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THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 63

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65.

DRAFT FIRST INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON HUMAN RIGHTS
AND MEASURES OF IMPLEMENTATION

PROPOSAL FOR A CONSOLIDATED TEXT OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION
TO BE ADOPTED BY THE THIRD COMMITTEE

Presented by the Officers of the Third Committee

The General Assembly

Appreciating the priority which, in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 217 (III), the Commission on Human Rights during its 1949 and 1950 sessions gave to the preparation of a draft International Covenant on Human Rights and measures for its implementation,

Noting the decision of the Economic and Social Council at its eleventh session to transmit the draft Covenant on Human Rights together with relevant documentation and records of the discussion in the Council to the General Assembly at its fifth session for consideration with a view to reaching policy decisions on the points listed in Resolution 303 (XI) of the Economic and Social Council,

Considering it essential that the covenant should include provisions rendering it obligatory to promote the implementation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Covenant and to take the necessary steps, including legislation, to guarantee to everyone the real opportunity of enjoying those rights and freedoms,

Having considered the draft covenant prepared by the Commission on Human Rights, particularly with reference to certain basic policies:

A.

Commends the Commission on Human Rights for the important work it has thus far accomplished;

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Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give priority in its work to the completion of the draft International Covenant on Human Rights and measures for its implementation in order that the General Assembly may at its sixth session have before it the revised draft of this Covenant.

B.

Considers

(a) that the list of rights in the first eighteen articles of the Draft Covenant on Human Rights does not contain certain of the most elementary rights;

(b) that the present wording of some of the first eighteen articles of the draft Covenant on Human Rights should be improved in order to protect more effectively the rights to which they refer;

(c) that in the drafting of the Covenant on Human Rights account should be taken of the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and that these principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations should be consistently applied and assiduously protected;

Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission on Human Rights to take into consideration in its work of revision of the draft Covenant (i) the views expressed during the discussion of the draft Covenant in this session of the General Assembly and in the eleventh session of the Economic and Social Council, including those relating to articles 13 and 14 of the Draft Covenant and, with a view to the addition in this covenant of other rights, those relating to the rights set forth by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in document A/C.3/L.96 and Yugoslavia in document A/C.3/L.92;

(ii) the view, expressed during the discussion of the draft Covenant in this session of the General Assembly and in the eleventh session of the Economic and Social Council, that it is desirable to define the rights set forth in the Covenant and the limitations thereto with the greatest possible precision.

C.

Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission on Human Rights to study a federal state article and to prepare, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its sixth session, recommendations

/which

which will have as their purpose securing the maximum extension of the Covenant to the constituent units of federal states, and meeting the constitutional problems of federal states.

D.

Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission on Human Rights to study ways and means which would ensure the right of peoples and nations to self-determination and to prepare recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixth session.

E.

Whereas the Covenant on Human Rights should be drawn up in the spirit and based on the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

Whereas the Universal Declaration regards man as a person, to whom civic and political freedoms as well as economic, social and cultural rights indubitably belong;

Whereas the enjoyment of civic and political freedoms and that of economic, social and cultural rights are interconnected and interdependent;

Whereas when deprived of economic, social and cultural rights man does not represent the human person whom the Universal Declaration regards as the ideal of the free man;

(a) Decides to include economic, social and cultural rights in the draft Covenant on Human Rights and an explicit recognition of equality of men and women on related rights, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission on Human Rights in accordance with the spirit of the Universal Declaration to include in the Covenant a clear expression of economic, social and cultural rights in a manner which relates them to the civic and political freedoms proclaimed by the Covenant;

(c) Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission on Human Rights to take such steps as are necessary to obtain the co-operation of other organs of the United Nations and of Specialized Agencies in the consideration of such rights;

(d) Requests the Economic and Social Council to give consideration at its twelfth session, to the methods by which the specialized agencies might co-operate with the Commission on Human Rights with regard to economic, social and cultural rights.

F.

Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission on Human Rights to proceed with the consideration of provisions to be inserted in the draft Covenant or in separate protocols for the receipt and examination of petitions from individuals and organizations with respect to alleged violations of the International Covenant on Human Rights; and to take into consideration in their studies of questions relative to petitions and implementation of the proposals presented by the delegations of Chile, Ethiopia and France, Israel, Uruguay, in document A/C.3/L.81, A/C.3/L.78, A/C.3/L.91/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.91/Rev.1/Corr.1 and A/C.3/L.93.

G.

Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission on Human Rights to report to the thirteenth session of the Economic and Social Council concerning the above matters.

H.

Requests the Secretary-General to invite Member States to submit their views by 15 February 1951 concerning the draft International Covenant on Human Rights as revised by the Commission on Human Rights at its sixth session, in order that the Commission may have such views before it in its further consideration of the draft Covenant at its seventh session.
