

United Nations  
**GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY**

FIFTEENTH SESSION

Official Records

**THIRD COMMITTEE, 992nd  
MEETING**

Monday, 17 October 1960,  
at 10.50 a.m.



**NEW YORK**

**CONTENTS**

	Page
<i>Expression of sympathy to the Government and people of Pakistan</i> . . . . .	51
<i>Agenda item 12:</i>	
<i>Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters V, VI and VII (section II, paragraph 645 only, and sections IV and V)) (continued)</i>	
<i>Consideration of draft resolutions (continued)</i> . . . . .	51

Chairman: Mr. Eduard MEZINCESCU (Romania).

Expression of sympathy to the Government and people of  
Pakistan

1. The CHAIRMAN was sure that he was speaking for all delegations in asking the representative of Pakistan to transmit to her Government and people the sympathy of the Third Committee on the occasion of the tragic events which had taken place in East Pakistan.
2. Begum Aziz AHMED (Pakistan) thanked the Committee for its expression of sympathy.

**AGENDA ITEM 12**

**Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters V, VI and VII (section II, paragraph 645 only, and sections IV and V)) (A/4415, A/C.3/L.845, A/C.3/L.847-851, A/C.3/L.852/Rev.1) (continued)**

**CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS  
(continued)**

3. Mrs. GRINBERG-VINAVER (Secretariat), in answer to a question raised at a previous meeting, noted that in order to illustrate the interest of the Commission on the Status of Women in the position of women in the developing countries, it would be necessary to go over the Commission's entire programme. Each of its debates, regardless of the subject, gave it occasion to consider the problems encountered by women in the economically under-developed countries. It also devoted a number of special studies to those problems. Thus, in the economic sphere the Commission, through the Economic and Social Council, had drawn the attention of Member States to the position of women in the handicraft and cottage industries (Council resolutions 587 F I (XX) and 625 B I (XXII)). Such women were particularly numerous in the economically under-developed countries, and their working conditions were far from satisfactory. Attention had been drawn to that state of affairs on

many occasions and Governments had been called upon to take steps to remedy it.

4. The Commission on the Status of Women also devoted a good deal of attention to extra-mural education for adult women who had received no elementary schooling. It had always stressed the need to bring women up to the same cultural level as men and, to that end, had urged that girls should be given the same opportunities as boys to attend elementary schools, through the initiation and enforcement of compulsory education.

5. The programme of seminars on the participation of women in public life was directed particularly towards women in the economically less developed countries. That was why it had been decided to hold the meetings in Bangkok, Bogotá and Addis Ababa successively; their primary purpose was to help women in the regions concerned to overcome the economic and social obstacles which prevented them from playing their proper role at the local, national and international level.

6. Mr. COX (Peru), referring to the nine-Power draft resolution on low-cost housing (A/C.3/L.851), recalled that the purpose of economic development was social advancement, externalized by improvement in the level of living of all sectors of the population. Although there had been advances in some respects, housing conditions, which were an important factor in levels of living, were deteriorating, particularly in the under-developed regions. In that connexion, the consolidated report, *Five-Year Perspective, 1960-1964 (E/3347/Rev.1)*,<sup>1/</sup> described the wretched housing conditions, harmful to health and incompatible with harmonious human development, which were to be met with in a number of under-developed countries. As a result of the increase in population, a housing crisis existed, to varying extents, in almost all countries. In order to solve it, it would be necessary not only to take remedial steps at the national level but also to engage in preventive action at the international level. In view of the seriousness of the problem, it was important for those efforts to be concerted, both internationally and nationally. The regional economic commissions, as well as the ILO and WHO, were already dealing with the matter and promoting concurrent social and economic development—hence the necessity for joint programmes. Lastly, it was necessary to consider the question of financing housing programmes. In Peru, the construction of low-cost housing was financed in part by loans from the Export-Import Bank and loans from the United States Government. That was a venture in international co-operation which supplemented existing national plans. The fundamental question of financing housing programmes had to be considered by the regional economic commissions and the other organs of the United Nations.

