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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 54th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. HAMER (Netherlands)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued) (A/41/3, A/41/180, A/41/274 and Add.1, A/41/317 and Add.1, A/41/507, A/41/510, A/41/710, A/41/719, A/41/778, A/41/787, A/41/183, A/41/189, A/41/213, A/41/315, A/41/326, A/41/337, A/41/343, A/41/354, A/41/389, A/41/461 and Corr.1, A/41/462, A/41/494, A/41/523, A/41/607, A/41/667, A/41/729, A/41/771, A/C.3/41/1, A/C.3/41/3, A/C.3/41/6, A/C.3/41/10, A/C.3/41/11, A/C.3/41/L.1, L.76, L.78 and L.80 to L.83)

1. Mr. VILLAGRA DELGADO (Argentina) said that one of the most important tasks carried out by the United Nations since its establishment had been the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The series of international human rights instruments constituted a comprehensive body of rules and had been one of the principal developments of the century in international law. Universal acceptance of that normative system had made it particularly relevant and had prevailed over the differences between the most widely diverging legal, cultural and political systems.

2. Argentina attached particular importance to those norms. In 1986 it had ratified the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocol and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. All human rights were important, which meant that none should be given precedence over others; nor should failure to apply certain human rights be used as an excuse to deny or prevent the effective enjoyment of others.

3. It was the right and duty of the United Nations to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights. Argentina could testify to the beneficial effects of the international community's humanitarian concern in that field. The mechanisms conducive to active involvement by the United Nations in human rights matters should be improved and strengthened. Resolving human rights problems was the responsibility not only of the nations concerned, but of the international community as a whole.

4. International co-operation to ensure the enjoyment of human rights should be far-reaching. In particular, the most affluent countries should make greater efforts to resolve the overwhelming economic crisis affecting the developing world, which was suffering in particular from the heavy burden of external debt and protectionist measures against its exports - factors which adversely affected the promotion and enjoyment of the economic, social and cultural rights of the population. His delegation was of the view that, in order to achieve satisfactory results in that area, human rights issues should not be unduly politicized, for that would seriously prejudice the noble humanitarian goals pursued.

5. Argentina would like to see the Declaration on the right to development included among international human rights instruments, and considered that discussions as to whether formal recognition of that right involved adopting a collectivist approach to human rights were purely academic. No one was unaware of

(Mr. Villagra Delgado, Argentina)

the fact that harmonious personal development was difficult to achieve in societies in which a large proportion of the population was unable to enjoy economic, social and cultural rights for want of the means to do so. The right to development should address itself to the development of the individual in all its aspects, but should also involve promoting the development of society. Consensus adoption of a Declaration on the right to development in the General Assembly would be a significant new step forward in the process of codifying and establishing international law. Argentina therefore urged all delegations to display flexibility and to co-operate in achieving that objective. He commended the delegations of Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe, as Chairmen of the Group of 77 and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, respectively, for their endeavours in that regard.

6. Argentina also attached importance to the drafting of a convention on the rights of migrant workers and their families and hoped that in 1987 the Working Group entrusted with that task would be able to hold the two meetings scheduled to finalize the draft convention. The situation of millions of migrant workers amply justified the preparation of the draft.

7. The Argentine delegation was aware of the difficulties facing the Organization as a result of the financial crisis and of the need to make adjustments in order to rationalize its work. However, it did not believe that the appropriate way of doing so was to reduce or cancel meetings or activities in the field of human rights. Any delay or cutback in those activities might do irreparable damage. For that reason, Argentina trusted that meetings to be held in 1987 such as those of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities or the Working Group on the Drafting of an International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families would not be cancelled.

8. Argentina's democratic institutions had been fully restored, which was the best guarantee of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Similar developments had taken place in nearly all the countries of the southern hemisphere, and that trend would therefore be expected to be consolidated in the years to come. In societies where respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms was assured and where dissent was a source of ideas and not of discord, there was far greater scope for stability, peace and justice to flourish.

9. Mr. KIVIMAKI (Finland) said that the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, together with the International Covenants on Human Rights, formed a corner-stone of the United Nations system. The realization of human rights contributed to a great extent to international security, stability and well-being. Violations of human rights bred insecurity and instability both within States and among them.

