United Nations

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Nations Unies

CONSEIL ECONOMIQUE ET SOCIAL

UNRESTRICTED

E/CN.4/99 24 May 1948

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Third session

INDIA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO THE DRAFT DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

GENEVA TEXT AS AMENDED BY DRAFTING COMMITTEE (E/Cn.4/95)

Article 1

All men are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed by nature with reason and conscience and should act towards one another like brothers.

Article 2

In the exercise of his rights everyone is limited by the rights of others and by the just requirements of the democratic state. The individual owes duties to society through which he is enabled to develop his spirit, mind and body in wider freedom.

Article 3

1. Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, property status, or national or social origin.

PROPOSED TEXT

Substitute:

All people, men and women, are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed by nature with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in the spirit of brotherhood.

Substitute:

The exercise of the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration shall be subject only to such restrictions as are necessary to secure due regard for the rights of others and the welfare and security of all.

1. No Amendment

2. All are equal before the law regardless of office or status and entitled to equal protection of the law against any arbitrary discrimination or against any incitement to such discrimination, in violation of this Declaration.

Article 4

Everyone has the right to life, to liberty and security of person.

Article 5

Slavery is prohibited in all its forms.

Article 6

No one shall be deprived of his personal liberty or kept in custody except in cases prescribed by law and after due process. Everyone placed under arrest or detention, shall have the right to immediate judicial determination of the legality of any detention to which he may be subject and to trial within a reasonable time or to release.

Article 7

Everyone shall have access to independent and impartial tribunals in the determination of any criminal charge against him, and of his rights and obligations. He shall be entitled to a fair hearing of his case and to have the aid of a qualified representative of his own choice, and if he appears in person to have the procedure explained to him in a manner in which he can understand it and to use a language which he can speak.

Substitute:

2. All are equal before the law regardless of office or status and are entitled to equal protection of the law against any arbitrary discrimination.

No Amendment

Substitute:

No one shall be held in slavery or involuntary servitude.

Substitute:

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention.

Substitute:

Everyone, in the determination of his rights and obligations or of any criminal charge against him, is entitled to a fair hearing by an impartial tribunal.

- 1. Any person is presumed to be innocent until proved guilty. No one shall be convicted or punished for crime or other offence except after fair public trial at which he has been given all guarantees necessary for his defence. person shall be held guilty of any offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute such an offence at the time when it was committed, nor shall he be liable to any greater punishment than that prescribed for such offence by the law in force at the time when the offence was committed.
- 2. Nothing in this Article shall prejudice the trial and punishment of any person for the commission of any act which, at the time it was committed, was criminal according to the general principles of law recognized by civilized nations.
- 3. No one shall be subjected to torture, or to cruel or inhuman punishment or indignity.

Article 9

Everyone is entitled to protection under the law from unreasonable interference with reputation, family, home or correspondence.

Article 10

- 1. Everyone is entitled to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.
- 2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own.

Substitute:

1. No one shall be held guilty of any offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute such an offence at the time when it was committed.

2. Omit

3. No Amendment

Substitute:

Everyone is entitled to protection from unreasonable interference with his reputation, family, home or correspondence.

No Amendment

1. Everyone has the right to seek and may be granted, in other countries, asylum from persecution.

2. Prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations do not constitute persecution.

Article 12

Everyone has everywhere the right to recognition as a person before the law.

Article 13

- 1. Men and women shall have equal rights as to marriage in accordance with the law. Marriage may not be contracted without the full consent of both intending spouses and before the age of puberty.
- 2. Marriage and the family shall perotected by the State and Society.

 Article 14

Everyone has the right to own such property as meets the essential needs of decent living, that helps to maintain the dignity of the individual and of the home, and shall not be arbitrarily deprived of it.

Article 15

Everyone has the right to a nationality.

Article 16

- 1. Individual freedom of thought and conscience, to hold and change beliefs, is an absolute and sacred right.
- 2. Every person has the right, either alone or in community with other persons of like mind and in public or private, to manifest his beliefs in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

/Amticles 17 and 18

1. No Amendment

2. Omit

Consist.

Substitute:

Men and women are entitled to equal rights as to marriage.

en de la companya de

Omit

Substitute:

Everyone is entitled to protection from unreasonable interference with his property.