<sup>1/</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: 60.IV.14.

7. He said that the nine-Power draft resolution (A/C.3/L.851) should be entitled "Low-cost housing and related community facilities", and requested that in the light of his comments a reference should be made, in operative paragraph 3, to the United Nations financial bodies.

8. Mr. GUERASSIMOV (Bulgaria) expressed his fellow-feeling for the representatives of the new States Members of the United Nations which had recently attained independence, and his good wishes for the speedy liberation of all peoples still under the colonial yoke. He emphasized the repercussions which the two great problems of present-day political life—disarmament and the elimination of colonialism—must have on the economic and social advancement and the free development of the new and under-developed countries. Current political trends, and the economic and social rehabilitation which was necessary in the under-developed countries, demanded a reorientation of international action. In that connexion, the report of the Economic and Social Council should give pride of place to the social situation and social development in the developing countries. It would also be desirable for the World Economic Survey to appear more frequently and, above all, to give an accurate picture of the situation in the new countries which had hitherto, like the socialist countries, been largely neglected. Lastly, the Secretariat should be reorganized so as to provide for a greater number of staff members from the new and the socialist countries.

9. A number of United Nations publications, such as the Statistical Yearbook and the reports on the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, showed that there were striking contrasts between the developed countries and the developing countries—for example in illiteracy rates, which varied from 3 per cent to 98 per cent, in the ratio of doctors to population, in child mortality rates and in nutritional standards. The World Economic Survey ought to bring out that state of affairs, for which the colonial countries were responsible and which the "Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples" (A/4502), submitted by the Soviet Union, was designed to remedy. Those countries must be given urgent assistance, without interference in their economic affairs. The resources which they possessed should henceforward be exploited solely in the interest of their own populations. Moreover, United Nations reports and publications should not only give an accurate picture of the situation in the developing countries but should also lay greater stress on means of remedying that situation and on methods of financing economic and social development. Thus in Bulgaria it was through industrialization and increased productivity that the index of real wages had risen from 100 in 1952 to 175 in 1958. The improvement of social conditions also depended upon the equitable distribution of income according to socialist principles. In resolution 1258 (XIII), the General Assembly had stressed the need to raise family levels of living by the appropriate use of national income. That method merited analysis in the World Economic Survey. The principle of agricultural co-operatives—as applied in Bulgaria, where the co-operatives administered funds which were used, for example, to improve sanitary facilities or school buildings, and generally to increase community well-being—was also productive of excellent results. All that showed how the experience of the socialist countries could be put to

use, and how necessary it was to record it in such publications as the World Economic Survey. Lastly, it was to be regretted that the Economic and Social Council had rejected the Soviet Union's proposal that a study should be made of the economic and social aspects of general and complete disarmament.<sup>2/</sup> Disarmament would provide a means of liberating considerable funds which could be used to improve the social situation in the under-developed countries.

10. Housing conditions were still deteriorating, and the position in the under-developed countries was particularly bad. There were almost no statistics in those countries, and government action was hindered by a shortage of capital. Recommendations for joint action were not enough and, whereas those countries needed mainly material assistance, the aid provided by the United Nations was almost exclusively technical. In resolution 731 B (XXVIII), the Economic and Social Council had very rightly stressed the significant role of Governments in the planning, financing and execution of programmes for low-cost housing. Clearly, only the State could mobilize the resources needed to solve the housing crisis. In Bulgaria, building was financed by the State and by private savings, so that speculation played no part. Private building was financed either by public funds supplied through a bank, or by co-operatives, or directly by the State. The State controlled the cost of construction and the level of rents. Low-income families received special financial concessions. Such measures would make it possible to improve housing conditions in the developing countries.