10. It was most regrettable to note that human rights continued to be violated and fundamental freedoms denied in many States. Millions of people had been turned out of their homes because of massive human rights violations by Governments for ethnic

(Mr. Kivimäki, Finland)

or religious reasons. Unjustified arrests, torture, arbitrary executions, involuntary disappearances, religious intolerance, censorship and political persecution continued to be a reminder of how far the international community was from universal compliance with the principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the two International Covenants.

11. The codification of human rights norms undertaken by the international community since the Second World War had produced impressive results. The main problem was now to ensure that the norms were complied with in national practice. Some important tasks remained, however, such as the preparation of a draft convention on the rights of the child, of a second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aimed at abolishing the death penalty, of the Draft International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families, and of other documents such as that relating to the protection of human rights of minorities and a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect human rights.

12. The United Nations should be as consistent and impartial as possible in its response to human rights violations by Member States. The Third Committee had before it the special reports on the human rights situation in four countries. However, there were also others in which violations occurred. It was regrettable that it had become general practice to single out some countries for condemnation by the United Nations because of their human rights situations. Selectivity and political considerations weakened the credibility of United Nations human rights activities and diverted attention away from the generally accepted rules of behaviour in human rights questions.

13. Emphasis had been placed on the responsibility of States in improving the situation regarding human rights and fundamental freedoms. What was also needed was consistent and goal-oriented work in the form of concerted efforts between Governments, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Commission on Human Rights and the Special Rapporteurs or Representatives. More thorough investigation should be made of machinery to help the United Nations to achieve more effective and concrete results in the field of human rights. One proposal worthy of consideration was to create the post of a United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Finland believed that the establishment of such a post would lead to closer and more effective co-operation between Member States and the United Nations.

14. His delegation deplored that some Member States which had ratified the International Covenants on Human Rights had decided not to co-operate with the Special Rapporteurs appointed to study and report on the situation in those countries. Once Governments had accepted the rules laid down in those instruments, they were under the obligation to co-operate with the United Nations in implementing them. The system of Special Rapporteurs was one of the major achievements of United Nations human rights machinery. Although the reports

(Mr. Kivimaki, Finland)

submitted by the Special Rapporteurs varied in quality and approach, the system was useful both to Governments and to the international community. It was encouraging to see the extent to which some Governments were prepared to co-operate with the Special Rapporteurs. Finland reiterated its strong appeal to those Governments which had not yet done so to reconsider their position for the benefit of the whole United Nations system.

15. The programme of advisory services was an integral part of United Nations activities to promote respect for human rights. Some countries clearly felt hesitation about requesting advisory services of the United Nations in the field. However, if it were recognized that it was a joint endeavour, often in situations where countries had undergone profound political transformations, and that the programme was executed exclusively on behalf of the United Nations, there might be an increasing interest in making use of the advisory services. Finland supported the proposals for the further development of that programme.

16. Finland was aware of the financial problems of the United Nations. Although it was necessary to cut costs, it would be advisable for the cuts to be divided in a just and balanced way between the various United Nations activities so as not to hamper the work of any sector.

17. Mr. OGURTSOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that a little over 41 years had passed since the victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism. Thousands of cities and villages had been razed to the ground and 50 million people had lost their lives on the battlefield and in the resistance movements, had been tortured in concentration camps, had died in the gas chambers and in air raids and had fallen prey to hunger and hardship. Such was the price paid for the peace which had now been enjoyed for over 41 years.

18. All the nations fighting Hitler's fascism had contributed to the great victory. However, the role played by the Soviet Union was indisputable because the main thrust of the Fascist hordes had been directed against that country. The lessons of the Second World War were imperishable. The most important of them was that war should be fought against before it began. History taught that in order to defend peace, concerted and determined efforts by all peace-loving forces were needed.

19. The special interest of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic in measures to be taken against the ideology and policy of nazism, fascism and neo-fascism arose from the number of victims caused by Fascist aggression and from the anguish experienced at that time, which was still alive in its people's memory. One quarter of the country's population, or 2,230,000 people, had died at the front or in the resistance between 1941 and 1945. As a result, the economy of the Republic had been set back several decades, and cities and villages reduced to ruins.

