

24. The position taken by most members of the Fifth Committee followed that expressed by the General Assembly in its resolution 677 (VII), of 21 December 1952, to the effect that appointment to expert bodies of the United Nations conferred distinction on the individual as well as honour on his country and it was not fitting that any payment, other than for subsistence and travel expenses, should be made in respect of the services rendered, and the Assembly considered that this principle of not authorizing the payment of honoraria was basically a sound one.

25. There was therefore general support in the Fifth Committee for the position of principle which the Advisory Committee had consistently upheld. The General Assembly had laid down, as a basic rule, that the appointment of a person as rapporteur of a United Nations body should not carry any remuneration, and the Assembly had further intended the rule to apply equally to the members of expert bodies serving in a personal capacity. It had accordingly stipulated that the payment of a subsistence allowance should in no case be deemed to contain any element of fee or remuneration.

26. Subsequently, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee<sup>7</sup> approved, *inter alia*, the following decisions:

“(a) The General Assembly reaffirms the basic principles governing the emoluments of persons who serve on organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations, according to which neither fee nor remuneration shall normally be paid to:

“(i) A rapporteur of a United Nations body;

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, Sixteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 54, document A/5005, para. 10.

“(ii) Members serving on organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations in an individual personal capacity.

“Where appropriate, a subsistence allowance at the standard rate, together with travel expenses, shall be payable, but the allowance shall not be deemed to contain any element of fee or remuneration;

“(b) . . .<sup>8</sup>

“(c) The decisions set out under (a) and (b) above shall not be deemed to embrace any honoraria which the General Assembly has already authorized for payment on an exceptional basis.”

The General Assembly's decision has excluded the payment of honoraria to approximately 200 members serving on some twenty continuing organs or subsidiary organs of the United Nations.

27. The Advisory Committee, therefore, is of the opinion that the General Assembly should maintain its decision of principle and that the payment of honoraria should be limited to those members of organs and subsidiary organs to whom the General Assembly has already authorized payments on an exceptional basis.

28. As indicated in paragraphs 15 and 16 above, the Advisory Committee considers that no provision need be made in the budget estimates for 1967 at this time, as summarized in paragraph 16 of the Secretary-General's note, and suggests that should any such expenditure become necessary during 1967, it be authorized under the terms of the General Assembly resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for that financial year, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee.

<sup>8</sup> Relates to like principles governing payments to special representatives or equivalent officials appointed by the General Assembly for the performance of *ad hoc* tasks.

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Report of the Third Committee

[Original text: English/Spanish]  
[13 December 1966]

CONTENTS

	<i>Paragraphs</i>		<i>Paragraphs</i>
INTRODUCTION .....	1-9	Proposal to include an additional article on reservations after article 28 .....	139-146
MEASURES OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DRAFT COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (PART IV) .....	10-101	Article 29[29] .....	147-154
Article 17[16] .....	10-36	Article 29 <i>bis</i> [30] .....	155-167
Article 18[17] .....	37-49	Article 29 <i>ter</i> [31] .....	168-177
Article 19[18] .....	50-54	MEASURES OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DRAFT COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS (PARTS IV AND V) .....	178-561
Article 20[19] .....	55-60	Article 27[281] .....	188-210
Article 21[20] .....	61-67	Article 28[29] .....	211-224
Article 22[21] .....	68-78	Article 29[30] .....	225-242
Article 23[22] .....	79-82	Article 30[31] .....	243-255
Article 24[23] .....	83-86	Article 31[32] .....	256-269
Article 25[24] .....	87-94	Article 32[33] .....	270-281
Article 25 <i>bis</i> [25] .....	95-101	Article 33[34] .....	282-303
FINAL CLAUSES OF THE DRAFT COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (PART V) .....	102-177	Article 34 .....	304-309
Article 26[26] .....	102-122	Article 35[35] .....	310-315
Article 26 <i>bis</i> [27] .....	123-126	Article 35 <i>bis</i> .....	316-317
Article 27[28] .....	127-130	Article 36[36] .....	318-328
Article 28 .....	131-138	Article 37[37] .....	329-342

CONTENTS ( <i>continued</i> )		<i>Paragraphs</i>
Article 38[38]	.....	343-351
Article 39[39]	.....	352-371
Article 39 <i>bis</i> [40]	.....	372-397
Article 40[41]	.....	398-436
Article 41[42]	.....	437-473
Article 41 <i>bis</i>	.....	474-485
Article 41 <i>ter</i> [43]	.....	486-492
Article 42	.....	493-497
Article 43	.....	498-502
Article 43 <i>bis</i>	.....	503
Article 43 <i>ter</i> [44]	.....	504-515
Article 44	.....	516-523
Article 45[45]	.....	524-529
Article 46	.....	530-535
Article 47	.....	536-540
Article 48	.....	541-545
Article 49	.....	546-550
Article 50[46]	.....	551-552
Article 50 <i>bis</i> [47]	.....	553-556
Article 50 <i>ter</i>	.....	557-561
FINAL CLAUSES OF THE DRAFT COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS (PART VI)		562-567
Article 51[48]	} .....	562-567
Article 51 <i>bis</i> [49]		
Article 52[50]		
Article 53		
Article 54[51]		
Article 54 <i>bis</i> [52]		
Article 54 <i>ter</i> [53]		
OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE DRAFT COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS		568-593
Preamble	} .....	568-593
Article 1		
Article 2		
Article 3		
Article 4		
Article 5		
Article 6		
Article 7		
Article 8		
Article 9		
Article 10		
Article 11		
Article 12		
Article 13		
Article 14		
ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS RELATING THERETO		594-612
DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS		613-626
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE		627

[NOTE. Throughout the present report, the number in brackets following the number of an article indicates the number of that article in the final text adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.]

### Introduction

1. At its 1415th plenary meeting, on 24 September 1966, the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee agenda item 62 entitled "Draft International Covenants on Human Rights". The Third Committee discussed this item from its 1395th to its 1441st meet-

ings, held from 14 October to 1 December 1966 inclusive, and at its 1446th, 1451st to 1453rd, 1455th and 1456th meetings, held on 2, 7, 8 and 12 December 1966.

2. The draft International Covenants on Human Rights, prepared by the Commission on Human Rights and transmitted to the General Assembly by the Economic and Social Council (resolution 545 B (XVIII) of 29 July 1954), have been on the agenda of the General Assembly since its ninth session in 1954.

3. It may be recalled that at its second session in December 1947 the Commission on Human Rights decided that the International Bill of Human Rights should consist of a "declaration", a "covenant" and "measures of implementation".<sup>9</sup> When the General Assembly adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 1948, it requested by resolution 217 F (III) that continued priority be given to the preparation of a draft covenant on human rights and draft measures of implementation. Thereafter the Commission devoted six sessions (fifth to tenth) from 1949 to 1954 to the preparation of the covenants.<sup>10</sup> During this time it received observations and comments from Governments of Member States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, proposals and suggestions from the Commission on the Status of Women and the Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information and of the Press and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, as well as directives and instructions from the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

4. At its ninth session (1954) the General Assembly had before it the text of two draft Covenants, one on economic, social and cultural rights, and the other on civil and political rights together with certain proposals and amendments and documents.<sup>11</sup> At that session the Third Committee of the Assembly heard a general discussion on the texts and proposals and amendments thereto.<sup>12</sup> The consideration of the draft Covenants by the Third Committee at subsequent sessions may be summarized as follows:

(a) At the tenth session (1955) the Third Committee considered and adopted the preamble and article 1 of both draft Covenants.<sup>13</sup>

(b) At the eleventh session (1956) the Third Committee considered and adopted articles 6 to 13 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.<sup>14</sup>

(c) At the twelfth session (1957) the Third Committee considered and adopted articles 14 to 16 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and article 6 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>9</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixth Session, Supplement No. 1*, chap. II.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, *Ninth Session, Supplement No. 10*; *Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 5*; *Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 9*; *Fourteenth Session, Supplement No. 4*; *Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 8*; *Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 7*.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, *Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 7*, chap. III, and annexes I to III.

<sup>12</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Ninth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 58, document A/2808 and Corr. 1.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, *Tenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 28, part I, document A/3077, and in particular paras. 17-77 thereof.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, *Eleventh Session, Annexes*, agenda item 31, document A/3525, and in particular paras. 13 to 157 thereof.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, *Twelfth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 33, document A/3764 and Add. 1, and in particular paras. 5 to 121 thereof.

(d) At the thirteenth session (1958) the Third Committee considered and adopted articles 7 to 11 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.<sup>16</sup>

(e) At the fourteenth session (1959) the Third Committee considered and adopted articles 12 to 14 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.<sup>17</sup>

(f) At the fifteenth session (1961) the Third Committee considered and adopted articles 15 to 18 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.<sup>18</sup>

(g) At the sixteenth session (1961) the Third Committee considered and adopted articles 19 to 25 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.<sup>19</sup>

(h) At the seventeenth session (1962) the Third Committee considered certain additional articles proposed for inclusion in the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and it considered and adopted articles 2 to 5 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as well as articles 3 and 5 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.<sup>20</sup>

(i) At the eighteenth session (1963) the Third Committee considered and adopted articles 2 and 4 and an additional article to follow article 22 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and an additional paragraph for the combined articles 11 and 12 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Political Rights.<sup>21</sup>

(j) At the twentieth session (1965) the Third Committee, owing to its heavy agenda, was unable to consider the draft Covenants.<sup>22</sup>

5. At the twenty-first session of the General Assembly, the Third Committee had before it the provisions of the text proposed by the Commission on Human Rights which still required consideration: the articles on measures of implementation (part IV, articles 17-25 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; part IV, articles 27-48, and part V, articles 49 and 50, of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights) and the final clauses, which were identical in both draft Covenants (part V, articles 26-29 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; part VI, articles 51-54 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights).<sup>23</sup>

6. In addition, the Third Committee had before it: the texts of proposals and amendments relating to reservations and the final clauses,<sup>24</sup> and the proposal for the establishment of an office of the United Nations High Commissioner (Attorney-General) for Human

Rights,<sup>25</sup> transmitted by the Commission on Human Rights; observations made by Governments,<sup>26</sup> the specialized agencies<sup>27</sup> and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees<sup>28</sup> on the texts of the draft Covenants, in accordance with resolution 833 (IX) of the General Assembly; a working paper by the Secretary-General<sup>29</sup> containing the proposals and amendments submitted by Governments in their above-mentioned observations; an annotation of the text of the draft Covenants, prepared by the Secretary-General;<sup>30</sup> an explanatory paper by the Secretary-General on measures of implementation, and Governments' comments thereon,<sup>31</sup> as well as further observations submitted by Governments in accordance with resolution 1960 (XVIII) of the General Assembly.<sup>32</sup>

7. At the commencement of the discussion in the Committee, there was an exchange of views concerning the desirability and advisability of including the same measures of implementation for both draft Covenants. Although it was fully recognized that all human rights were equally important and closely inter-related, some representatives saw no difference between the two categories of rights, as regards the nature and the methods appropriate at the national level for securing their observance, which would justify the adoption of distinct systems of international implementation. Other representatives drew attention to article 2 of each draft Covenant and maintained that economic, social and cultural rights could only be achieved progressively depending particularly upon available resources, while the observance of civil and political rights could and should be secured forthwith. It was thought that if a single system of implementation were adopted, it might not ensure the effective implementation of civil and political rights. Some of these views were later elaborated upon and are set out below in the introductory part of the report concerning the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (see paras. 180 and 181 below). After this preliminary exchange of views the Committee examined the various articles, proposals and amendments thereto.

8. At the present session the Third Committee completed the drafting of the two Covenants by adopting articles relating to the measures of implementation and final clauses of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as by adopting provisions for an optional protocol relating to the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Further it adopted draft resolutions for action by the General Assembly.

9. The paragraphs that follow set out the text of proposals and amendments, the voting thereon, and the texts adopted, with a brief indication of the main issues discussed in the Committee at the present session. No attempt has been made to summarize fully the opinions expressed by the various members of the

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 32, document A/4045 and in particular paras. 3 to 91 thereof.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, *Fourteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 34, document A/4299, and in particular paras. 3 to 64 thereof.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*, *Fifteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 34, document A/4625, and in particular paras. 4 to 58 thereof.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 35, document A/5000, and in particular paras. 5 to 126 thereof.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventeenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 43, document A/5365, and in particular paras. 5 to 98 thereof.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, *Eighteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 48, document A/5655, and in particular paras. 6 to 108 thereof.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, *Twentieth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 65, document A/6173.

<sup>23</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 7*, annex I. The text of the articles still to be considered by the General Assembly was also circulated as document A/6342, annex II.

<sup>24</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 7*, annex II.

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*, annex III.

<sup>26</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 28, part I, documents A/2910 and Add.1-6.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, documents A/2907 and Add.2.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, document A/2907/Add.1.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*, document A/C.3/L.460.

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*, agenda item 28, part II, document A/2929.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*, *Eighteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 48, documents A/5411 and Add.1 and 2.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, *Twentieth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 65, documents A/5702 and Add. 1.

Committee and attention is drawn to the summary records of the discussions where these may be found (see para. 1 above). For consideration of the draft Covenants at previous sessions of the General Assembly, reference should be made to the proceedings of those sessions as indicated in paragraph 4 above and to the summary records of the Third Committee relating thereto.