11. The Bulgarian delegation regretted that the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 6 (XVI) of 16 March 1960 (E/3335, para. 200), had not drawn attention to the recent manifestations of racial hatred and had not denounced the rebirth of militarism in Western Germany. The delegation unreservedly supported the Czechoslovak draft resolution (A/C.3/L.848).

12. Mr. LIMA (Brazil) observed that social questions were being considered more and more from the standpoint of the interrelationship of economic and social development, and that the necessity of raising the level of living of the neediest groups revealed the economic problems in their true light. A proper idea of the interrelationship of economic and social factors made it possible to avoid the social tensions caused by industrialization, and could start chain reactions which would accelerate both economic and social development.

13. The Brazilian Government had had the interrelationship of economic and social factors in mind when it had formulated its social policy, set up new welfare centres, expanded the work of existing centres and put into execution a plan for low-cost housing, despite all the difficulties due, for example, to shortage of capital. Its economic development plans also took fully into account the radical social consequences which industrialization might have. It was thus a source of satisfaction that international co-operation and Brazilian domestic policies were based on the same principles.

14. The programmes of UNICEF were particularly important. Its Executive Board had rightly, and

<sup>2/</sup> See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-ninth Session, 1109th to 1111th meetings.

without hesitation, based itself on the principles set forth in the Declaration of the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 1386 (XIV)); and it should investigate how the Fund might assist in the matter of primary education. In 1959, the Executive Director had produced on that subject a report (E/ICEF/R.632), the conclusions of which were still valid, and the Brazilian delegation hoped that the Executive Board would consider the matter again at its next session. It also seemed that the most highly developed countries could give more financial aid; admittedly they had increased their contributions, but that increase had been much smaller than the marked growth in their national product would have allowed. International co-operation could succeed only if those countries contributed, through international organizations, to more equitable living conditions in the world of the future.

15. Although it was for the Third Committee, and consequently for the General Assembly, to formulate new social policies, both the Committee and the Assembly should be able to make recommendations on social questions to institutions working in the field of multilateral co-operation. The Brazilian delegation accordingly thought that the proposal for prior consultations, made in paragraph 645 of the Economic and Social Council's report (A/4415), was against the interests of the Committee.

16. Mrs. KOLOZS (Hungary) observed that, contrary to the wishes of the General Assembly as expressed in its resolution 1392 (XIV), the Social Commission had not met in 1960. That was particularly regrettable in that the social situation had, within one year, radically changed. Many newly independent countries expected from the United Nations more prompt and efficient assistance for the solution of the many social, health and cultural problems which they had inherited from the colonial Powers. It was also time to give more aid to those peoples that were not yet free. The Council and the specialized agencies did not seem to have paid enough attention to the requirements of the situation. It was clear that too little progress had been made, and both the Council and the specialized agencies should intensify their action.

17. The Hungarian delegation thought, for instance, that WHO should extend the useful work it was doing in combating epidemics, by promoting the exchange of information between the various countries. Hungary was ready to share with all countries the experience it had acquired in the field of poliomyelitis. It was interesting and encouraging that, in the six months after 2.5 million Hungarian children had been inoculated with Sabin vaccine, no case of poliomyelitis had been recorded in the country.

18. The United Nations Children's Fund had worked efficiently; but it had not yet enough resources to protect about 600 million children, almost all living in Asia and Africa, from sickness, poverty and hunger. It was unfortunate that the Third Committee, during the fourteenth session, had not adopted a proposal made by Bulgaria (941st and 942nd meetings) that would have enabled UNICEF to receive the contributions which several countries, not yet Members of the United Nations, were ready to pay to it. The Hungarian delegation hoped the Committee would reconsider that unfair decision.

19. To help countries whose development had been or still was hindered by their political dependence, the United Nations and its organs should at once work out new social programmes for the benefit of those countries and should extend the programmes already in existence. The next International Survey of Programmes of Social Development should show what the Organization had done to improve its working methods and to aid the Asian and African countries more effectively. Moreover, if the Survey was to be really useful to those countries, it should contain proposals for a specific programme of development.