(Mr. Ogurtsov, Byelorussian SSR)

20. At the Twenty-seventh Congress of the Communist Party, it had been reported that neo-fascism was emerging more actively in the political arena. When traditional ways of repressing workers failed, the imperialists set up and supported dictatorships in order to put down progressive forces by naked military force. Neo-Fascist organizations were already operating openly in more than 60 countries in the capitalist world. They ranged from neo-Nazi terrorist groups and Fascist parties to the racist apartheid régime in South Africa, the Zionist régime in Israel and the Fascist dictatorship in Chile.

21. Theories that were at the origin of criminal actions by racist, Fascist and neo-Nazi organizations and repressive régimes were known as totalitarianism. Totalitarianism was a dictatorship of the most reactionary circles of monopolistic capitalism, based on terror and massive human rights violations. The most reactionary form of totalitarianism was a militaristic one with imperialist ambitions of world supremacy.

22. The escalation of international tension, the arms race and militaristic hysteria contributed to the spread of neo-Fascist and neo-Nazi organizations. In some cases the ruling circles of certain Western countries directly or indirectly encouraged the activities of those organizations, which represented a threat to human rights and fundamental freedoms and to international peace and security. When attempts were made to put an end to neo-Nazi activities and to the racist propaganda being spread in the Western countries, those activities were defended under the pretext that they were expressions of "freedom of speech". The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights provided for the possibility of restricting freedom of speech and assembly in the interests of national security or public safety or in order to protect public health or morals or the rights and freedoms of others.

23. It was clear that all war criminals must be punished in accordance with the law. Before the war was over, the allies had committed themselves to bringing to trial and punishing all Nazi war criminals. Today, many war criminals and their collaborators lived in freedom. The Byelorussian SSR strictly fulfilled its international obligations in identifying and punishing Nazi war criminals and their collaborators. However, about 10,000 war criminals had found refuge in the United States of America; 300 of them had committed crimes on Byelorussian soil and were guilty of the deaths of two and a half million people. Although 90,921 war criminals had been identified in the Federal Republic of Germany, only 7 per cent of them had been prosecuted, and most of them had been acquitted, had received light sentences or had been freed subject to the payment of cash fines. In the previous year, only one war criminal had been convicted in the Federal Republic of Germany. In February 1946, the Byelorussian delegation had submitted to the General Assembly at its first session a list of more than 1,200 war criminals who had committed crimes on Byelorussian territory and had found refuge in various Western countries. However, for the reasons mentioned previously, most of them had received no punishment whatsoever.

(Mr. Ogurtsov, Byelorussian SSR)

24. His delegation was raising that issue once again in the strong conviction that the responsibility of the Nazi fanatics who had murdered and tortured 12 million defenceless people during the war was not only a legal problem but also a political one. It was directly related to the struggle for peace, social progress and democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms. Various United Nations instruments called for co-operation by all countries in identifying, arresting and prosecuting persons suspected of committing war crimes and crimes against humanity, and punishing them if they were proven guilty. The struggle against Fascist ideologies and practices must be an integral part of the concerted efforts by the international community.

25. Ms. ILIC (Yugoslavia) said that the picture of the human rights situations communicated by the Special Rapporteurs was not encouraging. In Chile, a country which was living virtually in a continuous state of emergency, the security forces continued to commit serious human rights violations without there being investigations or prosecution of the guilty. The Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, a movement to which Yugoslavia belonged, at its recent meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe, had reaffirmed their solidarity with the democratic forces in Chile and the latter's struggle for civil, political and other rights, and had requested the military junta to put an end to all human rights violations.

26. Her delegation had also noted with concern the persistent violations of human rights in El Salvador and particularly the effects of the armed conflict on the economic, political and social rights of the civilian population. It was unfortunate that the dialogue between the Government and the Frente Farabundo Martí de Liberación Nacional-Frente Democrático Revolucionario had not been resumed, with a view to achieving a political and negotiated solution to the conflict, thereby contributing decisively to an improvement in the human rights situation and the strengthening of the democratic system.