#### Measures of implementation of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (part IV)

##### ARTICLE 17

10. The text of article 17 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to submit in conformity with this part of the Covenant reports concerning the progress made in achieving the observance of the rights recognized herein.

"2. (a) All reports shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the Economic and Social Council;

"(b) Any State Party which is also a member of a specialized agency shall at the same time transmit, in respect of matters falling within the purview of that agency, a copy of its report, or relevant extracts therefrom, as appropriate, to that agency."

11. The Committee considered this article at its 1397th to 1401st meetings.

##### *Amendments*

12. Two amendments were submitted by India, Nigeria, Pakistan, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1354, paras. 1 and 2); subsequently, Afghanistan, Congo (Brazzaville), Libya, Saudi Arabia and Syria became co-sponsors of these amendments. Two amendments were also submitted by Italy (A/C.3/L.1358, paras. 1 and 2). Proposals for the inclusion of two additional articles before article 17 and a consequential amendment to article 17, paragraph 2 (a), were submitted by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1360, paras. 1 and 2). An amendment was also submitted by Greece (A/C.3/L.1361).

##### *Proposals for the inclusion of two additional articles before article 17*

13. The representative of the United States of America proposed (A/C.3/L.1360, para. 1) to insert the following additional articles before article 17:

##### *"Article . . .*

"1. There shall be established a Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (hereinafter referred to as 'the Committee'), consisting of ten experts of high moral standing, acknowledged impartiality, and recognized competence in the field of economic, social and cultural rights, elected by the States Parties from among their nationals. They shall be elected and serve in their personal capacity, consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution and to the representation of the different forms of civilization. No two of the members

of the Committee shall be nationals of the same State.

"2. The members of the Committee shall be elected by secret ballot from a list of persons nominated by the States Parties. Each State Party may nominate no more than two persons from among its own nationals.

"3. The initial election shall be held six months after the date of the entry into force of this Covenant. At least three months before the date of each election the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall address a written communication to the States Parties inviting them to submit their nominations within a fixed time. The Secretary-General shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of all persons thus nominated, indicating the States Parties which have nominated them, and shall submit it to the States Parties.

"4. Elections of the members of the Committee shall be held at a meeting of States Parties convened by the Secretary-General at the Headquarters of the United Nations. At that meeting, for which two thirds of the States Parties shall constitute a quorum, the persons elected to the Committee shall be those nominees who obtain the largest number of votes and an absolute majority of the States Parties.

"5. (a) The members of the Committee shall be elected for a term of four years and they shall be eligible for re-election. However, of the members elected at the first election, the terms of five members shall expire at the end of two years; immediately after the first election the names of these five members shall be chosen by lot by the Chairman of the Committee.

"(b) In the case of a casual vacancy, the Committee itself shall fill the vacancy, having due regard to the provisions contained in paragraph 1 of this article.

"6. The States Parties shall be responsible for the expenses of the members of the Committee while they are in performance of Committee duties.

##### *"Article . . .*

"1. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

"2. The Committee shall elect its own officers for a term of two years.

"3. The Secretariat of the Committee shall be provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

"4. The meetings of the Committee shall normally be held at the Headquarters of the United Nations."

14. These proposals should be read in conjunction with the amendment to paragraph 2 (a) of article 17 and other proposals made by the United States of America (see paras. 20 and 21 below). The Secretary-General, in document A/C.3/L.1365, submitted a statement of the financial implications of these proposals. At the 1401st meeting the representative of the United States withdrew all these amendments.

##### *Amendments to paragraph 1*

15. The amendment of Italy (A/C.3/L.1358, para. 1 (a)) was to replace the word "concerning" between

the words "reports" and "the progress made", by the phrase: "on the legislative, administrative and other measures which they have adopted, and . . .". At the 1401st meeting, this amendment was orally revised to replace the word "concerning" by the words "on the measures which they have adopted, and . . .".

16. The representative of Greece proposed (A/C.3/L.1361) to insert the word "annually" between the words "to submit" and the words "in conformity". This amendment was withdrawn at the 1401st meeting.

#### *Amendments to paragraph 2 (a)*

17. The eleven-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1354, para. 1) was to replace the words "for the Economic and Social Council" by the words "who shall transmit copies to the Economic and Social Council for consideration in accordance with the provisions of the present Covenant".

18. The representative of Italy submitted an amendment (A/C.3/L.1358, para. 1 (b)) to add the following sentence at the end of paragraph 2 (a):

"The Council shall carry out the functions assigned to it under this Covenant on the basis of the proposals of an *ad hoc* Committee of Experts."

This amendment, which should be read in conjunction with the proposal by Italy to insert a new article after article 17 (see para. 24 below) was withdrawn at the 1401st meeting.

19. A statement by the Secretary-General of the financial implications of these amendments by Italy (see paras. 18 above and 24 below) was circulated in document A/C.3/L.1364.

20. The amendment of the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1360, para. 2) sought to replace the words "Economic and Social Council" by the words "Committee". This amendment should be read in conjunction with the proposal by the United States to insert two additional articles before article 17 (see para. 13 above).

21. The United States submitted other proposals (A/C.3/L.1360, paras. 3-7), connected with the amendment to article 17, paragraph 2 (a), which were as follows:

#### *"Amendments to article 18"*

"(a) In paragraph 1, delete the word 'their' before the word 'reports', replace the words 'Economic and Social Council' by 'Committee', insert the phrase 'the Economic and Social Council' after the phrase 'after consultation with the States Parties' and at the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: 'The Committee may request further information from States Parties.'

"(b) Add the following new paragraph at the end of the article:

"4. The Committee shall report annually to the States Parties on its activities and may make suggestions and recommendations based on its examination of the reports and information received from States Parties.'

#### *"Amendment to article 19"*

"In the first sentence, insert the phrase 'at the request of the Committee,' between the words 'may'

and 'make' and replace the word 'it' by 'the Committee'.

#### *"Amendments to article 20"*

"(a) Insert a new paragraph 1 reading as follows:

"1. The Committee shall transmit annual reports to the Economic and Social Council."

"(b) Number the present paragraph as paragraph 2.

"(c) In the present paragraph (to be numbered as 2), insert the word 'annual' before 'reports', delete the phrase 'concerning human rights' before the words 'submitted by States', replace the word 'States' by 'the Committee', and delete the phrase 'and those concerning human rights submitted by the specialized agencies'.

#### *"Amendment to article 22"*

"Replace the text of article 22 by the following:

"The Economic and Social Council may submit from time to time to the General Assembly, with its own reports, reports summarizing the transmission from the Committee and the studies and general recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights under article 20, and any comments submitted under article 21."

All these United States amendments were withdrawn at the 1401st meeting.

#### *Amendments to paragraph 2 (b)*

22. The eleven-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1354, para. 2) was to replace paragraph 2 (b) by the following:

"The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall also transmit to the specialized agencies reports, or any relevant parts therefrom, from States Parties to the present Covenant which are also members of these specialized agencies in so far as these reports, or parts therefrom, relate to any matters which fall within the responsibilities of the said agencies in accordance with their constitutional instruments."

23. At the 1401st meeting, this amendment was orally revised to insert the words "copies of the" between the words "to the specialized agencies" and "reports, or any relevant parts therefrom".

#### *Proposals to insert an additional article after article 17*

24. The representative of Italy (A/C.3/L.1358, para. 2) proposed to insert the following new article after article 17:

#### *"Article . . ."*

"The Committee referred to in article 17, paragraph 2 (a), shall be composed of eighteen experts, known for their high moral standing and impartiality, who shall be elected by the Economic and Social Council from a list of candidates submitted by the States Parties to this Covenant. Each Party shall have the right to nominate one candidate. The first election to the Committee shall take place six months after the date of entry into force of the Covenant; nominations shall be communicated to the Secretary-General of the United Nations three months in advance. Further elections shall take place every four years. The expenses of the Committee shall be borne

by the States Parties to this Covenant.” This proposal, which should be read in conjunction with the amendment by Italy to paragraph 2 (a) of article 17 (see para. 18 above) was withdrawn at the 1401st meeting.

#### *Issues discussed*

25. There was general agreement in the Committee on the broad system of implementation through a reporting procedure as outlined in the draft articles submitted by the Commission on Human Rights. The main issue discussed related to whether the reports should be submitted to and considered by existing United Nations organs or by a committee of experts to be elected by States Parties to the Covenant. The discussion on this issue is summarized in paragraphs 28 to 34 below.

#### *Paragraph 1*

26. Several members of the Committee considered it useful to spell out the obligation of the States Parties to report on the “measures adopted” as well as on the progress accomplished. According to some representatives, however, this amendment by Italy, in its original form (see para. 15 above), seemed to place on “legislative and administrative measures” an emphasis which was not always correct as regards the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights. Under such a provision, the States Parties might sometimes include in their reports little more than texts of laws and regulations. It was generally felt that the revised amendment (see para. 15 above) met those objections, as it did not single out any particular types of measures.

27. With a view to defining the legal obligations of the States Parties with the greatest possible precision, the representative of Greece proposed (A/C.3/L.1361, see para. 16 above) that reports should be submitted “annually” by the States Parties. Most representatives, however, thought that such a text would prejudice the outcome of the necessary consultations between the Economic and Social Council, the States Parties and the specialized agencies, which were contemplated in article 18 of the Commission’s draft. Some members of the Committee further said that developments to be reported on could not be expected to occur every year.

#### *Paragraph 2 (a)*

28. Under the Commission’s draft, the task of considering the reports and taking appropriate action thereon was entrusted to the Economic and Social Council, assisted by other United Nations bodies, and acting in co-operation with the specialized agencies. Certain members of the Committee objected to that scheme as possibly leading to a situation where States not Parties to the Covenant but members of the Economic and Social Council would assess the extent to which the States Parties performed their obligations. They saw no justification for the privileged position which would thus be enjoyed by the former group of States. Furthermore, in the opinion of those representatives, the Council, often lacking the necessary technical knowledge and overburdened with many tasks, would find it difficult to carry out a thorough examination of the reports. In contrast, excellent substantive work of a similar kind had been accomplished by various bodies of experts in the United Nations and the specialized agencies. In accordance with those views,

the representatives of Italy (see paras. 18 and 24 above) and the United States of America (see paras. 13, 20 and 21 above) proposed that a committee of experts, composed of persons nominated by the States Parties, should play an appropriate role in the reporting procedure. These amendments were based, in varying degrees, on the implementation clause of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

29. The representatives who favoured the establishment of a committee of experts generally felt that, while that body would be best suited to carry out a thorough consideration of the reports, the task of making recommendations “on the basis” of the committee’s proposal should be left to the Council. The amendments of Italy (see paras. 18 and 24 above) were regarded as giving adequate expression to those views.

30. Most representatives, however, were opposed to the establishment of a committee of experts to deal with the reports at any stage of the procedure, and they favoured the system embodied in the Commission’s draft. Some members objected, as a matter of principle, to the creation of any such body by the United Nations. In their view, it was highly questionable whether such action was in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations. Several representatives, speaking only on the proposals of Italy and the United States of America, thought that the restrictions placed by these amendments on the competence of the Council to deal with economic, social and cultural rights could be considered as not being in consonance with Article 62 and other provisions of the Charter. Those members felt that the Commission’s draft rightly expressed confidence in the Council’s ability to ensure the implementation of the rights recognized in the Covenant. No doubt the Council would, within its discretion, devise effective procedures for the consideration of the reports, including perhaps, in certain fields, the creation of its own bodies of experts.

31. These representatives hoped that the Covenant as adopted by the General Assembly would command the widest possible acceptance, so that all or most of the members of the Economic and Social Council would be parties to the Covenant. Even if this were not the case, however, no serious difficulties would arise, since there was no conflict between the obligations of Member States under Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter and those set forth in the Covenant.

32. It was felt that the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination was not a valid precedent for drafting part IV of the Covenant, since the subject-matters of the two instruments were very different. Furthermore, while the functions assigned to a committee of experts under that Convention were not already carried out by any other organ, existing bodies in the United Nations and the specialized agencies were fully competent in the broad field of economic, social and cultural rights. In the view of these representatives, the operations of the proposed committee of experts would needlessly complicate the reporting procedure, at a cost which would be heavy for the States Parties, especially the developing countries.

33. Doubts were expressed as regards the impartiality of the members of the proposed committee and of that body as a whole. It was stressed that the faith of many peoples in the impartiality of experts at the international level had been deeply shaken by the re-

cent decision of the International Court of Justice on the question of South West Africa. The view was also expressed that few members of the proposed body would probably come from the developing countries, since it would be difficult for them to find among their nationals persons of recognized competence in all or several of the technical fields covered by the Covenant. It was also pointed out that, contrary to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, none of the proposals included a requirement concerning the representation of different legal systems, and the amendments by Italy (see para. 24 above) did not provide for equitable geographical distribution in the committee of experts.

34. The majority of representatives favoured the Commission's text with the drafting amendments submitted by the eleven Powers (see para. 17 above), which were commended as giving greater precision to the text.

#### *Paragraph 2 (b)*

35. As was proposed in the eleven-Power amendment (see para. 22 above), most representatives felt that copies of the relevant reports should be transmitted to the specialized agencies by the Secretary-General rather than by the States Parties concerned.