20. The United Nations had long been concerned with the housing problem, but the results obtained were hardly satisfactory. In economically under-developed countries, the rate of building had not followed that of the increase in population. Even in the Western countries, the problem of low-cost housing was far from solved. Since 1957 the position in that respect had been completely satisfactory in Hungary, where, during the period ending with 1975, it was nevertheless planned to build one million more dwellings, 600,000 of them at State expense. Rents were generally very low in Hungary; and the authorities encouraged and assisted private building, especially where houses for families were concerned. The Hungarian Government would supply detailed information on its housing achievements in the statement which it would send to the Secretary-General under resolution 731 B (XXVIII) of the Economic and Social Council. Hungary was taking an active part in the work of the Housing Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe. It was also ready to give technical assistance to the industrially under-developed countries.

21. With regard to the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, it was necessary to emphasize the dangers of press, radio and television publicity, in certain Western countries, for medicines containing synthetic narcotics. In Hungary all publicity of that kind was forbidden, and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should try to have it forbidden everywhere. The charges which certain members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs had made against the People's Republic of China were also a matter for protest. Those charges were supported by no proofs; they were slanders, which were all the more intolerable in that the Government of the People's Republic of China was not represented on the Commission and had not been asked to send information.

22. The Commission on the Status of Women was doing very useful work; but in order to adapt that work to present needs, it must be able, as soon as possible, to include among its members representatives of the African countries.

23. It was unfortunate that the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the Commission on Human Rights had not yet been able to examine the draft recommendation and the draft convention concerning discrimination in education (E/CN.6/363—E/CN.4/802/Add.1, annexes I and II). The Hungarian delegation hoped that the next General Conference of UNESCO, which was to consider the drafts, would work out and adopt satisfactory texts, making it possible to put an end to practices which were still too common and were a gross outrage upon human dignity.

24. The rebirth of Nazism and the manifestations of racial hatred and religious intolerance in certain

countries constituted so serious a threat to world peace that the Third Committee could not but confirm the resolution on the subject adopted by the Commission on Human Rights (E/3335, para. 200), by adopting the draft resolution (A/C.3/L.848) which the delegation of Czechoslovakia had submitted and which the Hungarian delegation unreservedly supported.

25. Mrs. STEEN (Canada) referred to the growing importance of the activities of UNICEF, which had greatly expanded its programmes. Its great reputation had meant that demands upon it continued to be pressing. In order to meet its financial needs, some means of increasing its resources would have to be found. Some delegations had mentioned the funds which would become available as a result of general disarmament. Canada had devoted a great deal of energy to the problem of disarmament and did not intend to give up its efforts in that direction; but, in the absence of agreement on the subject, it was fruitless to speculate on the resources which disarmament might release for other purposes, and the United Nations must look for more immediate ways of obtaining funds. The Canadian Government had already begun to provide the 18 million pounds of powdered milk which it had agreed to contribute to UNICEF's nutrition programmes in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and, subject to Parliamentary approval, it would make a further contribution of 650,000 Canadian dollars to the Fund in 1961. The people of Canada would no doubt also make a further direct contribution. Accordingly, the Canadian delegation would vote in favour of the fourteen-Power draft resolution on UNICEF (A/C.3/L.849).

26. As a permanent member of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Canada had noted with interest the very detailed section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the international control of narcotics (A/4415, chap. V, sect. V).

27. Her delegation fully supported the view that there should be African representation, if at all possible, on the Commission on the Status of Women, where the African countries could make a valuable contribution. Canada had for the past three years participated in the Commission's work, and would continue to follow its activities with great interest. Her Government would also supply material for the exhibit due to be arranged in connexion with the seminar on the participation of women in public life to be held at Addis Ababa in December 1960. The Canadian delegation had noted the explanations of the representative of Pakistan at the 991st meeting on the seven-Power draft resolution (A/C.3/L.847), and would consequently vote in favour of that proposal.