27. Human rights situations in other parts of the world were also of concern to her delegation. She referred to the Palestinian people and the majority peoples of Namibia and South Africa, whose rights, particularly the right of self-determination, were being denied. Yugoslavia condemned the use of force, foreign aggression, interference in the internal affairs of other States and any other actions that resulted in violations of the human rights of other peoples or countries, and it firmly opposed any attempt to deprive minorities of their identity and their individual or collective rights. The revival in some parts of the world of racism against minorities or migrant workers and their families was also a cause for concern.

28. Her delegation was interested in a speedy completion of the draft convention on the protection of the rights of migrant workers and their families and was pleased that the working group in charge of that task had harmonized in second reading all the remaining articles in the first part of the convention (scope and definitions), articles 7 to 16 of the second part (basic human rights of migrant workers and their families), and paragraph 2 of article 17. She supported the recommendations of the working group on the holding of an inter-sessional meeting

(Ms. Ilic, Yugoslavia)

in the spring of 1987 in order to complete, if possible, the second reading of the draft convention. The Secretariat should provide adequate services to the working group so as to enable it to fulfil its mandate. All participants in the further work on the draft convention should continue to display flexibility and a spirit of co-operation in order to find generally acceptable solutions. On the other hand, those parts of the draft convention that in their present form looked more like guidelines and recommendations should be transformed into generally acceptable norms based on respect for the principle of equal treatment and non-discrimination and, where necessary, of broad and equitable co-operation between the receiving countries and the countries of origin.

29. Mr. RADA (Czechoslovakia) said that the Government of Chile had tried to justify its unjustifiable policy of repression, intimidation and pauperization of the Chilean people in a 135-page document, which was, in fact, far more extensive than that of the Special Rapporteur. Since the failed attempt on the life of General Pinochet, the Fascist régime had launched an especially severe campaign of repression, even against the passive representatives of the opposition, and its traditional protectors themselves were beginning to fear that developments might get out of control. That strategy of terror, however, was failing to accomplish the intended effect, and to an increasing extent, the representatives of the middle class, who in 1973 had seen Pinochet's Fascist régime as some sort of protection for their interests, were joining the resistance movement.

30. His delegation was greatly disappointed at the Special Rapporteur's report, which was based on a sometimes superficial approach and, on several points, lacked objectivity. The commendation of the Special Rapporteur's work by the representative of Chile in the Committee indicated that the Special Rapporteur had probably not had enough courage to depict the true state of affairs in Chile and to go beyond the information supplied by the Chilean régime.

31. The systematic violation of fundamental human rights in Chile also had an international dimension. It was well known who abetted the coup d'état against the lawful Government of Dr. Allende, who were the authors of the models of Chilean "economic prosperity" and which States had for years been interpreting the violations of human rights in Chile from the viewpoint of their own geopolitical interests. Less well known, but irrefutable, was the fact that there were plans for intervention by troops stationed in the Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico and elsewhere, should the developments in Chile take a turn differing from the scenario envisaged by the State that had helped Pinochet take power illegally in 1973. Hence the draft resolution on the situation in Chile should be adequate to the urgency of the need to do away with the wilfulness of the repressive Chilean régime. It was high time that those States that displayed their concern about human rights elsewhere in the world dissociated themselves from a régime that had never had the support of the Chilean people.

32. The situation in El Salvador gave no reason for optimism. The armed forces of the Government continued to orchestrate political killings and disappearances and to launch attacks against the civilian population in areas controlled by the Frente

(Mr. Rada, Czechoslovakia)

Farabundo Martí de Liberación Nacional. There was an alarming growth in the number of political prisoners, while officials who were responsible for serious human rights violations remained unpunished. On the other hand, the Government was either unwilling or unable to start a truly constructive dialogue with the Frente Farabundo Martí in order to find a political solution to the problem, a problem which had originated not from the import of some foreign political ideas but from the socio-economic conditions in which the population lived.

33. His delegation also felt compelled to mention the serious violations of human rights by the South Korean régime. In the current year hundreds of people, particularly young people, had been arrested for participating in peaceful demonstrations.