(Note: This could be combined with Article 9).

Substitute:

No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality.

Substitute:

- 1. Everyone has the right to freedom of religion, conscience and belief.
- 2. No Amendment

/No Amendment

Articles 17 and 18

Everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought and expression; this right shall include freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas by any means and regardless of frontiers.

Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and to participate in local, national, international and trade union associations for the promotion, defence and protection of purposes and interests not inconsistent with this Declaration.

Article 20

Everyone has the right, either individually, or in association with others, to petition or to communicate with the public authorities of the State of which he is a national or in which he resides, or with the United Nations.

Articles 21 and 22

1. Everyone without discrimination on grounds of race, sex, languages, religious belief or social origin, and not under any legal disability, has the right to take an effective part in the government of his country. The State shall conform to the will of the people as manifested by elections which shall be periodic, free, fair and by secret ballot.

No Amendment

Substitute:

Everyone has the right to freedom of assembly and association for the promotion, defence and protection of purposes and interests not inconsistent with this Declaration.

Defer for consideration after decision on implementation.

Substitute:

Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country directly or through his freely chosen representatives.

- 2. Everyone shall have equal opportunity to engage in public employment and to hold public office in the State of which he is a citizen or a national.
- 3. Access to public employment shall not be a matter of privilege or favour.

- 1. Everyone has the right to work.
- 2. The State has a duty to take such measures as may be within its power to ensure that all person ordinarily resident in its territory have an opportunity for useful work.

 3. The State is bound to take all necessary steps to prevent unemployment.

Article 24

- 1. Everyone has the right to receive pay commensurate with his ability and skill, to work under just and favourable conditions and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests in securing a decent standard of living for himself and his family.
- 2. Women shall work with the same advantages as men and receive equal pay for equal work.

Article 25

Everyone without distinction as to economic and social conditions has the right to the preservation of his health through the highest standard of food, clothing, housing and medical care which the resources of the State or community can provide.

/The responsibility

Omit

Omit

Substitute:

- 1. Everyone has the right to work under just and favourable conditions.
- 2. Omit

3. Omit

Substitute for Articles 24 - 26

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for health and well-being, including security in the event of unemployment, disability, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

Omit

Omit

The responsibility of the State and community for the health and safety of its people can be fulfilled only by provision of adequate health and social measures.

Article 26

1. Everyone has the right to social security. The State has a duty to maintain or ensure the maintenance of comprehensive measures for the security of the individual against the consequence of unemployment, disability, old age and all other loss of livelihood for reasons beyond his control.

2. Motherhood shall be granted special care and assistance. Children are similarly entitled to special care and assistance.

Article 27

Everyone has the right to education. Fundamental education shall be free and compulsory. There shall be equal access for higher education as can be provided by the State or community on the basis of merit and without distinction as to race, sex, language, religion, social standing, financial means or political affiliation.

Article 28

Education will be directed to the full physical, intellectual, moral and spiritual development of the human personality, to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to the combating of the spirit of intolerance and hatred against other nations or racial or religious groups everywhere.

Omit

Substitute for Articles 27 - 28

Everyone has the right to education.

Omit

- 1. Everyone has the right to rest and leisure.
- 2. Rest and leisure should be ensured to everyone by laws or contracts providing in particular for reasonable limitations on working hours and for periodic vacations with pay.

Article 30

Everyone has the right to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in the benefits that result from scientific discoveries.

Article 31

(Text proposed by the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities).

In States inhabited by well-defined ethnic, linguistic or religious groups which are clearly distinguished from the rest of the population, and which want to be accorded differential treatment, persons belonging to such groups shall have the right, as far as is compatible with public order and security, to establish and maintain their school and cultural or religious institutions, and to use their own language and script in the press, in public assembly and before the courts and other authorities of the State, if they so choose.

Article 32

All laws in any State shall be in conformity with the purposes and principles of the United Nations as embodied in the Charter, insofar as they deal with human rights.

1. No Amendment

2. Omit

No Amendment

Cmit

Omit

E/CN.4/99 Page 9

Article 33

Omit

Nothing in this Declaration shall be considered to recognize the right of any State or person to engage in any activity aimed to the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms prescribed herein.