28. The Canadian delegation believed that the Third Committee should endorse the objective of the draft resolution recommended by the Economic and Social Council in paragraph 645 of its report, for it contained useful recommendations. Without taking up a rigid position on the wording of the proposed draft resolution, her delegation felt that the views expressed by the representative of India (987th meeting) should be taken into account and that provision should be made for consultations with the specialized agencies to take place before the Assembly took final decisions on proposed projects.

29. Canada maintained its keen interest in human rights and the Canadian Parliament at its last session

had passed an Act which recognized, in particular: (a) the right of the individual to life, liberty, security of the person and enjoyment of property; (b) the right of the individual to protection of the law without discrimination by reason of race, national origin, colour, religion or sex; (c) freedom of religion; (d) freedom of speech; (e) freedom of assembly and association; and (f) freedom of the Press. Legislative action in that field was complemented by large-scale adult education and by the activities of voluntary organizations. It was against that background that the Canadian delegation would approach the discussion of the draft resolution on manifestations of racial and national hatred put forward by the Czechoslovak representative (A/C.3/L.848).

30. The Committee would have the opportunity, at a later stage, to give careful consideration to the very important "Study of discrimination in the matter of religious rights and practices", but she wished to remark at the outset that the document had attracted notice in Canada, where 191,000 Catholic nationals of Ukrainian origin displayed profound concern at the fact that the Ukrainian Catholic Church had been constrained to merge with the Russian Orthodox Church in 1946.

31. The Canadian delegation would follow with particular interest the discussion on the five-Power draft resolution (A/C.3/L.852/Rev.1). Canada was contributing \$1 million a year to the Commonwealth Scholarship Programme, and had also announced a special programme to provide and train teachers for developing Commonwealth countries. It also planned to contribute \$10,500,000 over a three-year period towards the development of African countries within the Commonwealth; some of those funds would be devoted to technical assistance and aids to education. At the same time, Canada had increased its contribution to United Nations assistance programmes. As a bilingual country, Canada could provide considerable facilities for French-speaking students from Africa, and the Canadian Government was prepared to co-operate with the United Nations in providing the aid which the African nations needed.

32. Mr. AGOLLI (Albania) welcomed the representatives of Cyprus and of the new African States. He said that the chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council under discussion, although giving only an incomplete picture of the social situation in the world, showed that in many countries sickness and hunger were still the order of the day—often because national resources had been, and were still being, exploited by foreign monopolies. Little progress had been made, for example, in the provision of free education, free medical care or adequate social security schemes. There was no doubt that the adoption of the programme of general and complete disarmament advocated by the USSR would permit more rapid economic and social development of the less favoured countries. On the other hand, there were serious omissions in the report of the Economic and Social Council; it did not mention the gigantic achievements in the social field of the People's Republic of China, where the authorities had undertaken vast programmes of public health, education, housing and social assistance. Nor did it sufficiently acknowledge the achievements of the socialist countries; Albania, for instance, immediately after its liberation, had embarked on a programme of industrialization which had transformed the agrarian economy of the country into

a modern economy (collectivization and mechanization of agriculture, a tremendous increase in iron production, etc.) and had improved the living conditions of the population. Between 1955 and 1958 real wages had increased for workers by 27 per cent and, for peasants, by 37 per cent; the health situation had become much more satisfactory: the number of public health employees was now almost nine times greater than in 1938, while malaria, formerly very widespread, had all but disappeared; moreover, an effective system of old-age and sickness insurance had been introduced. There was no longer any unemployment (in fact, in some industries, there was a shortage of workers) and elementary education was now free and compulsory for all children.

33. The United Nations Children's Fund had, it was true, contributed to the improvement of social conditions, but it was primarily the concern of individual Governments to take concrete measures to ensure child welfare. In Albania, the people and the public authorities were actively engaged in giving the citizens of tomorrow the opportunity of developing to the fullest extent, both physically and intellectually.

34. The work of the Commission on the Status of Women was of great importance, and it was essential that the discrimination aimed at women even today in certain countries should be finally abolished.