#### *Adoption of the article*

36. At its 1401st meeting, the Committee voted on the text of article 17 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto as follows:

(a) The amendment of Italy as orally revised (see para. 15 above) to paragraph 1 was adopted by 93 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

(b) Paragraph 1 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 95 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

(c) The eleven-Power amendment (see para. 17 above) to paragraph 2 (a) was adopted by 93 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

(d) Paragraph 2 (a) as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 93 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

(e) The text of paragraph 2 (b) proposed in the eleven-Power amendment as orally revised (see paras. 22 and 23 above) was adopted by 93 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

(f) Article 17 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 93 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The text of article 17 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *"Article 17<sup>33</sup>*

"1. The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to submit in conformity with this part of the Covenant reports on the measures which they have adopted and the progress made in achieving the observance of the rights recognized herein.

"2. (a) All reports shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall transmit copies to the Economic and Social Council for consideration in accordance with the provisions of the present Covenant.

"(b) The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall also transmit to the specialized agencies copies of the reports, or any relevant parts therefrom, from States Parties to the present Covenant which are also members of these specialized agencies in so far as these reports, or parts therefrom, relate to any matters which fall within the responsibilities of the said agencies in accordance with their constitutional instruments."

#### ARTICLE 18

37. The text of article 18 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. The States Parties to the present Covenant shall furnish their reports in stages, in accordance with a programme to be established by the Economic and Social Council after consultation with the States Parties and the specialized agencies concerned.

"2. Reports may indicate factors and difficulties affecting the degree of fulfilment of obligations under the present Covenant.

"3. Where relevant information has already previously been furnished to the United Nations or to any specialized agency by any State Party to the present Covenant, it will not be necessary to reproduce that information, but a precise reference to the information so furnished will suffice."

38. The Committee considered this article at its 1401st and 1402nd meetings.

#### *Amendments*

39. Two amendments were submitted by India, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, the United Arab Republic, Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1354, paras. 3 and 4), later joined by Afghanistan, Congo (Brazzaville), Libya, Saudi Arabia and Syria. Two amendments were also submitted by Italy (A/C.3/L.1358, paras. 3 and 4). The amendments submitted by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1360, paras. 3 and 4) connected with an amendment to article 17 were withdrawn (see para. 21 above).

40. The first eleven-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1354, para. 3) proposed to replace the words "programme to" by "schedule which will". This amendment was later withdrawn. The second eleven-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1354, para. 4) was to insert after the words "Economic and Social Council" the phrase: "within one year of the entry into force of the present Covenant".

41. The first amendment of Italy (A/C.3/L.1358, para. 3) proposed that the Commission's draft, after the words "their reports", should be replaced by the following: "within a period of one year from the date of entry into force of the Covenant and thereafter every two years. In addition, they shall furnish reports whenever the Economic and Social Council so requests". This amendment was later withdrawn.

42. The second amendment submitted by Italy (A/C.3/L.1358, para. 4) was to add a new paragraph reading as follows:

"On the basis of the reports received from States Parties to this Covenant, the Economic and Social Council may make suggestions and recommendations of a general nature, which it shall communicate to the General Assembly."

This proposal was, however, withdrawn at a later stage on the understanding that it would be considered in

<sup>33</sup> Article 16 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

relation to article 22 of the Covenant (see para. 71 below).

*Issues discussed*

43. The meaning of the word "programme" in the original text of article 18 was considered by the Commission to signify a programme for timing, form and substance of the reports submitted to the Council (A/2929, chap. IX, para. 12).

44. It was felt by most representatives that the timing of the reports should not be determined rigidly in the Covenant itself, as was proposed in the first Italian amendment (see para. 41 above) but that the Council should work out a flexible schedule after the consultations referred to in the Commission's draft.

45. Some representatives, supporting the first eleven-Power amendment (see para. 40 above), thought that the word "programme" as used in the original draft was too broad and should be replaced by the word "schedule" as, in their view, the determination of the contents of the report should be made by the States Parties and not by the Council. On the other hand, several representatives favoured the retention of the word "programme" as used in the original draft, for there was need, in their opinion, for the Council's guidance as regards the form, substance as well as timing of the reports. It was felt that if the States Parties were left without such guidance, wide divergencies in the form and contents of the reports might reduce the effectiveness of the procedure, and the reports might degenerate into vehicles of propaganda.

46. The representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, supported by some other members, suggested the deletion of the words "and the specialized agencies concerned" in article 18, paragraph 1, since in their view the specialized agencies should not be placed on the same footing as the States Parties and not all such States might be members of the specialized agencies. Other representatives felt that such consultations would be of great importance, as those agencies were actively concerned with the implementation of many rights recognized in the Covenant.

47. There was general agreement that the States Parties should furnish their reports in stages, in accordance with a programme to be established by the Economic and Social Council "within one year of the entry into force of the present Covenant".

*Adoption of the article*

48. At its 1402nd meeting, the Committee voted on the text of article 18 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and the remaining amendment thereto as follows:

(a) The second eleven-Power amendment (see para. 40 above) was adopted by 93 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions;

(b) Paragraph 1, as amended, was adopted unanimously;

(c) Article 18 as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

49. The text of article 18 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 18<sup>34</sup>*

"1. The States Parties to the present Covenant shall furnish their reports in stages, in accordance with a programme to be established by the Economic and Social Council within one year of the entry into force of the present Covenant after consultation with the States Parties and the specialized agencies concerned.

"2. Reports may indicate factors and difficulties affecting the degree of fulfilment of obligations under the present Covenant.

"3. Where relevant information has already previously been furnished to the United Nations or to any specialized agency by any State Party to the present Covenant, it will not be necessary to reproduce that information, but a precise reference to the information so furnished will suffice."

ARTICLE 19

50. The text of article 19 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"Pursuant to its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations in the field of human rights, the Economic and Social Council may make arrangements with the specialized agencies in respect of their reporting to it on the progress made in achieving the observance of the provisions of the present Covenant falling within the scope of their activities. These reports may include particulars of decisions and recommendations on such implementation adopted by their competent organs."

51. The Committee considered this article at its 1402nd meeting.

*Amendments*

52. An amendment was submitted by India, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, the United Arab Republic, Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1354, para. 5) later joined by Afghanistan, Congo (Brazzaville), Libya, Saudi Arabia and Syria, to add after the word "rights", the words "and fundamental freedoms". An amendment submitted by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1360, para. 5) connected with an amendment to article 17 was withdrawn (see para. 21 above).

*Adoption of the article*

53. At its 1402nd meeting, the Committee voted without debate on the text of article 19 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and the amendment thereto as follows:

(a) The eleven-Power amendment (see para. 52 above) was adopted by 95 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

(b) Article 19 as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

54. The text of article 19 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 19<sup>35</sup>*

"Pursuant to its responsibilities under the Charter

<sup>34</sup> Article 17 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

<sup>35</sup> Article 18 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

of the United Nations in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the Economic and Social Council may make arrangements with the specialized agencies in respect of their reporting to it on the progress made in achieving the observance of the provisions of the present Covenant falling within the scope of their activities. These reports may include particulars of decisions and recommendations on such implementation adopted by their competent organs."

#### ARTICLE 20

55. The text of article 20 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council may transmit to the Commission on Human Rights for study and general recommendation or, as appropriate, for information the reports concerning human rights submitted by States, and those concerning human rights submitted by the specialized agencies."

56. The Committee considered this article at its 1402nd meeting.

#### *Amendments*

57. Two amendments were submitted by India, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, the United Arab Republic, Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1354, paras. 6 and 7), later joined by Afghanistan, Congo (Brazzaville), Libya, Saudi Arabia and Syria. Amendments submitted by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1360, para. 6) connected with an amendment to article 17 were withdrawn (see para. 21 above).

58. The first eleven-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1354, para. 6) proposed to insert after the phrase "submitted by States", the following: "in accordance with articles 17 and 18". The second eleven-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1354, para. 7) proposed to add at the end of the text the phrase "in accordance with article 19".

#### *Adoption of the article*

59. At its 1402nd meeting, the Committee voted without debate on the text of article 20 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and the amendments thereto as follows:

(a) The first eleven-Power amendment (see para. 58 above) was adopted unanimously.

(b) The second eleven-Power amendment (see para. 58 above) was adopted unanimously.

(c) Article 20 as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

60. The text of article 20 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *"Article 20<sup>36</sup>*

"The Economic and Social Council may transmit to the Commission on Human Rights for study and general recommendation or, as appropriate, for information the reports concerning human rights submitted by States in accordance with article 17 [16] and 18 [17], and those concerning human rights

submitted by the specialized agencies in accordance with article 19 [18]."

#### ARTICLE 21

61. The text of article 21 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"The States Parties to the present Covenant directly concerned and the specialized agencies may submit comments to the Economic and Social Council on any general recommendation under article 20 or reference to such general recommendation in any report of the Commission on Human Rights or any documentation referred to therein."

62. The Committee considered this article at its 1402nd meeting.

#### *Amendments*

63. Two amendments were submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/C.3/L.1350): the first, to delete the words "directly" after the words "States Parties to the present Covenant", and the second, to insert the word "concerned" after "specialized agencies".

#### *Issues discussed*

64. The author of the amendments pointed out in regard to her first proposal that the word "directly" would be meaningless, as the recommendations upon which the States Parties may comment would be general in nature. Some members felt that the word "directly" served to clarify the paragraph. As regards the second amendment it was pointed out that the article obviously was meant to refer to the States Parties as well as the specialized agencies concerned and not necessarily all of them. Some members, however, thought that it would be better to refer to "competent" specialized agencies.

#### *Adoption of the article*

65. At its 1402nd meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 21 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and the amendments thereto.

66. The voting was as follows:

(a) The first amendment of the United Kingdom (see para. 63 above) was adopted by 44 votes to 7, with 41 abstentions.

(b) The second amendment of the United Kingdom (see para. 63 above) was adopted by 79 votes to none, with 19 abstentions.

(c) Article 21 as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

67. The text of article 21 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *"Article 21<sup>37</sup>*

"The States Parties to the present Covenant and the specialized agencies concerned may submit comments to the Economic and Social Council on any general recommendation under article 20 [19] or reference to such general recommendation in any report of the Commission on Human Rights or any documentation referred to therein."

<sup>36</sup> Article 19 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

<sup>37</sup> Article 20 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

## ARTICLE 22

68. The text of article 22 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council may submit from time to time to the General Assembly, with its own reports, reports summarizing the information made available by the States Parties to the Covenant directly to the Secretary-General and by the specialized agencies under article . . . indicating the progress made in achieving general observance of these rights."

69. The Committee considered this article at its 1403rd and 1404th meetings.

*Amendments*

70. An amendment by India, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1354, para. 8), which was later co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Congo (Brazzaville), Libya, Saudi Arabia and Syria, sought to replace the text of article 22 by the following:

"The Economic and Social Council may submit from time to time to the General Assembly its own reports, the reports summarizing the information received by the Secretary-General from the States Parties to the Covenant and the reports received from the specialized agencies under article . . . indicating the progress made in achieving general observance of these rights."

71. At the 1403rd meeting, the representative of Italy submitted as a sub-amendment to the eleven-Power proposal a text, originally presented as an amendment to article 18 (see para. 42 above), which read as follows (A/C.3/L.1358, para. 4):

"On the basis of the reports received from States Parties to this Covenant, the Economic and Social Council may make suggestions and recommendations of a general nature, which it shall communicate to the General Assembly."

72. Taking into account the sub-amendment by Italy, which was later withdrawn, as well as some other suggestions, the authors of the eleven-Power amendment revised their amendment as follows (A/C.3/L.1354/Corr.1):

"The Economic and Social Council may submit from time to time to the General Assembly reports with recommendations of a general nature and a summary of the information received from the States Parties to the present Covenant and the specialized agencies on the measures taken and the progress made in achieving general observance of the rights recognized in the present Covenant."

73. An amendment submitted by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1360, para. 7) connected with article 17 was withdrawn (see para. 21 above).

*Issues discussed*

74. It was generally agreed that the Council's own reports and recommendations to the Assembly should be of a "general" character in more than one sense: they should, if necessary, deal with the application everywhere of all the rights recognized in the Covenant, but they should not refer to any particular State. One opinion was, however, that Article 62 of the

Charter seemed to place no such restriction on the competence of the Council to make recommendations.

75. As regards the timing of the Council's submissions to the General Assembly, some members thought that the term "from time to time" was meaningless, and they suggested that it should either be deleted or replaced by some more specific word, such as "periodically". Most representatives, however, considered that the Council should be free to decide on such matters, taking into account whatever arrangements would be made under article 18 as regards the timing of reports by the States Parties. According to some of those members the words "from time to time" rightly stressed the Council's discretion, in any given year, either not to submit anything to the Assembly or to seize it, as appropriate, with all or parts of the documentation referred to in article 22.

*Adoption of the article*

76. At its 1404th meeting the Committee voted on the new version of article 22 contained in the revised eleven-Power amendment (see para. 72 above).

77. The voting was as follows:

(a) At the request of the representative of Guatemala, a separate vote was taken on the words "from time to time", and those words were retained by 50 votes to 27, with 17 abstentions.

(b) Article 22 as a whole was adopted unanimously.

78. The text of article 22 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 22<sup>38</sup>*

"The Economic and Social Council may submit from time to time to the General Assembly reports with recommendations of a general nature and a summary of the information received from the States Parties to the present Covenant and the specialized agencies on the measures taken and the progress made in achieving general observance of the rights recognized in the present Covenant."