34. The States that could not accept the socio-economic changes accomplished in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan were continuing to interfere in the internal affairs of that country. Those who currently spoke about human rights violations in Afghanistan had never considered it necessary to mention the human rights situation there in the days before the reconstruction of Afghan society on just and democratic principles. The undeclared war against Afghanistan waged by a State which used human rights merely as a means to defend its strategic interests had for years prevented a political settlement of that problem. It was nothing new that some States were exerting psychological pressure and inciting subversion against countries that had decided to embark upon an independent, progressive road. At the same time, it was unfortunate that international forums were being used to consider artificial problems and thereby distract attention from far more significant matters, such as massive and flagrant violations of human rights, especially those committed by South Africa and Israel.

35. Some delegations to the Third Committee were using the term "totalitarianism" indiscriminately, confusing it with fascism and attributing it to a group of socialist States. It would be helpful to define the term through the prism of reality. Playing democracy was not the same as practising real democracy. It would be interesting to know whether it was by chance the representatives of the poorest social strata who controlled the "democratic parliaments" of many Western countries; to know who could study in the best private schools; to know the real, not potential, rights of millions of unemployed persons, national minorities, coloured population or foreign workers; and to know who controlled the press and other mass media, using them to manipulate, in a very effective manner, the vast majority of the population. In his view, democracy meant the extent to which equal possibilities were guaranteed to all individuals, not in theory but in practice. In recent decades, the socialist countries had done more for their people than had the capitalist system in centuries. Thus, to give a simplistic version of the developments in the socialist countries and to hide them behind the veil of "totalitarianism" not only was unconvincing but also could be counter-productive in the effort to strengthen the international protection of human rights. In the nuclear and space age, those who were looking for an alternative to peaceful coexistence between States with different social systems, which included freedom to choose the way in which human rights would be safeguarded, were posing a grave danger to mankind.

36. Mr. MOHAMMED (Iraq) said that he wished to focus on one of the most important issues on the agenda: the violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the Palestinian people being committed by Zionist hordes in occupied Palestine and in the occupied Arab territories. Those violations had begun with the non-compliance with the British Mandate in Palestine on the part of the United Kingdom, in particular when the decision had been taken to partition Palestine, in violation of the rights of the Palestinian people to a territory, sovereignty and self-determination. The injustice committed against the Palestinian people had subsequently been intensified through the non-compliance with commitments, the prolongation of certain laws and foreign occupation.

37. The Zionist attitude towards the Arab population of the occupied territories corresponded to a systematic method and carefully prepared plan, based on a racist concept whose objective was the total extermination of the Palestinian and Arab people and the establishment of a Jewish territory from the Nile to the Euphrates. That had been revealed in certain statements by the authorities of the occupied Arab territories, who were calling for the promulgation of laws similar to the Nazi laws of the Third Reich.

38. He cited an article by Mr. Abba Eban which had appeared in The New York Times of 9 November 1986, and which had referred to the statement by the representative of Iraq in the Third Committee on 13 November 1986. If, as the representative of Israel had said in the Third Committee, Mr. Eban had the right to freedom of speech, that was due to the existence of a dual "law", or a double "standard", in the occupied Arab territories. On the other hand, Arabs were being killed for much less important reasons - for being Arabs or for being Palestinians. Mr. Eban's remarks were not an expression of sympathy for the Palestinians, but rather were made for propagandistic reasons relating to the internal conflict in the Tel Aviv Government. Another example of the double standard in the occupied territories had been the crimes perpetrated in Lebanon and the killing of women and children in the camps, after besieging them. There were too many examples to be cited in a single statement.

39. The representatives to the Third Committee knew perfectly well how facts and history were being distorted. There had never been a terrorist force in the world which admitted its crimes or which condemned itself. The most obvious example was the conduct of the Pretoria régime in South Africa and Namibia. If that régime, like Israel, had a representative to the United Nations, it would arrogantly state, as had the representative of Israel, that its régime was not violating any human right. History taught, however, that the forces of aggression never ultimately attained their inhuman objectives, although they might achieve temporary results with their crimes. That was applicable to the hordes of Tel Aviv, now and in future.

