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Twenty-sixth session  
Agenda items 50, 51 and 60

HUMAN RIGHTS AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Amre MOUSSA (Egypt)

1. At its 1939th meeting, on 25 September 1971, the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee for its consideration the following items:

50. "Human rights and scientific and technological developments"

51. "Freedom of information:

(a) "Draft Declaration on Freedom of Information;

(b) Draft Convention on Freedom of Information"

60. "Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance".

2. In connexion with these items, the Committee, had before it at its 1904th meeting, on 10 December:

(a) A note by the Secretary-General (A/8340) dealing with the draft Convention on Freedom of Information and the draft Declaration on Freedom of Information;

(b) A report of the Secretary-General on human rights and scientific and technological developments (A/8339);

(c) A note by the Secretary-General on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance (A/8330);

(d) A draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1925) submitted by Nigeria and the Sudan.

3. One delegate regretted that the Committee lacked the time during the current session to give consideration to the important question of freedom of information, and expressed the hope that this item would be given priority at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly. The role of the United Nations in spreading information on matters of interest to the Organization could be usefully discussed in this connexion.
4. The representative of the Philippines orally proposed that the word "consider" in the first line of the operative paragraph of the draft resolution be replaced by the words "give priority to the consideration".
5. The oral amendment was rejected by 32 votes to 27, with 33 abstentions.
6. The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 96 votes to none.

#### RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

7. The Third Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Human rights and scientific and technological developments; freedom of information; elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

The General Assembly,

Considering that there is not enough time for the consideration of all the items on the agenda of the Third Committee,

Fearing in mind the need for a full discussion of all the items,

1. Decides to consider at its next session the items entitled "Freedom of information", "Human rights and scientific and technological developments" and "Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance".

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