## ARTICLE 23

79. The text of article 23 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council may bring to the attention of the international organs concerned with technical assistance or of any other appropriate international organ any matters arising out of the reports referred to in this part of the Covenant which may assist such organs in deciding, each within its competence, on the advisability of international measures likely to contribute to the progressive implementation of this Covenant."

80. The Committee considered this article at its 1404th meeting.

*Adoption of the article*

81. At the same meeting, the Committee unanimously adopted, without debate, a new text of article 23 proposed by India, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/

<sup>38</sup> Article 21 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

L.1354, para. 9), which was later co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Congo (Brazzaville), Libya, Saudi Arabia and Syria.

82. The text of article 23 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 23<sup>39</sup>*

"The Economic and Social Council may bring to the attention of other organs of the United Nations, their subsidiary organs and specialized agencies concerned with furnishing technical assistance any matters arising out of the reports referred to in this part of the present Covenant which may assist such bodies in deciding, each within its field of competence, on the advisability of international measures likely to contribute to the effective progressive implementation of the present Covenant."

ARTICLE 24

83. The text of article 24 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"The States Parties to the Covenant agree that international action for the achievement of these rights includes such methods as conventions, recommendations, technical assistance, regional meetings and technical meetings and studies with Governments."

84. The Committee considered this article at its 1404th meeting.

*Adoption of the article*

85. At the same meeting, the Committee unanimously adopted a new text of article 24 proposed by India, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1354, para. 10), later joined by Afghanistan, Congo (Brazzaville), Libya, Saudi Arabia and Syria, as orally revised to put the word "convention" in the plural and to insert the words "and the" before the words "holding of".

86. The text of article 24 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 24<sup>40</sup>*

"The States Parties to the present Covenant agree that international action for the achievement of the rights recognized in the present Covenant includes such methods as the conclusion of conventions, the adoption of recommendations, the furnishing of technical assistance and the holding of regional meetings and technical meetings for the purpose of consultation and study organized in conjunction with the Governments concerned".

ARTICLE 25

87. The text of article 25 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

<sup>39</sup> Article 22 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

<sup>40</sup> Article 23 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

"Nothing in the present Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the constitutions of the specialized agencies which define the respective responsibilities of the various organs of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies in regard to the matters dealt with in the present Covenant."

88. The Committee considered this article at its 1404th meeting.

*Amendment*

89. An amendment was submitted by India, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1354, para. 11), later co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Congo (Brazzaville), Libya, Saudi Arabia and Syria, to insert the words "full application of the" between the words "impairing the" and the word "provisions".

*Issues discussed*

90. As explained by its authors, the amendment was based on the premise that the provisions of the Charter and of the constitutions of the specialized agencies could not possibly be "impaired" by the Covenant. The question was rather to ensure that nothing in the Covenant would prejudice the full application of such provisions.

91. In the course of the debate, however, the authors of the eleven-Power amendment declared themselves prepared to accept a suggestion made by the representative of Venezuela, supported by several representatives, that both "the provisions and the full application" of those instruments be explicitly mentioned in article 25 after the word "impairing".

92. Some members thought that such a formula might raise some difficulties of interpretation. In order to avoid such difficulties, the eleven-Power amendment was withdrawn.

*Adoption of the article*

93. At its 1404th meeting, the Committee unanimously adopted the text of article 25 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights.

94. The text of article 25 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 25<sup>41</sup>*

"Nothing in the present Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the constitutions of the specialized agencies which define the respective responsibilities of the various organs of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies in regard to the matters dealt with in the present Covenant."

ARTICLE 25 bis

95. A proposal to add a new article 25 bis in part IV of the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was submitted by Chile, Ghana, Guinea, India, Iran, Iraq, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, United Arab Republic, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Yugoslavia (A/C.3/L.1357), later

<sup>41</sup> Article 24 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

joined by Afghanistan, Algeria, Congo (Brazzaville), Jordan, Libya, Mauritania, Mongolia and Panama (A/C.3/L.1357/Add.1) and by Ethiopia, Kuwait, Liberia, Mali, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Zambia. The text of the proposed new article read as follows:

“Nothing in the present Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the inherent right of all peoples to enjoy and utilize fully and freely their natural wealth and resources.”

96. The Committee considered this proposal from its 1404th to its 1406th meetings.

#### *Issues discussed*

97. Some representatives questioned the advisability of formulating in absolute terms the peoples' rights of permanent sovereignty over their natural resources, which had already been recognized, with some qualifications, in article 1, paragraph 2, of the draft Covenant. In their view, however important any particular right might be, there was no ground for stating or implying that it should prevail upon all other rights and be subject to no limitation. Stressing that international economic co-operation helped significantly to promote the right in question, these representatives thought it necessary to refer, as in article 1, paragraph 2, to the obligations arising out of such co-operation in accordance with recognized principles of international law. The view was also expressed that a hasty adoption of the proposal might prejudice the recommendations which other United Nations bodies, particularly the Second and Sixth Committees of the General Assembly, intended to make on various aspects of the right in question.

98. The sponsors, supported by most representatives, maintained that the right of permanent sovereignty over natural resources was so important that no restriction thereof should be formulated in the draft Covenant. In their view, the reference to international economic co-operation contained in article 1, paragraph 2 could too easily be invoked in support of imperialist policies and practices tending to control the economy of the developing countries and to impair thereby their political independence. Treaties allowing for such exploitation, which were concluded under duress or other inadmissible conditions, should not be condoned by the Covenant. However, it was pointed out by some of those members that the proposed article would not be a bar to international agreements which might be entered into by sovereign States, expressing the free will of the peoples concerned, and for their mutual benefit. The fact that other United Nations bodies were considering the matter confirmed its great importance, which should be duly recognized in the draft Covenant.

99. Some members of the Committee saw no contradiction between the proposed article and article 1, paragraph 2. Some other representatives, however, thought that the coexistence of the two provisions in the same treaty would give rise to serious difficulties of interpretation. It was also felt that the proposed article, which dealt with substantive matters, would be misplaced in part IV of the draft Covenant relating to measures of implementation. The sponsors, it was suggested, might rather submit amendments to article 1 when the text of the draft Covenant would be reviewed as a whole. However, the proposal was maintained as an additional article at the end of part IV of the draft

Covenant, in order to stress that no substantive provision and no implementation clause should be regarded as impairing the peoples' right to the full and free enjoyment of their natural wealth and resources.

#### *Adoption of the article*

100. At its 1405th meeting, the Committee voted on the text of the proposed new article 25 *bis* (see para. 95 above) by roll-call at the request of the representative of the United Arab Republic. Article 25 *bis* was adopted by 75 votes to 4, with 20 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* New Zealand, Norway, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:* Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Gabon, Greece, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Niger, Portugal, Sweden, Upper Volta.

101. The text of article 25 *bis* of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *“Article 25 bis<sup>42</sup>*

“Nothing in the present Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the inherent right of all peoples to enjoy and utilize fully and freely their natural wealth and resources.”

#### **Final clauses of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (part V)**

##### ARTICLE 26

102. The text of article 26 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

“1. This Covenant shall be open for signature and ratification or accession on behalf of any State Member of the United Nations or of any non-member State to which an invitation has been extended by the General Assembly.

“2. Ratification of or accession to this Covenant shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of ratification or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and as soon as twenty States

<sup>42</sup> Article 25 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

have deposited such instruments, the Covenant shall come into force among them. As regards any State which ratifies or accedes thereafter the Covenant shall come into force on the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification or accession.

"3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all Members of the United Nations, and other States which have signed or acceded, of the deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession."

103. The Committee considered this article at its 1407th to 1410th meetings and at its 1412th meeting.

#### *Amendments*

104. Amendments to article 26 were submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/C.3/L.1352); by the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/C.3/L.1359); by Dahomey, France, Guinea, Hungary, Mali, Mauritania, Syria, the United Arab Republic, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Venezuela (A/C.3/L.1367), later joined as co-sponsors by Algeria, Congo (Brazzaville) and Greece; and by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1372).

105. The amendment of the United Kingdom (A/C.3/L.1352) sought the replacement of draft article 26 (see para. 102 above) by the following text:

"1. Any State Member of the United Nations, or any State Member of any specialized agency of the United Nations, or any State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, or any other State to which an invitation has been addressed by the General Assembly of the United Nations, may become a party to this Covenant by:

"(a) Signature followed by acceptance;

"(b) Acceptance.

"2. Acceptance shall be affected by the deposit of a formal instrument with the Secretary-General of the United Nations who shall inform all States belonging to any of the four categories mentioned in paragraph 1 of the deposit of each instrument of acceptance.

"3. This Covenant shall bear the date of its approval by the General Assembly. It shall enter into force as soon as twenty instruments of acceptance have been deposited without reservations.

"4. Instruments of acceptance deposited after the date of entry into force of this Covenant shall take effect on the date of their deposit, or, if accompanied by a reservation, on the date of the acceptance of that reservation in accordance with article. . . .

"5. If within a period of four years following the date of approval of this Covenant by the General Assembly the Covenant has not entered into force, the Secretary-General shall compile a full report for transmission to the General Assembly."

106. The first of the amendments of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/C.3/L.1359) proposed to replace paragraph 1 of article 26, by the following:

"This Covenant shall be open for signature and ratification or accession on behalf of any State".

The second amendment proposed to replace paragraph 3 of article 26 by the following:

"The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States which have signed the present

Covenant or acceded to it of the deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession".

107. The thirteen-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1367) proposed the replacement, in article 26, paragraph 2, of the words "twenty States" by the words "fifty States".

108. An amendment was submitted by Guatemala, Nigeria and Pakistan (A/C.3/L.1371) to the thirteen-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1367), proposing the replacement in the latter text of the words "fifty States" by "thirty States".

109. The amendment of the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1372) proposed the replacement of article 26 (see para. 102 above) by the following two articles:

#### *"Article 26*

"1. The present Covenant is open for signature by any State Member of the United Nations or member of any of its specialized agencies, by any State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other State which has been invited by the General Assembly of the United Nations to become a party to the present Covenant.

"2. The present Covenant is subject to ratification. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

"3. The present Covenant shall be open to accession by any State referred to in paragraph 1 of this article.

"4. Accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

#### *"Article 26 bis*

"1. The present Covenant shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the . . . instrument of ratification or instrument of accession.

"2. For each State ratifying the present Covenant or acceding to it after the deposit of the . . . instrument of ratification or instrument of accession, the present Covenant shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of the deposit of its own instrument of ratification or instrument of accession."

110. At the 1409th meeting, the representative of the United States of America stated that she had no objection to inserting in the blank spaces of article 26 *bis* the number thirty-five, which had been suggested by many delegations. The sponsors of the thirteen-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1367) and of the three-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1371) thereupon withdrew their proposals in favour of the amendment of the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1372) with the insertion of "thirty-fifth".

111. Also at the 1409th meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom withdrew paragraphs 1 and 2 of the new text proposed for article 26 (A/C.3/L.1352) in favour of the amendment of the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1372). The United Kingdom proposed, however, the following four amendments (A/C.3/L.1375) to article 26 *bis* in the amendment of the United States of America (see para. 109 above):

(a) At the end of paragraph 1, to add the words "made without reservations";

(b) In paragraph 2, to add, between the words "instrument of accession" and "the present Covenant shall", the words "made without reservation";

(c) At the end of paragraph 2, to add the following sentence: "However in the case of an instrument of ratification or accession accompanied by a reservation the Covenant shall enter into force for the State making the reservation on the thirtieth day after the acceptance of that reservation in accordance with article . . .";

(d) To add, as a new paragraph 3, the text of paragraph 5 of the original United Kingdom amendment (A/C.3/L.1352, see para. 105 above). These amendments were withdrawn at the 1412th meeting, in the light of the discussion and in consequence of the withdrawal by the United Kingdom of its proposal for an additional article relating to reservations (see paras. 139 and 146 below).

112. An amendment to the amendment of the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1372) proposed by Iran (A/C.3/L.1376), to replace in paragraphs 1 and 2 of article 26 *bis* (see para. 109 above), the words "on the thirtieth day" by "three months" was accepted by the representative of the United States.

113. A further amendment proposed by Chile (A/C.3/L.1377) sought the replacement, in article 26 *bis* of the orally revised amendment of the United States of America (see para. 109-110 above), of the words "thirty-five" by the word "twenty".

#### *Issues discussed*

114. Representatives supporting the amendments proposed by the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (see para. 106 above) felt that any clause denying or restricting the right of all States, whether or not Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies, to become parties to the Covenant, would be discriminatory and inconsistent with the objectives of the instrument. The principle of universality was gaining ever-wider recognition, both in General Assembly decisions, such as resolution 2028 (XX) on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and resolution 2054 (XX) on the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa, and in multilateral instruments such as the Treaty banning nuclear weapons tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water;<sup>43</sup> it was thus evident that any opposition to permitting universal participation in the Covenant was motivated solely by political considerations. Moreover, it was pointed out, any apprehension was groundless since participation by a State in a multilateral treaty did not imply that it necessarily recognized every other State party.

