



Seventeenth session
Agenda item 48

MANIFESTATIONS OF RACIAL PREJUDICE AND NATIONAL
AND RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mrs. SIVOMEY (Togo)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In resolution 1510 (XV) of 12 December 1960 the General Assembly resolutely condemned all manifestations and practices of racial, religious and national hatred in the political, economic, social, educational and cultural spheres of the life of society as violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and called upon the Governments of all States to take all necessary measures to prevent all manifestations of racial, religious and national hatred.
2. On the recommendation of the Sub-Committee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the Commission on Human Rights, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly, in resolution 826 B (XXXII) of 27 July 1961, the adoption of a draft resolution on "Manifestations of Racial Prejudice and National and Religious Intolerance". The General Assembly was not able to consider this question at the sixteenth session and decided, in resolution 1684 (XVI) of 18 December 1961, to take it up as soon as possible at its seventeenth session and at that session to devote as many meetings as possible to the consideration of that item.
3. At its seventeenth session the General Assembly, at the 1129th plenary meeting on 24 September 1962, allocated to the Third Committee for consideration and report item 48 of the agenda: "Manifestations of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance". The Committee had before it a Note by the

Secretary-General (A/5129), containing the text of Council resolution 826 B (XXXII). The Committee considered this as the fourth item on its agenda, discussing it at the 1165th to 1173rd meetings held from 29 October to 5 November 1962.

4. The views expressed by the members of the Committee will be found in the Summary Records (A/C.3/SR.1165-1173).

II. DRAFT RESOLUTION ON MANIFESTATIONS OF RACIAL PREJUDICE AND NATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

5. In resolution 826 B (XXXII), the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the report of the seventeenth session^{1/} of the Commission on Human Rights and the report of the thirteenth session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, ^{2/}

"Deeply disturbed by the continued existence and manifestations of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance in different parts of the world,

"Reiterating its condemnation of all manifestations of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance as violations of the United Nations Charter and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

"Recalling its resolution 1510 (XV) of 12 December 1960,

"Considering it essential to recommend further specific effective measures to eliminate these manifestations of prejudice and intolerance,

"1. Invites the Governments of all States, the specialized agencies and non-governmental and private organizations to continue to make sustained efforts to educate public opinion with a view to the eradication of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance and the elimination of all undesirable influences promoting these, and to take appropriate measures so that education may be directed with due regard to article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and principle 10 of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 1386 (XIV) of 20 November 1959;

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (E/3456), chap. V, paras. 99-139, and resolutions 5 and 6 (XVII).

2/ E/CN.4/815, chap. IX, and resolution 5 (XIII).

"2. Calls upon the Governments of all States to take all necessary steps to rescind discriminatory laws which have the effect of creating and perpetuating racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance wherever they still exist, to adopt legislation if necessary for prohibiting such discrimination, and to take such legislative or other appropriate measures to combat such prejudice and intolerance;

"3. Recommends to the Governments of all States to discourage in every possible way the creation, propagation and dissemination, in whatever form, of such prejudice and intolerance;

"4. Invites the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to co-operate fully with Governments of States in their efforts aimed at the prevention and eradication of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance."

6. Mali, Mauritania and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland submitted an amendment (A/C.3/L.1009) to operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution. The sponsors revised their amendment twice (A/C.3/L.1009/Rev.1 and 2). In its final revised form, the amendment read as follows (A/C.3/L.1009/Rev.2):

"In operative paragraph 3: Replace the phrase 'in every possible way ... prejudice and intolerance;' by the words 'actively, through education and all information media, the creation, propagation and dissemination of such prejudice and intolerance in any form whatever;' "

7. Costa Rica proposed the addition of two operative paragraphs to the draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1008). At the 1167th meeting, Costa Rica and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland submitted a revised version of the Costa Rican amendment. In its revised form, the amendment read as follows (A/C.3/L.1008/Rev.1):

"Add the following operative paragraphs:

'5. Invites Member Governments and the specialized agencies and the non-governmental organizations concerned to inform the Secretary-General of action taken by them in compliance with this resolution;

'6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its next session a report on compliance with this resolution.' "

8. At its 1171st meeting the Committee voted as follows:

(a) the proposal of Mali, Mauritania and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/C.3/L.1009/Rev.2), to amend operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, was adopted by 75 votes to 1, with 11 abstentions;

(b) the proposal of Costa Rica and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/C.3/L.1008/Rev.1), to add two operative paragraphs to the draft resolution, was adopted by 86 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions;

(c) the draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

III. PREPARATION OF A DRAFT DECLARATION AND A DRAFT CONVENTION ON
THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, AND OF
A DRAFT DECLARATION AND A DRAFT CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION
OF ALL FORMS OF RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