40. Mrs. NANA (Ghana) said that, as could be seen from the information on human rights violations submitted to the Committee, it was obvious that respect for those rights was far from being achieved. Currently, no country could be considered as completely absolved from committing human rights violations, especially with regard to torture and other cruel treatment or punishment. Perhaps the only essential difference between countries was the extent to which such violations were permitted.

(Mrs. Nana, Ghana)

41. Modern scientific knowledge had made that practice even more cruel and sophisticated. It was not possible to discuss violations of human rights without addressing the equally grave question of those who manufactured and distributed the instruments with which torture and human rights violations were perpetrated. It should be noted that 87 per cent of conventional weapons were being used in third world countries, where only about 1 per cent of those weapons had been produced. It should be asked how it was possible that certain countries condemned human rights violations in other countries to which they continuously supplied weapons. Her delegation felt that countries which supplied instruments of torture, mutilation and killing to countries which committed serious human rights violations had the moral duty to ponder over the pain and suffering caused by them around the world.

42. With the possible exception of the situation in South Africa, many human rights violations, whether arbitrary arrests, executions, disappearances, torture or even acts of religious intolerance, were committed by ignorant and overly enthusiastic officials for the purpose of protecting and pleasing authorities or to show off their own power. In many cases, torturers and other violators of human rights were not even aware that their acts contravened the provisions of international conventions. She therefore stressed the need for a public campaign to educate people around the world about human rights violations. International assistance to that campaign should be only a complement to national efforts.

43. Special attention should be given to human rights violations in South Africa, not because they were different from those committed in other countries, but because they were the direct result of the abominable institutionalized policy of apartheid, which sought to deprive that country's black people of their dignity. Such violations enjoyed the protection of South African law, which took no notice of the provisions of international law. Her Government was of the view that the more oppressive the South African régime became against the black population, the more adamant the oppressed would become, thus diminishing prospects for peace. It was regrettable that the South African authorities still did not see the need to restore dignity to a people which, given equal opportunity, could help build a peaceful and prosperous South Africa.

44. Forced resettlements, arbitrary arrests and persecution of the innocent black population were negative measures which would inevitably have adverse effects in the long run. Time would undoubtedly show that the racist Pretoria régime was struggling in vain to stem progress and it would have to answer for the loss of life and property which it had caused.

Draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.76

45. Mr. TROUVEROI (Belgium), introducing draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.76 on the question of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Afghanistan on behalf of the sponsors, said that, as the Special Rapporteur, Mr. Ermacora, had stated in his report, the human rights situation in Afghanistan was extremely worrying. The sponsors of the draft resolution regretted that the authorities of Afghanistan had not co-operated with the Special Rapporteur, and urged them to do so. They praised the Special Rapporteur for his conscientious and valiant efforts.

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46. Mrs. SAUER (Secretary of the Committee), announced that Samoa had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.76.

Draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.1

47. Mr. GORAJEWSKI (Poland) introduced the amendments to draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.1 on the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, contained in document A/C.3/41/L.78 and pointed out that the proposed amendments had no financial implications.

Draft decision A/C.3/41/L.80

48. Mrs. WARZAZI (Morocco), introducing draft decision A/C.3/41/L.80 on behalf of the sponsors, emphasized that the proposal was designed to rationalize the work of the Third Committee by drawing attention to certain items which could be considered every two years. For example, it was unlikely that the activities to be carried out in 1987 in respect of items 85 and 90 would warrant including those items in the agenda of the next session. In that connection, it would be necessary to ask the Secretary-General to keep the United Nations Trust Fund for Pging in operation until December 1988. With regard to item 94, the relevant study would not be submitted to the Sub-Commission until August 1987 and would then be referred to the Commission on Human Rights. Accordingly, the General Assembly could not receive a substantive report that would warrant detailed consideration of the item until 1988. If it became necessary to submit important information concerning any of those items, the Director of the Centre for Human Rights could do so in 1987 when the Committee considered item 12.

49. With regard to item 101, in preparing draft decision A/C.3/41/L.80 account had been taken of the importance that had to be given to consideration of the right to development. The Third Committee would have to devote the necessary time to analysing that subject in 1987 and in the following years. With regard to item 95, the understanding was that the draft resolution which the Committee had decided to consider at the forty-second session, would be considered at the forty-third session.