115. Others, however, preferred the participation formula envisaged in paragraph 1 of the new texts of article 26 submitted by the United Kingdom (see para. 105 above) and the United States of America (see para. 109 above). They stressed that it took into due account the principle of universality by providing for the possibility of the General Assembly inviting a State to become a party to the Covenant, even though such State was not a Member of the United Nations or a member of a specialized agency or a State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice. The

<sup>43</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 480 (1963), No. 6964, p. 43.

principal advantage of this provision, in their view, was that it assigned the responsibility of deciding whether any given entity was a State to the General Assembly and not, as the "all States" formula would do, to the Secretary-General in his capacity as depositary of multilateral treaties concluded under United Nations auspices. Attention was drawn, in this connexion, to the statement of the Secretary-General at the 1258th plenary meeting of the General Assembly,<sup>44</sup> in which he had said that if he were to receive an instrument of accession from an area the status of which was unclear, he would refer it to the General Assembly for advice on the action which he should take.

116. Some discussion centered on the proposal, contained in the United Kingdom amendment (see para. 105 above), to replace the words "ratification or accession", in the text of article 26 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights, by "signature followed by acceptance" and, simply, "acceptance". It was explained by the sponsor of the amendment that the word "acceptance" was designed to facilitate participation for certain States whose constitutional law did not necessarily require parliamentary approval for acceding to all the international agreements. Other representatives, however, emphasized that "ratification or accession" had a universally recognized international significance appropriate for instruments of special importance or solemnity and that "acceptance", unlike "ratification", might involve no more than an executive decision without the approval of legislative organs. Attention was drawn to the statement of the International Law Commission in its commentary to article 11 of the draft articles on the law of treaties that "on the international plane, 'acceptance' is an innovation which is more one of terminology than of method".<sup>45</sup>

117. As regards the number of ratifications or accessions required for the Covenant to enter into force, the sponsors of the thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 107 above) contended that the figure of twenty recommended by the Commission on Human Rights was not consistent with the present broad membership of the United Nations. The figure of fifty, which the thirteen-Power amendment proposed, would at least prevent a premature entry into force from which only the States best prepared to implement at once the provisions of the Covenant might benefit. Other speakers, favouring the amendment submitted by Chile (see para. 113 above) thought that past experience had shown that ratifications tended to come in at so slow a rate that even the figure of twenty, as proposed in the amendment, might take many years to reach. Most representatives felt that an intermediate number should be set, between twenty and fifty, so as to reflect the increased membership of the Organization without, however, involving undue delay for the Covenant to come into force.

#### *Adoption of article 26*

118. At its 1410th meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 26 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto.

119. The Committee had before it the text proposed by the United States of America (see para. 109 above)

<sup>44</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Plenary Meetings, vol. II, 1258th meeting, paras. 99-101.*

<sup>45</sup> *Ibid.*, *Twenty-first Session, Supplement No. 9, p. 31.*

as article 26 and the amendments proposed by the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (see para. 106 above), which the sponsor had resubmitted as amendments to the United States text. The Committee also had before it the text proposed by the United States of America (see para. 109 above) as article 26 *bis*, as orally amended (see paras. 110 and 112 above) and the amendment thereto submitted by Chile (see para. 113 above).

120. In consequence of the discussion, the text proposed by the United States of America as article 26 and the amendments proposed by the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic were put to the vote first.

121. The voting was as follows:

(a) At the request of the representative of Brazil, a roll-call vote was taken on the first amendment of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (see para. 106 above) to the proposal of the United States of America (see para. 109 above). The amendment was rejected by 45 votes to 34, with 16 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Ceylon, Congo (Brazzaville), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syria, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia.

*Against:* Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay.

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Cyprus, Dahomey, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Pakistan, Rwanda, Senegal, Tunisia, Zambia.

(b) At the request of the representative of Brazil, a roll-call vote was taken on paragraph 1 of the proposal of the United States of America (see para. 109 above). The paragraph was adopted by 57 votes to 26, with 17 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela.

*Against:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Congo (Brazzaville), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Guinea, Hungary, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal,

Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania.

*Abstaining:* Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Cyprus, Dahomey, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kuwait, Mexico, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sudan, Syria, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

(c) Paragraph 2 of the proposal of the United States of America (see para. 109 above) was adopted by 100 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

(d) Paragraph 3 of the proposal of the United States of America (see para. 109 above) was adopted by 67 votes to 23, with 10 abstentions.

(e) Paragraph 4 of the proposal of the United States of America (see para. 109 above) was adopted unanimously.

(f) The second amendment of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (see para. 106 above) was adopted as paragraph 5 of the United States text by 41 votes to 35, with 20 abstentions.

(g) The text of article 26 submitted by the United States of America (see para. 109 above), as amended, as a whole, was adopted by 74 votes to 2, with 20 abstentions.

122. The text of article 26 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 26*

"1. The present Covenant is open for signature by any State Member of the United Nations or member of any of its specialized agencies, by any State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other State which has been invited by the General Assembly of the United Nations to become a party to the present Covenant.

"2. The present Covenant is subject to ratification. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

"3. The present Covenant shall be open to accession by any State referred to in paragraph 1 of this article.

"4. Accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

"5. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States which have signed the present Covenant or acceded to it of the deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession."

*Adoption of article 26 bis*

123. At its 1312th meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 26 *bis* proposed by the United States of America (see para. 109 above), as orally amended (see paras. 110 and 112 above) and on the amendment thereto proposed by Chile (see para. 113 above).

124. At the request of the representative of Chile, a roll-call vote was taken on the amendment proposed by Chile. The amendment was rejected by 63 votes to 21, with 11 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Sweden, United

Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Against:* Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Abstaining:* Brazil, China, Cyprus, Honduras, Ireland, Japan, Mexico, Philippines, Portugal, Tunisia, Uruguay.

125. The text of article 26 *bis* proposed by the United States of America, as orally amended (see paras. 109, 110 and 112 above) was adopted by 90 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

126. The text of article 26 *bis* of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 26 bis<sup>46</sup>*

"1. The present Covenant shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification or instrument of accession.

"2. For each State ratifying the present Covenant or acceding to it after the deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification or instrument of accession, the present Covenant shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit of its own instrument of ratification or instrument of accession."

ARTICLE 27

127. The text of article 27 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"The provisions of the present Covenant shall extend to all parts of federal States without any limitations or exceptions."

128. The Committee considered this article at its 1411th meeting.

*Adoption of the article*

129. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the text of article 27 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights by 72 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

130. The text of article 27 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 27<sup>47</sup>*

"The provisions of the present Covenant shall extend to all parts of federal States without any limitations or exceptions."

ARTICLE 28

131. The text of article 28 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"The provisions of the present Covenant shall extend to or be applicable equally to a signatory metropolitan State and to all the territories, be they Non-Self-Governing, Trust, or colonial Territories, which are being administered or governed by such metropolitan State."

The Committee considered this article at its 1411th meeting.

*Amendments*

132. One amendment was submitted by the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/C.3/L.1359) and another amendment was submitted jointly by Algeria, Guinea, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Syria and the United Republic of Tanzania (A/C.3/L.1368 and Add.1).

133. The amendment of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/C.3/L.1359) called for the deletion of article 28.

134. The eight-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1368 and Add.1) proposed the addition, at the end of the article, of the following sentence:

"It is, however, clearly understood that the application of the provisions of the present Covenant to Non-Self-Governing, Trust or colonial Territories must in no case and in no way limit or delay the sacred right of their peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly."

*Issues discussed*

135. In the opinion of many representatives, a clause prescribing the extension of the Covenant's provisions to the dependent territories of States parties was unnecessary and might be harmful. Since the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples the whole concept of colonial subjugation had been declared illegal, and any reference to such territories might therefore imply some kind of approval of an illegal practice.

136. Certain speakers observed that, whatever its demerits, the colonial system remained a transitory fact of international life. Consequently, rather than shut its eyes to reality, the Committee should adopt article 28, as proposed by the Commission on Human Rights, together with the eight-Power amendment (see para. 134 above) which stated an incontrovertible truth.

137. There was wide agreement, however, that the absence of a territorial clause from the Covenant would not relieve an administering State from the duty to extend the benefits of the instrument's provisions to all its dependent territories. Several speakers recalled,

<sup>46</sup> Article 27 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

<sup>47</sup> Article 28 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

in this connexion, the principle of the law of nations that the provisions of a treaty applied to the whole territory of a contracting party, both metropolitan and, where such territory existed, non-metropolitan. In answer to a question the Legal Counsel confirmed that such was the practice followed by the Secretary-General as depositary of multilateral agreements. He also drew attention to the fact that this practice had been endorsed by the International Law Commission in article 25 of the draft articles on the Law of Treaties.<sup>48</sup>

#### *Deletion of article 28*

138. At its 1411th meeting, the Committee voted on the proposal of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (see para. 133 above) to delete article 28. At the request of the representative of the Congo (Brazzaville), the vote was taken by roll-call. The Ukrainian proposal was adopted by 92 votes to none, with 10 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favor:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* China, France, Niger, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela.

#### PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL ARTICLE ON RESERVATIONS AFTER ARTICLE 28

139. At the 1410th meeting the United Kingdom introduced a proposal (A/C.3/L.1353/Rev.1) for a new article, to be inserted after article 28, relating to the question of reservations. As later revised, this proposal (A/C.3/L.1353/Rev.2) read as follows:

"1. Any State may, on depositing its instrument of ratification or accession to this Covenant, make a reservation which is not incompatible with the object and purpose of this Covenant.

"2. As soon as this Covenant has entered into force in accordance with paragraph . . . of article 26 *bis* the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall circulate a copy of all reservations received by him to all States which have by the date of circulation deposited an instrument of ratification or accession with or without reservation.

"3. Copies of reservations received after the en-

try into force of this Covenant shall forthwith be circulated by the Secretary-General to all States Parties thereto.

"4. A reservation shall be deemed to be accepted if not less than two thirds of the States to whom copies have been circulated in accordance with this article accept or do not object to it within a period of three months, following the date of ratification.

"5. Upon the acceptance of a reservation in accordance with paragraph 4 of this article, the instrument of ratification or accession together with the reservation shall become effective.

"6. Any State making a reservation in accordance with this article may withdraw that reservation either in whole or in part at any time after its acceptance, by a notice addressed to the Secretary-General; such notice shall take effect on the date of its receipt; and a copy of such notice shall be circulated by the Secretary-General to all States parties hereto.

"7. In order to achieve the application to the fullest extent of the provisions of this Covenant, any State making a reservation in accordance with this article should, as soon as may be practicable, take such steps as will enable it to withdraw the reservation either in whole or in part."

140. The Committee considered the revised proposal of the United Kingdom at its 1412th meeting.

#### *Amendments*

141. Amendments to the United Kingdom proposal were submitted by Chile (A/C.3/L.1378). The first amendment proposed to insert, after paragraph 1, a new paragraph reading as follows:

"2. All reservations shall be temporary. A State making a reservation shall specify the period for which it is made."

The second amendment was to renumber the following paragraphs accordingly and the third amendment was to delete paragraphs 6 and 7.

#### *Issues discussed*

142. Several representatives pointed out that the right of a contracting State to make reservations to a multilateral treaty was now an accepted principle of international law, subject to the proviso that such reservations were not incompatible with the object and purposes of the treaty. It was equally well established that an objection to a reservation by another contracting State precluded the entry into force of the treaty as between the objecting and reserving States unless a contrary intention was expressed by the objecting State.

143. In the view of several speakers, the existence of these principles rendered unnecessary the insertion of an article such as the one proposed by the United Kingdom (see para. 139 above), which also failed to show due respect to the sovereign will of a reserving State and of any other State which might accept a reservation that did not commend itself to a two-thirds majority of States parties. These speakers stressed, in particular, that the progressive process of implementation envisaged in the Covenant demanded that all States be free to make whatever reservations they deemed appropriate.

144. Other representatives thought that not including an article on reservations and placing sole reliance

<sup>48</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Supplement No. 9*, pp. 44-45.

on the general principles of international law to which reference had been made might lead to the disintegration of the Covenant into a series of bilateral agreements. They consequently supported the United Kingdom proposal which, in their view, would eliminate this risk and would leave any decision on the issue of compatibility to the contracting States as a collective body.

145. Representatives supporting the Chilean amendments (see para. 141 above) contended that the very fact of the Covenant having to be put into effect progressively, as stipulated in article 2 of the Covenant, was an adequate reason for prohibiting reservations altogether. As a realistic measure, however, the Committee could authorize temporary reservations of a duration specified by the reserving State, thus assuring the universal and unrestricted application of the Covenant in the foreseeable future.

*Withdrawal of the proposal and the amendments thereto*

146. In the light of the discussion and having regard to the prevailing view, the representative of the United Kingdom withdrew her proposal (see para. 139 above) at the 1412th meeting in so far as the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned. The representative of Chile thereupon withdrew his amendments (see para. 141 above).

ARTICLE 29

147. The text of article 29 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. Any State Party to the present Covenant may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General shall thereupon communicate any proposed amendments to the States Parties to the present Covenant with a request that they notify him whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposals. In the event that at least one third of the States Parties favours such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Any amendment adopted by a majority of States Parties present and voting at the conference shall be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations for approval.

"2. Amendments shall come into force when they have been approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and accepted by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties to the present Covenant in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

"3. When amendments come into force they shall be binding on those States Parties which have accepted them, other States Parties being still bound by the provisions of the present Covenant and any earlier amendment which they have accepted."