9. The Central African Republic, Chad, Dahomey, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Upper Volta proposed the adoption of a draft resolution on the preparation of an international convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination (A/C.3/L.1006). The draft resolution reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Desiring to put into effect the principle of the equality of all men and all peoples without distinction as to race or colour, stated in the Charter of the United Nations,

"Being deeply disturbed by the manifestations of discrimination based on differences of race and colour still in evidence throughout the world,

"Considering the necessity of taking all possible steps conducive to the final and total elimination of all such manifestations, which violate the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

"Emphasizing that each State ought to take all the necessary action to put an end to these violations, which infringe human dignity,

"1. Decides to prepare an international convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;

"2. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to prepare a draft convention which shall take account of the debates at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly and of any proposals on this matter that may be submitted by Governments, and to transmit that draft convention through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly for consideration at its eighteenth session;

"3. Invites States to submit their comments and proposals concerning the draft convention by 15 January 1963."

10. Discussion in the Committee related to: (a) whether a declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination should be prepared as well as an international convention on this subject; (b) whether a declaration and an international convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance should also be prepared; and (c) how responsibility for the preparation of such instruments should be allocated amongst the competent organs of the United Nations. In an effort to arrive at a text which would be acceptable to all, the sponsors revised the draft resolution six times.

11. In the first revised version of the draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1006/Rev.1), the sponsors, joined by Ghana and Nigeria, replaced the words "race or colour" in the first paragraph by "race, colour or religion", and the words "race and colour" in the second preambular paragraph by "race, colour and religion".

12. In the second revised version (A/C.3/L.1006/Rev.2), the sponsors of the first revised version, joined by Brazil, Czechoslovakia, Madagascar and Senegal, proposed that the second and third operative paragraphs should read as follows:

"2. Requests the Economic and Social Council, at its resumed thirty-fourth session, to request the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to prepare a draft convention which shall take account of the debates at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly and of any proposals on this matter that may be submitted by Governments, and to transmit that draft convention through the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly for consideration at its nineteenth session;

"3. Invites States to submit their comments and proposals concerning the draft convention by 15 June 1963."

13. In the third revised version (A/C.3/L.1006/Rev.3), the sponsors of the second revised version, joined by Bulgaria, Cameroon, Liberia and Mongolia, proposed that the operative paragraphs should read as follows:

"1. Decides to prepare for the eighteenth session of the General Assembly a declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;

"2. Decides to prepare an international convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;

"3. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to prepare a draft convention which shall take account of the opinion of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination, of the debates at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly and of any proposals on this matter that may be submitted by Governments, and to transmit that draft convention through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly for consideration at its nineteenth session;

"4. Invites Member States to submit their comments and proposals concerning the draft convention by 15 June 1963."

14. In the fourth revised version (A/AC.3/L.1006/Rev.4) as orally corrected, the sponsors of the third revised version, joined by Syria and Togo, proposed that the operative paragraphs should read as follows:

"1. Decides to prepare for the eighteenth session of the General Assembly a declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;

"2. Requests the Economic and Social Council to ask the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to prepare a preliminary draft declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and to transmit it to the Commission on Human Rights so that the latter may submit a draft declaration to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session;

"3. Decides to prepare an international convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;

"4. Requests the Economic and Social Council to ask the Commission on Human Rights to prepare a draft convention which shall take account of the opinion of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination, of the debates at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, of any proposals on this matter that may be submitted by Governments and of any international instruments already adopted in this field by the specialized agencies and to transmit that draft convention through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly for consideration at its nineteenth session;

"5. Invites Member States to submit their comments and proposals concerning the draft convention by 15 June 1963."

15. Liberia withdrew its sponsorship of the fourth revised version of the draft resolution and proposed (A/C.3/L.1012) that it should be amended as follows:

"1. In operative paragraphs 1 and 2, replace the words 'all forms of racial discrimination' by 'all forms of racial or religious discrimination'.

"2. Replace operative paragraph 3 by the following:

'Decides to prepare international conventions on the elimination of all forms of racial or religious discrimination;' "

16. Saudi Arabia also submitted an amendment to the fourth revised version of the draft resolution, proposing (A/C.3/L.1011) the following changes:

"1. Replace operative paragraphs 1 and 2 by the following:

'1. Decides to take steps to initiate the preparation of a declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and requests the Economic and Social Council to ask the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to prepare the preliminary draft of such a declaration and to transmit it to the Commission on Human Rights so that the latter may submit a draft declaration through the Council to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session;'

"2. Replace operative paragraph 3 by the following:

'2. Decides to take steps to initiate the preparation of an international convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;'

"3. At the end of operative paragraph 4, replace the words 'at its nineteenth session' by 'as soon as possible'.