35. The problem of manifestations of hatred between races or nationalities was particularly acute at the present time, when there was a revival of Nazism in Western Germany and when certain population groups (in the Union of South Africa, in Palestine and in some countries where the standard of living was very high) were being subjected to discriminatory practices. The Albanian delegation would, therefore, vote in favour of the draft resolution submitted by Czechoslovakia (A/C.3/L.848).

36. Mrs. ESHEL (Israel), after welcoming the representatives of Cyprus and the new African States, said that it was important to eliminate the present gap between the levels of living of the different peoples of the world; to that end, it was necessary—and the Third Committee had an important part to play in that connexion—to give the developing countries the benefit of the experience and knowledge which had already been acquired, so that they would be able to make the best possible use of their material and spiritual potentialities and achieve economic, social and spiritual independence, without which political independence had no meaning.

37. Under the guidance of Miss Henderson, the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs, whose work showed great flexibility and a great sense of practical realities, performed a valuable service by putting into practice new ideas and methods such as those relating to community development. It was encouraging that the United Nations and the specialized agencies were co-operating more and more closely: in that respect the consolidated report of the Committee on Programme Appraisals (E/3347/Rev.1) was very significant. It also showed that international organizations were entirely capable of taking into account the development of needs; whereas in the past the United Nations had concerned itself, in its social action, primarily with certain groups needing protection, it was now working on the preparation of general programmes of concerted international action. In that connexion her delegation considered that it

would be useful, before preparing and carrying out important economic or social projects, to ask experts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to undertake preliminary studies. It was, moreover, regrettable that some very important questions of social policy were to some extent relegated to the background, because they were examined only within the framework of the debate on the Economic and Social Council's report. It would probably be very useful for the Third Committee to deal with social policy as a separate item on its agenda, just as the Second Committee dealt with economic policy as a whole.

38. Turning to the work of UNICEF, she paid a tribute to Mr. Pate, the Executive Director, and to Mr. Schnyder, the Chairman of the Executive Board, and took note with satisfaction of the recent decision on the question of local costs.<sup>3/</sup> Israel, which had belonged to the Executive Board of UNICEF and which had received generous assistance from that body, was aware of the difficulties encountered in the execution of important and urgent programmes because of the lack of adequate financial participation from the recipient Governments. The arrangements concerning the help to be given in the field in preparing requests for assistance were also to be welcomed. In view of the fact that the adoption of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child had further increased UNICEF's responsibilities, it was very useful to have undertaken a study of children's needs. The development of co-operation between UNICEF and the Bureau of Social Affairs, the measures taken to ensure the training of competent personnel for the execution of large-scale programmes at the local level and the effective co-operation which had been established between UNICEF and FAO, WHO and UNESCO were all guarantees of success. Her delegation would therefore support the fourteen-Power draft resolution (A/C.3/L.849).

39. With regard to low-cost housing, she pointed out that the problem of providing such housing existed in all countries, though to varying degrees. Housing was of such great importance to national economies that many countries had been led to take a very close interest not only in its technical but in its financial, economic, sociological and other aspects. Her Government accorded highest priority to housing units development programmes. Thirty per cent of the capital investments in Israel had been diverted to the construction of housing, and due importance was given to economic, social, health and human factors relating to it. In May 1960, an international seminar had been held in Israel, in which seventy experts from twenty Asian, African, Latin American and European countries had taken part; observers from the Housing Study Group of ECAFE had also participated. Although her delegation recognized the importance of the problems raised by the migration of rural populations to the cities, it did not believe that the question of low-cost housing should be considered from a strictly urban point of view, since the rural populations still constituted the vast majority throughout the world.

40. In connexion with human rights, she paid a tribute to Mr. Arcot Krishnaswami, whose very full Study of Discrimination in the Matter of Religious Rights and Practices<sup>4/</sup> would undoubtedly contribute to the implementation of the concept of freedom of

<sup>3/</sup> *Ibid.*, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 2 A, paras. 55-60.