148. The Committee considered this article at its 1412th and 1413th meetings.

*Amendments*

149. Four amendments to the above text were submitted by the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic

(A/C.3/L.1359). These amendments sought the following:

(a) The deletion, from the third sentence of paragraph 1, of the words "under the auspices of the United Nations";

(b) The insertion, in the fourth sentence of paragraph 1, of the words "shall be" before the words "adopted by a majority";

(c) The deletion, from the fourth sentence of paragraph 1, of the words "shall be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations for approval";

(d) The deletion from paragraph 2 of the words "approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and".

150. The first amendment of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (see para. 149 above) was withdrawn by the sponsor at the 1412th meeting. The remaining amendments were withdrawn, in the light of the debate, at the 1413th meeting.

*Issues discussed*

151. In the opinion of certain representatives, the amendments proposed by the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic would make the procedure of amending the Covenant both simpler and more realistic. Since some States Members of the United Nations were either hostile or indifferent to the Covenant the right of amendment should be vested solely in the States Parties thereto.

152. The prevailing view, however, was that the General Assembly, as the body approving the Covenant in the first place, could not divest itself of the right to supervise and control any changes which might later be proposed. The maintenance of that link with the General Assembly would also ensure a continuing and growing commitment of the United Nations to the cause of human rights.

*Adoption of the article*

153. At the 1413th meeting, the Committee adopted the text of article 29 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights by 98 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

154. The text of article 29 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 29*

"1. Any State Party to the present Covenant may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall thereupon communicate any proposed amendments to the States Parties to the present Covenant with a request that they notify him whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposals. In the event that at least one third of the States Parties favours such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Any amendment adopted by a majority of the States Parties present and voting at the conference shall be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations for approval.

"2. Amendments shall come into force when they have been approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and accepted by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties to the present Cove-

nant in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

"3. When amendments come into force they shall be binding on those States Parties which have accepted them, other States Parties being still bound by the provisions of the present Covenant and any earlier amendment which they have accepted."

#### ARTICLE 29 bis

155. At the 1412th meeting, the representative of the United States of America presented a proposal for a new article 29 bis. The proposed text (A/C.3/L.1374) read as follows:

"The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States referred to in article . . . , paragraph . . . , of the following particulars:"

(a) "Signatures, ratifications and accessions under article . . .";

(b) "The date of the entry into force of the present Covenant under article . . . and the date of the entry into force of any amendments under article . . .".

156. At the 1413th meeting, the representative of the United States of America submitted a revised version (A/C.3/L.1374/Rev.1) of her proposal, which, besides including references to the relevant articles in the blank spaces, expanded the introductory subparagraph to read as follows:

"The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States referred to in article 26, paragraph 1, which have not been informed under paragraph 5 thereof, of the following particulars:"

157. The revised version (A/C.3/L.1374/Rev.1) of the United States proposal was later withdrawn by the sponsor in favour of the original text (see para. 155 above).

158. The Committee considered the United States proposals at its 1412th and 1413th meetings.

#### Amendments

159. At the 1413th meeting the representative of France orally proposed the rephrasing of the introductory phrase in the United States proposal (see para. 155 above) to read as follows:

"Irrespective of the notifications made under article 26, paragraph 5, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States referred to in paragraph 1 of the same article of the following particulars:"

160. This oral amendment was accepted by the representative of the United States of America.

#### Issues discussed

161. The discussion centred on the overlap and possible incompatibility of the United States proposal (see para. 155 above) with the text of paragraph 5 of article 26, which had been adopted on the proposal of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (see para. 106 above, second amendment).

162. It was pointed out that under article 26, paragraph 5, the Secretary-General was instructed only with respect to States that had signed or acceded to the Covenant. No information would be transmitted to other States, nor would any other State be informed of any action taken under the Covenant. Furthermore, no State, including earlier signatories, would be in-

formed of any signatures. The United States proposal sought to fill these lacunae.

163. Some representatives, however, contended that, notwithstanding the oral amendment proposed by France (see para. 159 above), the adoption of two related provisions in different articles would introduce into the Covenant an element of untidy drafting. The intention was clear to the Committee, but the provisions could be incomprehensible to persons who had not participated in the elaboration of the Covenant. It was pointed out, in this connexion, that both article 26, paragraph 5, and the United States proposal, contained instructions to the Secretary-General, who would have little difficulty in interpreting them.

#### Adoption of the article

164. At the 1413th meeting the Committee voted on the United States proposal for a new article 29 bis, as revised to include the oral amendment of the representative of France (see paras. 155 and 159 above).

165. At the request of the representative of Czechoslovakia, a separate vote was taken on the words "referred to in paragraph 1 of the same article". At the request of the representative of the United States of America, the vote was taken by roll-call. The words were retained by 52 votes to 26, with 20 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Gabon, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Upper Volta, Venezuela.

*Against:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Congo (Brazzaville), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Guinea, Hungary, Iran, Iraq, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania.

*Abstaining:* Burundi, Central African Republic, Cyprus, Dahomey, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Spain, Uruguay, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

166. The text of article 29 bis proposed by the United States of America, as orally amended (see paras. 155 and 159 above), was adopted by 62 votes to 1, with 31 abstentions.

167. The text of article 29 bis of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### "Article 29 bis"<sup>49</sup>

"Irrespective of the notifications made under article 26, paragraph 5, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States referred to

<sup>49</sup> Article 30 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

in paragraph 1 of the same article of the following particulars:

“(a) Signatures, ratifications and accessions under article 26;

“(b) The date of the entry into force of the present Covenant under article 26 *bis* [27] and the date of the entry into force of any amendments under article 29.”

#### ARTICLE 29 *ter*

168. At the 1407th meeting, Guatemala, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan submitted a proposal (A/C.3/L.1370) for the insertion of a final article in the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The text read as follows:

“1. The present Covenant, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

“2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit certified copies of the present Covenant to all States belonging to any of the categories mentioned in article 26, paragraph 1.”

169. The Committee considered the four-Power proposal at its 1412th and 1414th meetings.

170. At the 1412th meeting, the sponsors of the proposed new article (see para. 168 above) orally moved the replacement, in paragraph 2, of the words “belonging to any of the categories mentioned” by the words “referred to”, and, at the 1414th meeting, the sponsors orally proposed the deletion, in paragraph 2, of the word and figure “paragraph 1”.

#### *Issues discussed*

171. The discussion revolved round the reference in paragraph 2 to article 26, which in the opinion of several speakers implied discrimination against certain States and represented a violation of the principle of universality (see para. 114 above).

#### *Adoption of the article*

172. At its 1414th meeting, the Committee voted on the four-Power proposal for a new article 29 *ter*, as orally amended (see paras. 168 and 170 above).

173. Paragraph 1 of the four-Power proposal was adopted unanimously.

174. At the request of the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, a separate vote was taken on the words “referred to in article 26” in paragraph 2. The words were retained by 59 votes to 21, with 9 abstentions.

175. Paragraph 2, as orally amended (see paras. 168 and 170 above), was adopted by 65 votes to 2, with 23 abstentions.

176. The text of article 29 *ter* in the four-Power proposal as a whole, as orally amended (see paras. 168 and 170 above), was adopted by 81 votes to 1, with 9 abstentions.

177. The text of article 29 *ter* of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *“Article 29 *ter*<sup>50</sup>”*

“1. The present Covenant, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are

equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

“2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit certified copies of the present Covenant to all States referred to in article 26.”

#### Measures of implementation of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (parts IV and V)

178. From the 1414th to the 1419th meeting of the Committee, members considered the entire system of measures of implementation to be included in the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

179. The draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights as transmitted by the Economic and Social Council sought to establish a fact-finding and good offices committee, composed of persons serving in their individual capacity and which would be competent to receive and consider communications from any State Party alleging that another State Party was not giving effect to a provision of the Covenant. The States Parties would also submit for consideration by the Economic and Social Council reports on the measures which they had adopted to give effect to the rights recognized in the Covenant. While some members were in general agreement with the Commission's draft, a number of representatives thought that it should be substantially amended. The main views which were expressed in that connexion are briefly summarized below.

180. Some representatives, stressing the interdependence of all human rights, saw no differences as between the necessity of ensuring the respect of economic, social and cultural rights on the one hand and that of civil and political rights, on the other hand, which would justify the adoption of distinct systems of implementation. In their opinion, the system which had been approved for the implementation of the former rights, namely the submission of reports to the Economic and Social Council, should also apply in the field of civil and political rights (see para. 197 below). These members were opposed to the establishment of any procedure under which a State Party or an individual would complain before an international organ that another State Party had violated the rights recognized in the Covenant. In their view, such procedures would inevitably lead to interference into the domestic affairs of Member States, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, and to increased international tensions.

181. A majority of representatives maintained, however, that, in contrast to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the system of implementation of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights should not consist solely of a reporting procedure. As most civil and political rights were defined with precision in the Covenant and could be secured forthwith, it would be possible for an international organ to ascertain, in specific instances, upon receipt of information or complaints, whether or not a State Party was fulfilling its obligations. The establishment of some appropriate procedure to that end was desirable in order to ensure the effectiveness of the Covenant. In the view of those members, all functions pertaining to the implementation of that instrument should be entrusted to a committee composed of per-

<sup>50</sup> Article 31 in the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

sons acting in their individual capacity, and not to the Economic and Social Council (see paras. 199-200 below). The adoption of a system of international control in the field of civil and political rights would not be contrary to the Charter of the United Nations: by accepting the Covenants in the full exercise of their sovereignty, States Parties would undertake obligations of an international character, and it could hardly be claimed that the provisions of that instrument were matters falling within exclusive domestic jurisdiction.

182. It was fully recognized, however, that a proper balance should be struck between the requirement of a minimum effectiveness of implementation procedure on the one hand, and the need for securing the widest possible acceptance of the Covenant by Member States, on the other hand. Different views were expressed as regards the best means of achieving such a solution.

183. In the opinion of some members, the Covenant should contain mandatory provisions establishing a reporting system as well as a fact-finding and conciliation procedure to be set in motion upon the receipt of complaints or communications from States Parties (see para. 411 below). In addition, the right of individual petition should be recognized, if not in mandatory provisions, at least in an optional clause. According to those representatives, there was no reason to fear that, under such a system, the States Parties would be subjected to undue pressure or embarrassment, since conciliation would be the essential purpose of the scheme. Furthermore, acceptance of the Covenant in good faith should imply willingness to make that instrument as effective as possible.

184. A large number of representatives doubted whether, in the present state of international relations, far-reaching and mandatory complaints procedures could be widely accepted. Various factors of international tension and mutual suspicion still existed. Many new States were understandably eager to safeguard their recently-acquired independence. Several of those members therefore favoured a twofold system of implementation, consisting of a compulsory reporting procedure, and of an optional procedure of fact-finding and conciliation to be set in motion solely by the States Parties willing to accept such supplementary obligations (see para. 413 below). Some of the members who followed that general approach thought that an optional clause concerning individual petitions could also be included in the proposed system.

185. As alternatives to the broad systems of fact-finding and conciliation summarized in paragraphs 179, 183 and 184 above, two distinct proposals were made.

186. In accordance with one proposal (see para. 401 below), individual complaints would be first considered by national committees, composed of independent persons, to be established by each State Party to the Covenant. The names of the members of the committees would be registered with the United Nations, and lists of all complaints received by such bodies would be submitted confidentially to the Secretary-General. Only if the national committees rejected the complaint or were unable to obtain satisfaction for the complainant from the Government, could the individual concerned or the committee, as the case might be, bring the matter before the international organ established by the Covenant. The purpose of the proposal, as stated by its author, was to ensure the effective implementation of the Covenant, principally at the national level, or a preferable alternative to

allowing States Parties to submit complaints against each other to an international organ. He feared that under the latter procedure, small States would inevitably suffer from unwarranted attacks of the great Powers. The optional character of such a clause would not meet the difficulty, since refusal to submit to the procedure in question would tend to be misconstrued as a confession of guilt. While the purpose of that proposal was commended by various members, it was generally thought that its adoption would give rise to constitutional difficulties for many States.

187. Another view was that wide acceptance of the Covenant should not be sought through the adoption of optional clauses. Such an approach would needlessly complicate the implementation procedures. As pointed out by various members, under those systems, the nationals of States Parties which had not accepted the optional clauses might review the action taken by States which had taken such a step. According to a few representatives, a better approach (see paras. 398 and 405 below) would be to establish a compulsory system of implementation which in substance, however, would be less restrictive of the States' sovereignty than the proposals mentioned in paragraphs 179, 183 and 184 above.

#### ARTICLE 27

188. The text of article 27 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. There shall be established a Human Rights Committee (hereinafter referred to as in the present Covenant the Committee). It shall consist of nine members and shall carry out the functions hereinafter provided.

"2. The Committee shall be composed of nationals of the States Parties to the present Covenant who shall be persons of high moral standing and recognized competence in the field of human rights, consideration being given to the usefulness of the participation of some persons having a judicial or legal experience.

"3. The members of the Committee shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity."

189. A statement by the Secretary-General of the financial implications of that proposal was issued in document A/C.3/L.1382.

190. The Committee considered this article from its 1414th to its 1420th meeting. As the discussion of this article was closely connected with that of the various functions which the proposed body might be called upon to perform, appropriate cross-references will be made to the summary contained in paragraphs 178 to 187 above.