"4. Re-number paragraph 5 as operative paragraph 4 and vice versa."

17. The sponsors of the fourth revised version of the draft resolution, joined by Algeria, Cuba, Nepal and Sudan, proposed in a fifth revised version (A/C.3/L.1006/Rev.5) that operative paragraph 1 should read as follows:

"1. Decides that a declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination shall be prepared for the eighteenth session of the General Assembly;"

18. The sixth revised version of the draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1006/Rev.6 and Rev.6/Add.1), which was sponsored by Algeria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Ghana, Guinea, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Syria, Tanganyika, Togo, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta, proposed that the operative part be revised to read as follows:

"1. Requests the Economic and Social Council to ask the Commission on Human Rights, bearing in mind the views of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the debates at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, any proposals on this matter that may be submitted by Governments and any international instruments already adopted in this field by the specialized agencies, to prepare:

"(a) a draft Declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, for submission to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session for its consideration;

"(b) a draft Convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination for submission to the General Assembly if possible at its nineteenth session and in any case not later than at its twentieth session;

"2. Invites Member States to submit their comments and proposals concerning the draft Convention by 15 June 1963."

19. Saudi Arabia, which had become a co-sponsor of the sixth revised draft resolution, withdrew its proposed amendment (see paragraph 16 above) to the fourth revised draft resolution. Liberia, which had also proposed an amendment (see paragraph 15 above) to the fourth revised version of the draft resolution, revised its amendment and submitted it (A/C.3/L.1012/Rev.1) as an amendment to the revised thirty-four-Power draft resolution. In its revised form, the amendment read as follows:

"In operative paragraph 1 (a) and (b), replace the words 'all forms of racial discrimination' by 'all forms of racial and religious discrimination'."

20. In an effort to meet the point of view expressed in the Liberian amendment, some of the sponsors of the thirty-four-Power draft resolution suggested orally that the first part of sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 1 should be revised to read: "two draft declarations, one on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and the other on the elimination of religious intolerance, for submission ...," and that the first part of sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 1 should be revised to read: "two draft international conventions, one on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and the other on the elimination of religious intolerance, for submission ...". However, not all the thirty-four Powers sponsoring the revised draft resolution agreed with the proposed new version, and the suggestion was therefore made that religious intolerance should be dealt with in a separate draft resolution.

21. In the light of the discussion of the thirty-four-Power draft resolution and the Liberian amendment thereto, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Ghana, Guinea, Iraq, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Syria, Tanganyika, Togo and Uper Volta submitted the following draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1016) proposing the preparation of a declaration and an international convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance:

"The General Assembly,

"Desiring to put into effect the principle of the equality of all men and all peoples without distinction as to race, colour or religion stated in the Charter of the United Nations,

"Being deeply disturbed by the manifestations of discrimination based on differences of race, colour and religion still in evidence throughout the world,

"Considering the necessity of taking all possible steps conducive to the final and total elimination of all such manifestations, which violate the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

"Emphasizing that each State ought to take all the necessary action to put an end to these violations, which infringe human dignity,

"Noting that the Commission on Human Rights is preparing draft principles on freedom and non-discrimination in the matter of religious rights and practices,

"1. Requests the Economic and Social Council to ask the Commission on Human Rights, bearing in mind the views of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities, the debates at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, any proposals on this matter that may be submitted by Governments and any international instruments already adopted in this field by the specialized agencies, to prepare:

"(a) a draft Declaration on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance, for submission to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session for its consideration,

"(b) a draft Convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance, for submission to the General Assembly if possible at its nineteenth session and in any case not later than at its twentieth session;

"2. Invites Member States to submit their comments and proposals concerning the draft Convention by 15 June 1963."

22. In view of the submission of the sixteen-Power draft resolution of which Liberia became a co-sponsor, Liberia withdrew its amendment (A/C.3/L.1012/Rev.1 and see paragraph 19 above) to the revised thirty-four-Power draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1006/Rev.6 and Add.1).
23. The revised thirty-four-Power draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1006/Rev.6 and Add.1) and the sixteen-Power draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1016) were orally amended by their sponsors, through the replacement of the time-limit of "15 June 1963", in operative paragraph 2 of both draft resolutions, by "15 January 1964".
24. During the discussion on the draft resolutions, Czechoslovakia submitted to the Committee a working paper concerning a draft international convention on the elimination of racial discrimination (A/C.3/L.1010).
25. At the 1173rd meeting, the revised thirty-four-Power draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1006/Rev.6 and Add.1), as amended orally, was adopted unanimously.
26. At the 1173rd meeting, separate votes were taken, at the request of the representatives of Greece and Argentina respectively, on operative paragraphs 1 (a) and 1 (b) of the sixteen-Power draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1016). Operative paragraph 1 (a) was adopted by 88 votes to none, with 3 abstentions. Operative paragraph 1 (b) was adopted by 64 votes to none, with 26 abstentions. The sixteen-Power draft resolution as a whole (A/C.3/L.1016), as amended orally, was adopted unanimously.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