<sup>4/</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: 60.XIV.2.

conscience, one of the most important principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Her delegation took great interest in the work of the Commission on Human Rights and of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. It was important, as the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights made clear, to combat all forms of discrimination based on race, colour or faith. As the representative of a people which had suffered for generations from anti-Semitism, and which had, in the recent past, been the victim of monstrous persecution, she attached special importance to resolution 6 (XVI) of the Commission on Human Rights, especially since anti-Semitism was still far from eliminated. It was therefore important to take energetic action in the educational field in order to eradicate an ideology which had been the source of so much suffering for the Jewish people. Governments should take effective steps to end the discriminatory practices of which Jews might be the victims in all fields (including housing, higher education, employment, religious worship, cultural activities and the protection of their cultural heritage). It had been suggested that Member States should be invited to take all necessary steps to combat manifestations of religious, racial and national hatred and to report to the Commission and the General Assembly on the steps taken. The Commission might be able to propose practical methods for the application of anti-discriminatory policies. In that connexion, she pointed out that constitutional provisions, although necessary, were not enough: the Governments of Member States should not confine themselves, in their communications, to mentioning provisions of their constitutions, but should also list the practical steps taken to ensure that those provisions were applied. After stating that her delegation would support the Czechoslovak draft resolution (A/C.3/L.848) she explained that, in order to combat discriminatory practices effectively, it was necessary: (1) that constitutional and legal guarantees should be accompanied by effective practical measures; (2) that the language, cultural heritage and religious worship of minorities should receive equality of treatment; (3) that the young should be brought up in a spirit of universal brotherhood and that all material in textbooks inciting to any discrimination be eliminated; and (4) that all steps taken by Governments to ensure the application of those principles should be the subject of periodic communications to the United Nations.

41. The work of the Commission on the Status of Women deserved the praise it had received during the general debate. The Argentine Government was to be thanked for having invited the Commission to hold its 1960 session at Buenos Aires. The work of the Commission had received unprecedented publicity, which could not but contribute to an improvement in

the lot of women and better understanding of the work of the United Nations in general. Her delegation hoped that the Economic and Social Council would be able to enlarge the membership of the Commission without waiting until its own membership had been increased. With regard to the draft convention and draft recommendation on the minimum age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriages,<sup>5/</sup> her delegation was decidedly in favour of a convention, which would have the advantage of imposing specific obligations on States. It was desirable that Governments should send their replies rapidly, and that the United Nations should in the near future open an international convention for signature by Member States. After stating that her delegation would be happy to support the seven-Power draft resolution (A/C.3/L.847), she drew the Committee's attention to the many opportunities offered to Member States by the programmes of technical assistance and the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights. In that connexion, she stressed the usefulness of seminars such as the one which was to be held in Ethiopia in December 1960 on the participation of women in public life. It would seem useful to hold international seminars on a given subject after that subject had been taken up at a series of national and regional seminars.

42. Lastly, she wished to make some comments on paragraph 645 of the Economic and Social Council's report. After thanking the Secretariat for having circulated, at the request of her delegation, the statement made by the Director of the Bureau of Social Affairs at the 982nd meeting (A/C.3/L.846), she said that the work of the various United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies should be regarded as parts of a whole; to avoid overlapping and duplication of work, which was certainly regrettable, it was important to hold consultations with the specialized agencies. It remained necessary, however, to determine at what level and in what circumstances those consultations should take place. Perhaps the representatives of the specialized agencies, who followed the discussions held in the United Nations very closely, might be given an opportunity to consult the agency they represented, on the understanding that the results of those consultations should be collected in time for submission to the General Assembly before the end of the session. In conclusion, she expressed the hope that the resolution, if adopted by the General Assembly, would be worded unambiguously.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.

<sup>5/</sup> Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 7, chap. XV, draft resolutions IIIA and IIIB.