#### *Amendments*

191. Three amendments to article 27 were submitted by India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1, and Add.1/Corr.1, para. 1).<sup>51</sup>

192. The first thirteen-Power amendment sought to replace the word "nine" by the word "eighteen" in paragraph 1 of the article.

<sup>51</sup> Document A/C.3/L.1373/Add.1, dated 4 November 1966, called for the addition of Mali and Tunisia to the list of sponsors of the amendments reproduced in document A/C.3/L.1373; document A/C.3/L.1373/Add.1/Corr.1, dated 7 November 1966, called for the deletion of Mali from that list.

193. The second of those amendments was to substitute the word "character" for the word "standing" in paragraph 2.

194. The third of those amendments was to delete the words "a judicial or" in paragraph 2.

195. A statement by the Secretary-General of the financial implications of those amendments was circulated in document A/C.3/L.1387.

196. The representative of Congo (Brazzaville) proposed (A/C.3/L.1388) to replace article 27 by the provisions of article 17 [16], paragraphs 1 and 2 (a), of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which read as follows:

"1. The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to submit in conformity with this part of the Covenant reports on the measures which they have adopted and the progress made in achieving the observance of the rights recognized herein.

"2. All reports shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall transmit copies to the Economic and Social Council for consideration in accordance with the provisions of the present Covenant."

This amendment was withdrawn at the 1420th meeting.

#### *Issues discussed*

197. Some representatives objected to the establishment of the proposed committee. Stressing that the responsibilities of the Economic and Social Council under the Charter of the United Nations covered the whole field of human rights and that it was to consider reports on economic, social and cultural rights, those members proposed that the Council should perform the same functions in the field of civil and political rights (see para. 180 above). Entrusting the latter task to another body would, in their view, show disregard of the basic interdependence of all human rights. It was also said that these functions could be performed by the Council at a much lower cost than by a new body. Furthermore, while the Council was bound under the Charter to avoid any interference into the domestic affairs of Member States and would strive to maintain international understanding, there was no assurance that the proposed committee would abide by such standards.

198. Stronger misgivings were expressed by those members as regards the other functions which such a committee might perform under various proposals: fact-finding and conciliation as well, perhaps, as the making of recommendations upon the receipt of complaints from the States Parties, and the consideration of individual petitions (see para. 180 above). In the view of those representatives, the risks of unwarranted attacks against States Parties and of international tension which were inherent in such schemes would be the greater if such a body were to play a major part in those procedures.

199. A number of other representatives, however, favoured the establishment of the proposed committee. While the Council, in co-operation with the specialized agencies, had taken useful action to promote economic, social and cultural rights, its record was somewhat less impressive in the field of civil and political rights. Burdened with many tasks, the Council might not give more than perfunctory treatment to the reports on civil and political rights. The committee provided for in the Commission's draft would be best suited to

carry out a thorough and objective examination of such reports.

200. Furthermore, in the view of those members, only such an organ on the proposed committee could perform adequately the important tasks of fact-finding and conciliation contemplated in various proposals. Far from adding to the alleged dangers of such proposals, the existence of an impartial body, insulated from politics, would be the best guarantee against any possible misuse of the complaints procedures.

201. The cost of the proposed committee, as compared with that of entrusting certain functions to the Council, might not be as great as some other representatives feared. Note was taken of the fact that, under various existing international systems of fact-finding and conciliation only a small number of complaints were submitted by States. The view was also expressed that the States concerned should be prepared to pay the price of an effective implementation machinery.

202. The majority of the members accepted the Commission's draft, as amended by the thirteen-Power proposals (see paras. 191-194 above). It was agreed, in particular, that the membership of the Committee should be increased from nine to eighteen, in order to reflect the enlargement of the Organization since 1954.

#### *Adoption of the article*

203. At its 1420th meeting, the Committee voted on the text of article 27 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto.

204. The first thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 192 above) was adopted by 88 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

205. Paragraph 1, as amended, was adopted by 88 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

206. The second thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 193 above) was adopted by 87 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

207. The third thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 194 above) was adopted by 86 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

208. Paragraph 2, as amended, was adopted by 89 votes to none with 2 abstentions.

209. At the request of the representative of Nigeria a roll-call vote was taken on article 27 as a whole, as amended. The article was adopted by 88 votes to none, with 5 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United

States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* Central African Republic, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Rwanda, Senegal, Togo.

210. The text of article 27 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 27<sup>52</sup>*

"1. There shall be established a Human Rights Committee (hereafter referred to in the present Covenant as the Committee). It shall consist of eighteen members and shall carry out the functions hereinafter provided.

"2. The Committee shall be composed of nationals of the States Parties to the present Covenant who shall be persons of high moral character and recognized competence in the field of human rights, consideration being given to the usefulness of the participation of some persons having legal experience.

"3. The members of the Committee shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity."

ARTICLE 28

211. The text of article 28 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. The members of the Committee shall be elected from a list of persons possessing the qualifications prescribed in article 27 and nominated for the purpose by the State Parties to the present Covenant.

"2. Each State Party to the present Covenant shall nominate at least two and not more than four persons. These persons may be nationals of the nominating State or of any other State Party to the Covenant.

"3. A person shall be eligible to be renominated."

212. The Committee considered this article at its 1421st meeting.

*Amendments*

213. Four amendments were submitted by India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, para. 2).

214. The first thirteen-Power amendment sought the insertion in paragraph 1, between the words "elected" and "from", of the words "by secret ballot".

215. The second of those amendments proposed the replacement, in paragraph 2, of the words "may be" by "shall be" between the words "persons" and "nationals".

216. The third of those amendments proposed the deletion from paragraph 2 of the words "or of any other State Party to the Covenant".

217. The fourth of those amendments proposed the replacement in paragraph 3 of the words "to be renominated" by "for renomination".

218. At the 1421st meeting, after consultation with the representative of Chile, the thirteen Powers with-

<sup>52</sup> Article 28 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

drew their second and third amendments (see paras. 215-216 above) in favour of a new proposed wording of paragraph 2, to read as follows:

"Each State Party to the present Covenant may nominate not more than two persons. These persons shall be nationals of the nominating State."

*Adoption of the article*

219. At its 1421st meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 28 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto.

220. The first thirteen-Power amendment to paragraph 1 (see para. 214 above) was adopted by 69 votes to none, with 1 abstention. Paragraph 1, as amended, was adopted by 72 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

221. Paragraph 2, as orally amended by the sponsors of the thirteen-Power amendment in consultation with the representative of Chile (see para. 218 above), was adopted by 76 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

222. The fourth thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 217 above), which was found to apply only to the English text of paragraph 3, was adopted without objection.

223. Article 28 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 87 votes to none with 2 abstentions.

224. The text of article 28 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 28<sup>53</sup>*

"1. The members of the Committee shall be elected by secret ballot from a list of persons possessing the qualifications prescribed in article 27 [28] and nominated for the purpose by the States Parties to the present Covenant.

"2. Each State Party to the present Covenant may nominate not more than two persons. These persons shall be nationals of the nominating State.

"3. A person shall be eligible for renomination."

ARTICLE 29

225. The text of article 29 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. At least three months before the date of each election to the Committee, other than an election to fill a vacancy declared in accordance with article 33, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall address a written request to the States Parties to the Covenant inviting them to submit their nominations within two months.

"2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of all the persons thus nominated, and shall submit it to the International Court of Justice and to the States Parties to the present Covenant.

"3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall request the International Court of Justice to fix the time of elections for members of the Committee and to elect such members from the list referred to in the preceding paragraph and in accord-

<sup>53</sup> Article 29 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

ance with the conditions set out in this part of the Covenant.”

226. The Committee considered this article at its 1421st meeting.

#### *Amendments*

227. Amendments were submitted by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1390) and jointly by India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, para. 3).

228. The first of the amendments of the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1390) proposed the addition of a new paragraph, worded as follows:

“1. The initial election shall be held six months after the date of the entry into force of the present Covenant.”

The second amendment would add, at the end of the original paragraph 2, the words “no later than one month before the date of each election”.

229. The four amendments (A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.2, para. 3) submitted by the thirteen Powers sought the following:

(a) In paragraph 1, to delete all the words after “shall address” and to insert in their place “a written invitation to the States Parties to the present Covenant to submit their nominations for membership of the Committee within two months”.

(b) In paragraph 2, to insert, between “nominated” and “and shall”, the words “with an indication of the States Parties which have nominated them”.

(c) In paragraph 2, to delete the words “the International Court of Justice and to”.

(d) To delete the whole of paragraph 3 and to insert in its place the following:

“Elections of the members of the Committee shall be held at a meeting of the States Parties to the present Covenant convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the Headquarters of the United Nations. At that meeting, for which two thirds of the States Parties to the present Covenant shall constitute a quorum, the persons elected to the Committee shall be those nominees who obtain the largest number of votes and an absolute majority of the votes of the representatives of States Parties present and voting.”

230. At the 1421st meeting, the representative of the United States of America agreed, in the light of the discussion, to amend her first amendment (see para. 228 above) so as to set the time-limit in the proposed new first paragraph at “no later than six months”.

231. At the same meeting, the sponsors of the thirteen-Power amendments (see para. 229 above) accepted an oral proposal by Chile, Lebanon and the United States of America to replace the words “three months”, in the opening phrase of the original paragraph 1 (see para. 225 above) by “four months”. The sponsors also agreed to a proposal by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to replace the words “two months”, at the end of their amendment (see para. 229 above) to paragraph 1, by “three months”.

#### *Adoption of the article*

232. At its 1421st meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 29 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto.

233. The first amendment of the United States of America (see para. 228 above), calling for the insertion of a new paragraph 1, as orally amended (see para. 230 above), was adopted by 90 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

234. The thirteen-Power amendment to the original paragraph 1 (see para. 229 above), as orally amended (see para. 231 above) was adopted by 90 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

235. New paragraph 2 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 91 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

236. The first thirteen-Power amendment to the original paragraph 2 (see para. 229 above), was adopted by 92 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

237. The second thirteen-power amendment to the original paragraph 2 (see para. 229 above) was adopted by 83 votes to none, with 9 abstentions.

238. The amendment to the original paragraph 2 proposed by the United States of America (see para. 228 above) was adopted by 75 votes to none, with 16 abstentions.

239. New paragraph 3 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 99 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

240. The new paragraph 4 submitted by the thirteen Powers as an amendment to the original paragraph 3 (see para. 229 above), was adopted by 90 votes to none with 1 abstention.

241. Article 29 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 91 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

242. The text of article 29 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *“Article 29<sup>54</sup>”*

“1. The initial election shall be held no later than six months after the date of the entry into force of the present Covenant.

“2. At least four months before the date of each election to the Committee, other than an election to fill a vacancy declared in accordance with article 33 [34], the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall address a written invitation to the States Parties to the present Covenant to submit their nominations for membership of the Committee within three months.

“3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of all the persons thus nominated, with an indication of the States Parties which have nominated them, and shall submit it to the States Parties to the present Covenant no later than one month before the date of each election.

“4. Elections of the members of the Committee shall be held at a meeting of the States Parties to the present Covenant convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the Headquarters of the United Nations. At that meeting, for which two thirds of the States Parties to the present Covenant shall constitute a quorum, the persons elected to the Committee shall be those nominees who obtain the largest number of votes and an absolute majority of the votes of the representatives of States Parties present and voting.”

<sup>54</sup> Article 30 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

## ARTICLE 30

243. The text of article 30 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. The Committee may not include more than one national of the same State.

"2. In the election of the Committee, consideration shall be given to equitable geographical distribution of membership and to the representation of the different forms of civilization.

"3. The quorum laid down in article 25, paragraph 3, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice shall apply for the holding of the elections.

"4. The persons elected shall be those who obtain the largest number of votes and an absolute majority of the votes of all the members of the International Court of Justice."

244. The Committee considered this article at its 1422nd meeting.

*Amendments*

245. Three amendments to article 30 were submitted by India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.L/1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, para. 4).

246. The amendments proposed by the thirteen-Powers called for the following:

(a) The insertion in paragraph 2, after the word "civilization", of the words "and principal legal systems";

(b) The deletion of paragraph 3;

(c) The deletion of paragraph 4.

247. On the suggestion of the representative of Canada, the sponsors agreed to have the insertion under their first amendment read "and of the principal legal systems".

*Adoption of the article*

248. At its 1422nd meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 30 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto.

249. Paragraph 1 of the text proposed by the Commission on Human Rights (see para. 243 above) was adopted unanimously.

250. The thirteen-Power amendment to paragraph 2 (see para. 246 above), as orally revised (see para. 247 above) was adopted unanimously.

251. Paragraph 2 as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

252. The thirteen-Power amendment calling for the deletion of paragraph 3 (see para. 246 above) was adopted unanimously.

253. The thirteen-Power amendment calling for the deletion of paragraph 4 (see para. 246 above) was adopted unanimously.

254. Article 30 as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

255. The text of article 30 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 30<sup>55</sup>*

"1. The Committee may not include more than

<sup>55</sup> Article 31 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

one national of the same State.

"2. In the election of the Committee, consideration shall be given to equitable geographical distribution of membership and to the representation of the different forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems."

## ARTICLE 31

256. The text of article 31 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. The members of the Committee shall be elected for a term of five years. They shall be eligible for re-election if renominated. However, the terms of five of the members elected at the first election shall expire at the end of two years; immediately after the first election the names of these five members shall be chosen by lot by the President of the International Court of Justice.