27. The Third Committee therefore recommends the following draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly:

A

MANIFESTATIONS OF RACIAL PREJUDICE AND NATIONAL
AND RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the seventeenth session of the Commission on Human Rights^{1/} and the report of the thirteenth session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,^{2/}

Deeply disturbed by the continued existence and manifestations of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance in different parts of the world,

Reiterating its condemnation of all manifestations of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance as violations of the United Nations Charter and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Recalling its resolution 1510 (XV) of 12 December 1960,

Considering it essential to recommend further specific effective measures to eliminate these manifestations of prejudice and intolerance,

1. Invites the Governments of all States, the specialized agencies and non-governmental and private organizations to continue to make sustained efforts to educate public opinion with a view to the eradication of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance and the elimination of all undesirable influences promoting these, and to take appropriate measures so that education may be directed with due regard to article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and principle 10 of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 1386 (XIV) of 20 November 1959;

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 8, chapter V, paras. 99-139, and resolutions 5 and 6 (XVII).

2/ E/CN.4/815, chapter IX, and resolution 5 (XIII).

2. Calls upon the Governments of all States to take all necessary steps to rescind discriminatory laws which have the effect of creating and perpetuating racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance wherever they still exist, to adopt legislation if necessary for prohibiting such discrimination, and to take such legislative or other appropriate measures to combat such prejudice and intolerance;

3. Recommends to the Governments of all States to discourage actively, through education and all information media, the creation, propagation and dissemination of such prejudice and intolerance in any form whatever;

4. Invites the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to co-operate fully with Governments of States in their efforts aimed at the prevention and eradication of racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance;

5. Invites Member Governments and the specialized agencies and the non-governmental organizations concerned to inform the Secretary-General of action taken by them in compliance with this resolution;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session a report on compliance with the present resolution.

B

PREPARATION OF A DRAFT DECLARATION AND A DRAFT CONVENTION
ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

The General Assembly,

Desiring to put into effect the principle of the equality of all men and all peoples without distinction as to race, colour or religion stated in the Charter of the United Nations,

Being deeply disturbed by the manifestations of discrimination based on differences of race, colour and religion still in evidence throughout the world,

Considering the necessity of taking all possible steps conducive to the final and total elimination of all such manifestations, which violate the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Emphasizing that each State ought to take all the necessary action to put an end to these violations, which infringe human dignity,

1. Requests the Economic and Social Council to ask the Commission on Human Rights, bearing in mind the views of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the debates at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, any proposals on this matter that may be submitted by Governments and any international instruments already adopted in this field by the specialized agencies, to prepare:

(a) a draft Declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, for submission to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session for its consideration;

(b) a draft Convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, for submission to the General Assembly if possible at its nineteenth session and in any case not later than at its twentieth session;

2. Invites Member States to submit their comments and proposals concerning the draft Convention by 15 January 1964.

C

PREPARATION OF A DRAFT DECLARATION AND A DRAFT CONVENTION ON
THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

The General Assembly,

Desiring to put into effect the principle of the equality of all men and all peoples without distinction as to race, colour or religion stated in the Charter of the United Nations,

Being deeply disturbed by the manifestations of discrimination based on differences of race, colour and religion still in evidence throughout the world,

Considering the necessity of taking all possible steps conducive to the final and total elimination of all such manifestations, which violate the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Emphasizing that each State ought to take all the necessary action to put an end to these violations, which infringe human dignity,

Noting that the Commission on Human Rights is preparing draft principles on freedom and non-discrimination in the matter of religious rights and practices,

1. Requests the Economic and Social Council to ask the Commission on Human Rights, bearing in mind the views of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities, the debates at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, any proposals on this matter that may be submitted by Governments and any international instruments already adopted in this field by the specialized agencies, to prepare:

(a) a draft Declaration on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance, for submission to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session for its consideration,

(b) a draft Convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance, for submission to the General Assembly if possible at its nineteenth session and in any case not later than at its twentieth session;

2. Invites Member States to submit their comments and proposals concerning the draft Convention by 15 January 1964.