50. She trusted that by considering those items every two years, the Committee would be able to give the reports detailed consideration and that the reports would be more consistent, comprehensive and useful and would provide the Committee with new elements enabling it to carry out its work effectively.

Draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.81

51. Mr. HOPPE (Denmark), speaking on behalf of the sponsors, introduced draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.81 concerning summary or arbitrary executions saying that, ideally, it should not be necessary to present a draft resolution on that subject. Unfortunately, that was not the case, as the Special Rapporteur, Wako, had pointed out in his report. He asked the Committee to adopt the draft resolution without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.82

52. Mrs. ALVAREZ (France), introducing draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.82 on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances, stated that Italy and Norway had joined the sponsors. Enforced or involuntary disappearances were one of the most serious violations of human rights, and one of the most difficult to combat. Accordingly, what the United Nations could do was very limited and was conditioned to a large extent by the attitude of the Governments. Her delegation praised the work of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and asked the Committee to adopt the draft resolution without a vote as it had in the past.

Draft decision A/C.3/41/L.83

53. Mrs. NDUKU BOOTO (Zaire), introducing draft decision A/C.3/41/L.83 on the submission of the reports of special rapporteurs and special representatives of the Commission on Human Rights and of reports of the Commission's subsidiary organs on behalf of the sponsors, said that the fact that part of the reports issued had not been translated into all the official languages of the United Nations could only adversely affect the work of the Third Committee and contravened a fundamental principle of the Organization set forth in rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, whereby all documents must be published in the five official languages. She expressed the hope that the Committee would adopt the draft decision by consensus.

Draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.33

54. Mrs. SAUER (Secretary of the Committee) announced that Venezuela had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.33.

AGENDA ITEM 99: OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES
(continued) (A/41/12 and Add.1, A/41/264, A/41/338 and Corr.1, A/41/360 and Corr.1,
A/41/380 and Add.1, A/41/385, A/41/391, A/41/397, A/41/452, A/41/460, A/41/477,
A/41/499, A/41/514, A/41/515, A/41/516, A/41/520, A/41/531, A/41/553, A/41/572,
A/41/695, A/41/701, A/41/782-S/18436)

55. The CHAIRMAN recalled that when it had considered item 99 the Committee had had before it a note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the role of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Africa and the Secretary-General's comments on the report. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee took note of these documents.

56. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 97: INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS (continued) (A.41/3 (chap. III, sect. C and chap. VII), A/41/40, A/41/70-S/17708, A/41/113-S/17760, A/41/316, A/41/326, A/41/509, A/41/607, A/41/695, A/41/701-S/18394; A/C.3/41/L.71/Rev.1)

Draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.71/Rev.1

57. Mr. QUINN (Australia), introducing the revised draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.71/Rev.1, said that after holding consultations and negotiations the sponsors had decided to make some amendments. In the fourth preambular paragraph the words "need for" should be replaced by "value of" and the words "pursuant to Article 13, 1 (a) of the Charter" should be added at the end. In the fifth preambular paragraph the words "appropriate research and studies" should be replaced by the following text "adequate preparation, including the use, as necessary, of research and studies undertaken by the United Nations". In the sixth preambular paragraph the words "especially in the current climate of limited resources" should be deleted. The following words should be added at the end of paragraph 1: "and encourages broad ratification of existing treaties in this field". In paragraph 4 (b) the words "of real value and relevance" should be deleted. The sponsors hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted without a vote.

58. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.71/Rev.1 had no financial implications.

59. Mr. OGURTSOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that although the amendments improved some aspects of the text they also raised some difficulties. The research and studies of the United Nations should take precedence over other types of documents that might be drawn up outside the Organization, and his delegation would prefer to see the fifth preambular paragraph redrafted before a decision was taken on the draft resolution.

60. Mr. QUINN (Australia) suggested that consideration of the draft resolution should be postponed briefly so that the possibility of amending the fifth preambular paragraph could be considered.

The meeting rose at 12.10 p.m.