Privacy</u>, was produced and given wide distribution. Plans are in hand to produce in December 1973 for various radio stations in member States a special 15-minute programme (in English, French, Russian, Spanish) devoted to the Universal Declaration. In addition, efforts will be made to promote the widest possible use

of the television film being specially produced by the United Nations Office of Public Information in support of the observance of the anniversary.

- 66. A symbol has been designed by the United Nations for the anniversary; all out-going mail from headquarters is being franked with this symbol. It will be used for documents and publications of UNESCO clubs and national commissions, for the above-mentioned brochure, the UNESCO Chronicle, UNESCO Features and UNESCO Courier. Interested organizations can obtain photographs of the symbol.
- 67. The attention of UNESCO Clubs has been drawn to the importance of the anniversary and some have already taken action. As much material as possible will be given to them.
- 68. A contract has been signed with the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) for the preparation and publication of a quarterly bulletin devoted to human rights. This bulletin will be distributed to the National Commissions for UNESCO.
- 69. The first draft of a recommendation to member States on education for international understanding, co-operation and peace, and education relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms, was sent to member States in August. In the light of their comments, the draft will be revised and submitted to an intergovernmental committee of experts in May 1974. The text prepared by the committee will be transmitted to member States for approval by the General Conference at its eighteenth session.
- 70. Action is being taken to publish an Anti-Apartheid Kit.

Universal Postal Union

- 71. As part of its activities to commemorate the anniversary, the UPU addressed a circular to all administrations of its members concerning the issue of special commemorative postage stamps.
- 72. In its April 1973 edition of the review "Union Postale", issued in seven languages, the UPU made references to the anniversary and reproduced the special symbol.

World Health Organization

73. As part of its activities in observance of the anniversary, the May 1973 issue of the WHO periodical, "World Health", contained an article on retarded children. The periodical also reproduced the Declaration of the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons. A further article, entitled "The Right to Health for Everyone", will appear in the December 1973 issue.

74. The following message from the Director-General of the World Health Organization has been issued in connexion with the anniversary:

"The right to the highest attainable standard of health is expressly recognized by the Constitution of WHO. Indeed one might almost call it a birthright. The very survival of the human race in its early days depended on its members enjoying a high level of vigorous health.

"Rights are one thing, reality is another. In our complex modern world, the human race flourishes if we go by numbers alone, but many millions lead diminished lives or die an early death because of diseases that we perhaps have the basic knowledge but not as yet the practical ability to prevent on a mass scale. Disease and disability are widespread, and very few countries in the world are providing to all their citizens in need the very best that medical science and technology have to offer. So the value of the right lies in its acceptance by governments as a priority goal, its general recognition as a basis for practical health policy. The key word here - it occurs again and again in the Universal Declaration - is everyone. It will obviously never be possible for everyone to live a long life in a state of perfect health, but if we can extend the health services to reach out to everyone in the community, if everyone can have the protection afforded by even simple health measures, if all mothers and children can be provided with even a modicum of that special care and assistance to which the Declaration says they are entitled, then we shall really be moving towards making health the natural and obvious right we feel deep in ourselves it ought to be."

World Food Programme

75. The World Food Programme will devote space in its bi-monthly publication, "WFP News", to an item on the anniversary. This is planned for the November-December issue, which will be distributed at about the time of the anniversary.

V. MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED BY REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Council of Europe

76. The Council of Europe is planning certain activities for 1973, which also marks the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the European Convention on Human Rights. It is studying the possibility of using the special symbol in this connexion.

Organization of American States

- 77. The American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, which serves as the standard in this area for the Commission, also came into being in the year 1948 and therefore the Organization of American States and the Commission are observing a dual anniversary.
- 78. In this respect the Commission has already issued a poster in Spanish commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the American Declaration. An English edition is due shortly. Moreover, the Commission is publishing a pamphlet containing the American Declaration in Portuguese and French. This publication will bear the special design approved by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. It is also contemplated that a handbook containing the basic documents of the Commission will be published in Portuguese and French and will bear this same design.
- 79. At the kind invitation of the Government of Colombia, the Commission will hold its thirty-first session beginning 16 October 1973, in the city of Bogotá, where the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man was drawn up and approved 25 years and. It is expected that there will be a special meeting to commemorate that event and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration during that session.

VI. MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED BY NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Action taken by the Secretary-General

- 80. The Secretary-General, in letters to the international and national non-governmental organizations concerned, containing suggestions for observance of the anniversary, transmitted his report (A/8820) for such action as they might wish to undertake.
- 81. In order to draw the attention of local non-governmental organizations to the observance of the anniversary, all United Nations Information Centres and regional offices received a draft letter detailing a series of actions, with the request that this letter be forwarded to competent organizations in such area.
- 82. In the above-mentioned communications it was suggested that non-governmental organizations might take steps aimed at:

Ensuring the widest possible dissemination of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by means of posters, leaflets and pamphlets in as many languages and dialects as possible;

Adopting the Universal Declaration or articles thereof as the theme of their annual conference for 1973 or of special conferences which might be held during the year. Special services and observances of a cultural and traditional nature might also be arranged by appropriate bodies to celebrate the occasion;

Using the special design as widely as possible in connexion with any activities undertaken with regard to the anniversary.

Furthermore, NGOs were requested to inform the Office of Public Information of any plans or programmes for observance of the anniversary, including possible use of the design.

83. In addition to the above-mentioned suggestions, aimed specifically at NGOs, the letter lists a series of objectives for the anniversary, the realization which - as suggested in the Secretary-General's report - would advance the cause of human rights. Among these objectives, the following also concern NGOs:

Expanded teaching about the international system of protection of human rights, not only at the university level but also at the intermediary and specialized levels of education;

Organizing seminars to study new ways and means for promoting human rights;

and

Establishing institutions charged with the protection of human rights.

- 84. While it is not possible within the compass of the present progress report to enumerate extensively the full range of activities undertaken or envisaged by national and international organizations, some indications are given below concerning activities undertaken by the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (New York) and the World Federation of United Nations Associations (Geneva).
- 85. A list of organizations which reported on their activities in connexion with the observance of the anniversary is reproduced in the annex to this report.

Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (New York)

- 86. At a meeting of the New York Ad Hoc Committee on Human Rights (a voluntary group of more than 50 non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council) on 23 July 1973, the Committee considered tentative plans which a Sub-Committee had prepared in connexion with the observance of the anniversary.
- 87. Consideration is being given to holding a special conference at United Nations Headquarters. The Conference would focus its discussion on the original intentions and hopes of the authors of the Declaration, its successes and failures, and the immediate future of human rights.

World Federation of United Nations Associations (Geneva)

- 88. The World Federation of United Nations Associations has adopted a "Programme for the observance of the twenty-fifth anniverary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights". The Federation will concentrate its activities on efforts to stimulate the ratification of the Covenants, to campaign against colonialism and racism, to educate young people about human rights and their corresponding responsibilities. National seminars of UNA's, on those aspects of human rights which are not adequately observed in their countries, are planned.
- 89. The Federation will also issue a special bulletin, about every six weeks, on various aspects of human rights. It will endeavour to set up special committees in each country to carry out a programme to commemorate Human Rights Day 1973 adequately.

ANNEX

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS WHICH REPORTED ON MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED IN CONNEXION WITH THE PROGRAMME FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF THE ANNIVERSARY

Category I

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
International Organization of Employers
International Student Movement for the United Nations
Inter-Parliamentary Union
World Federation of Trade Unions
World Federation of United Nations Associations

Category II

All-Indian Women's Conference
Boy Scouts World Bureau
Friends World Committee for Consultation
International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights; Equal Responsibilities
International Association for Social Progress
International Federation of University Women
International League for the Rights of Man
International Organization - Justice and Development
Salvation Army, The
World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations
World Assembly of Youth
World Young Women's Christian Association

Roster

World Federation of Scientific Workers

Other non-governmental organizations

Conference of non-governmental organizations
Gandhi Peace Foundation
Hungarian Association for the United Nations
International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies
International Association for Vocational Guidance
National Association of Human Rights Workers
Swiss Association for the United Nations