"2. Elections at the expiry of office shall be held in accordance with the preceding articles of this part of this Covenant."

257. The Committee considered this article at its 1423rd meeting.

*Amendments*

258. Four amendments were submitted by India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, para. 5).

259. The first amendment of the thirteen Powers would replace the word "five" by "four" in the first sentence of paragraph 1. The second amendment would replace the word "five" by "nine" before the words "of the members" in the second sentence of paragraph 1. The third amendment would replace the words "President of the International Court of Justice" at the end of paragraph 1 by the words "Chairman of the meeting referred to in article 29, paragraph 4". The fourth amendment would substitute "the" for "this" before the word "Covenant" in paragraph 2.

260. At the 1423rd meeting, the sponsors orally proposed that their third amendment be modified to read: "[shall be chosen by lot by the] Secretary-General of the United Nations at the meeting referred to in article 29, paragraph 4". This oral amendment was later withdrawn in favour of the amendment originally proposed (see para. 259 above).

*Adoption of the article*

261. At the 1423rd meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 31 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto.

262. The first thirteen-Power amendment to paragraph 1 (see para. 259 above) was adopted unanimously.

263. The second thirteen-Power amendment to paragraph 1 (see para. 259 above) was adopted by 82 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

264. The third thirteen-Power amendment to paragraph 1 (see para. 259 above) was adopted unanimously.

265. Paragraph 1, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

266. The fourth thirteen-Power amendment regarding paragraph 2 (see para. 259 above) was withdrawn on the understanding that it would be taken into account during the final co-ordination of details in the draft Covenant.

267. Paragraph 2 was adopted unanimously.

268. Article 31, as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

269. The text of article 31 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 31<sup>56</sup>*

"1. The members of the Committee shall be elected for a term of four years. They shall be eligible for re-election if renominated. However, the terms of nine of the members elected at the first election shall expire at the end of two years; immediately after the first election the names of these nine members shall be chosen by lot by the Chairman of the meeting referred to in article 29 [30], paragraph 4.

"2. Elections at the expiry of office shall be held in accordance with the preceding articles of this part of the present Covenant."

ARTICLE 32

270. The text of article 32 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. If, in the unanimous opinion of the other members, a member of the Committee has ceased to carry out his functions for any cause other than absence of a temporary character, the Chairman of the Committee shall notify the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall then declare the seat of that member to be vacant.

"2. In the event of the death or the resignation of a member of the Committee, the Chairman shall immediately notify the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall declare the seat vacant from the date of death or the date on which the resignation takes effect."

271. The Committee considered this article at its 1423rd meeting.

*Amendments*

272. An amendment submitted by the Netherlands (A/C.3/1355), para. 1) sought the insertion, in paragraph 1, between the words "temporary character" and "the Chairman of the Committee", of the words "or to fulfil the conditions required for membership of the Committee". This amendment was withdrawn at the 1423rd meeting.

273. In the course of the debate, the representative of Pakistan orally proposed the insertion in paragraph 2, after the word "resignation", of the words "or the prolonged absence" and the further insertion at the end of paragraph 2 of the words "or from the date on which the prolonged absence of the member is established by the Committee, in accordance with paragraph 1 of the article". These oral amendments were withdrawn in favour of a joint oral amendment proposed by the representatives of Pakistan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, whereby paragraph 2 would

remain in its original form, with the following sentence added: "In any other event referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, the seat shall be declared vacant from the date to be established by the unanimous decision of the Committee". This oral amendment was also withdrawn in the light of the discussion.

*Issues discussed*

274. As regards the amendment proposed by the Netherlands (see para. 272 above), there was wide agreement that a reference to the conditions for membership listed in article 27 [28] was not strictly necessary and might even be ambiguous, since it could, in extreme circumstances, be used to silence a member.

275. In the opinion of certain speakers, the only possible reasons for a seat falling vacant could be death, resignation, or prolonged absence. Paragraph 2, of article 32, however, provided only for the first two contingencies and failed to indicate on what date a seat would fall vacant in the case of the prolonged absence of a member. This lacuna should be filled with an explicit provision.

276. The prevailing view, however, was that to provide expressly for a vacancy occurring by reason of prolonged absence would be superfluous, since paragraph 1 implicitly covered any such possibility. Moreover, the Third Committee should avoid introducing any contradiction between paragraph 1, which required the Secretary-General to declare a seat vacant on the date on which he was notified of the vacancy by the Chairman of the Human Rights Committee, and paragraph 2, which, if amended as proposed by the representative of Pakistan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, would provide for a different date.

*Adoption of the article*

277. At its 1423rd meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 32 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights.

278. Paragraph 1 was adopted unanimously.

279. The Committee agreed to dispense with a vote on paragraph 2.

280. Article 32 as a whole was adopted unanimously.

281. The text of article 32 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 32<sup>57</sup>*

"1. If, in the unanimous opinion of the other members, a member of the Committee has ceased to carry out his functions for any cause other than absence of a temporary character, the Chairman of the Committee shall notify the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall then declare the seat of that member to be vacant.

"2. In the event of the death or the resignation of a member of the Committee, the Chairman shall immediately notify the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall declare the seat vacant from the date of death or the date on which the resignation takes effect."

<sup>56</sup> Article 32 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

<sup>57</sup> Article 33 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

## ARTICLE 33

282. The text of article 33 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. When a vacancy is declared in accordance with article 32 the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall notify each State Party to the Covenant, which may, if it is necessary, within one month, with a view to election to the vacant seat on the Committee, complete its list of available nominees to four persons.

"2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of the persons thus nominated and shall submit it to the International Court of Justice and the States Parties to the present Covenant. The election to fill the vacancy shall then proceed in accordance with articles 29 and 30.

"3. A member of the Committee elected to replace a member whose term of office has not expired, shall hold office for the remainder of that term. Provided that if such term of office will expire within six months after declaration of the vacancy in accordance with article 32, no nomination shall be requested and no election shall be held to fill that vacancy."

283. The Committee considered this article at its 1424th meeting.

*Amendments*

284. An amendment to paragraph 1 was submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/C.3/L.1356/Rev.1, para. 1). Five amendments to various paragraphs of the draft article were submitted by India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, para. 6).

*Paragraph 1*

285. The amendment of the United Kingdom called for the replacement of paragraph 1 by the following:

"1. When a vacancy is declared in accordance with article 32, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall notify the States Parties to the Covenant. Each such State may, within one month, submit nominations in accordance with article 28 for the purpose of filling the vacancy."

286. The first thirteen-Power amendment sought to delete paragraph 1 and to insert in its place a text reading as follows:

"When a vacancy is declared in accordance with article 32 and if the term of office of the member to be replaced does not expire within six months of the declaration of the vacancy, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall notify each of the States Parties to the present Covenant, which may within one month submit nominations as provided in article 28 with a view to election to the vacant seat on the Committee."

287. In the light of the amendments introduced to article 28 (see paras. 220-224 above), the representative of the United Kingdom withdrew her amendment to paragraph 1 (see para. 285 above), but orally proposed that the words "as provided in" in the first thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 286 above) be

nevertheless replaced by "in accordance with". She also orally proposed that the words "with a view to election to the vacant seat on the Committee", in the same amendment, be replaced by "for the purpose of filling the vacancy". Those oral sub-amendments were accepted by the sponsors of the thirteen-Power amendment.

288. In the light of the discussion, the representative of India orally proposed that in conformity with the Committee's earlier decisions to allow sufficient time to the States Parties to submit nominations (see paras. 232-242 above), the words "one month" in paragraph 1 be changed to "two months". This oral amendment was also accepted by the sponsors of the thirteen-Power amendments.

*Paragraph 2*

289. The second thirteen-Power amendment proposed the deletion from paragraph 2 of the words "International Court of Justice and".

290. The third thirteen-Power amendment sought the replacement, in paragraph 2, of the word "proceed" by "take place".

291. The fourth thirteen-Power amendment called for the replacement, in paragraph 2, of the words "articles 29 and 30" by the words "paragraph 4 of article 29, and with article 30 of this Covenant".

292. After a brief discussion of the references to other provisions of the Covenant in paragraph 2, the representative of Chile orally proposed that the final phrase of the paragraph be amended to read "in accordance with the relevant provisions of this part of the present Covenant". This oral amendment was accepted by the sponsors of the thirteen-Power proposal in substitution for their fourth amendment.

*Paragraph 3*

293. The fifth thirteen-Power amendment proposed the replacement of paragraph 3 by the following text:

"A member of the Committee elected to fill a vacancy declared in accordance with article 32 shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the member who vacated the seat on the Committee under the provisions of that article."

294. The fifth thirteen-Power amendment, as explained by the sponsors, was consequential upon the thirteen-Power amendment to paragraph 1 of the article (see para. 286 above).

*Adoption of the article*

295. At its 1424th meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 33 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto.

296. The text of paragraph 1, as proposed in the first amendment of the thirteen Powers (see para. 286 above), as orally amended (see paras. 287 and 288 above), was adopted unanimously.

297. The second thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 289 above) was adopted unanimously.

298. The third thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 290 above) was adopted by 87 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

299. The fourth thirteen-Power amendment, as orally amended (see paras. 291-292 above) was adopted unanimously.

300. Paragraph 2, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

301. The text of paragraph 3, as proposed in the fifth amendment of the thirteen Powers (see para. 293 above), was adopted unanimously.

302. Article 33 as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

303. The text of article 33 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 33<sup>58</sup>*

"1. When a vacancy is declared in accordance with article 32 [33] and if the term of office of the member to be replaced does not expire within six months of the declaration of the vacancy, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall notify each of the States Parties to the present Covenant, which may within two months submit nominations in accordance with article 28 [29] for the purpose of filling the vacancy.

"2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of the persons thus nominated and shall submit it to the States Parties to the present Covenant. The election to fill the vacancy shall then take place in accordance with the relevant provisions of this part of the present Covenant.

"3. A member of the Committee elected to fill a vacancy declared in accordance with article 32 [33] shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the member who vacated the seat on the Committee under the provisions of that article."

ARTICLE 34

304. The text of article 34 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. Subject to the provisions of article 32, a member of the Committee shall remain in office until a successor has been elected. But if the Committee has, prior to the election of his successor, begun to consider a case, he shall continue to act in that case, and his successor shall not act in it.

"2. A member of the Committee elected to fill a vacancy declared in accordance with article 32 shall not act in any case in which his predecessor had acted, unless the quorum provided in article 39 cannot be obtained."

305. The Committee considered this article at its 1424th meeting.

*Amendment*

306. An amendment calling for the deletion of article 34 was submitted by India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, para. 7).

*Issues discussed*

307. In the opinion of certain speakers, article 34 would serve the important purpose of ensuring that, upon the expiry of the term of office of a member of the Committee or upon a vacancy arising thereon in any other manner under articles 31 and 32 (see paras.

269 and 281 above), any matter under consideration by the Committee at the time would nevertheless be considered by the same persons until its disposal or conclusion.

308. Other representatives, however, stressed that the Committee now envisaged was no longer the same as the quasi-judicial body originally proposed by the Commission on Human Rights, which would have remained in virtually permanent session and would therefore have needed the maximum continuity of membership. The Committee established by the Covenant would be more in the nature of a functional organ holding periodic sessions, whose members, moreover, could not, save in the case of death or resignation, cease to carry out their functions without the unanimous decision of the Committee. In the event of such a unanimous decision, it was hard to imagine how a member could remain in office further. In addition, the practical difficulties of applying article 34 might be considerable.

*Deletion of article 34*

309. At its 1424th meeting the Committee adopted, by 69 votes to 15, with 10 abstentions, the thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 306 above) calling for the deletion of article 34 as proposed by the Commission on Human Rights.

ARTICLE 35

310. The text of article 35 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"The members of the Committee shall, with the approval of the General Assembly of the United Nations, receive emoluments from United Nations resources on such terms and conditions as the General Assembly may decide, having regard to the importance of the Committee's responsibilities."

311. The Committee considered this article at its 1424th meeting. A statement of the financial implications of this article was submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.3/L.1382).

*Issues discussed*

312. Certain representatives felt that the cost of the Human Rights Committee should be borne solely by the States Parties to the Covenant. Other speakers, stressing that the Committee must maintain the closest possible link with the United Nations, contended that the expenses should be met out of the regular budget of the Organization.

*Adoption of the article*

313. At its 1424th meeting the Third Committee voted on the text of article 35 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights.

314. Article 35 (see para. 310 above) was adopted by 81 votes to none, with 14 abstentions.

315. The text of article 35 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 35*

"The members of the Committee shall, with the approval of the General Assembly of the United Nations, receive emoluments from United Nations resources on such terms and conditions as the Gen-

<sup>58</sup> Article 34 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

eral Assembly may decide, having regard to the importance of the Committee's responsibilities."

#### ARTICLE 35 bis

316. A proposal for a new article, to be inserted between articles 35 and 36, dealing with the privileges and immunities of members of the Human Rights Committee was submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/C.3/L.1356/Rev.1, para. 2).

317. The Third Committee, at its 1424th meeting, decided to consider this proposal at a later stage (see para. 486 below).

#### ARTICLE 36

318. The text of article 36 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. The Secretary of the Committee shall be a high official of the United Nations, elected by the Committee from a list of three names submitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

"2. The candidate obtaining the largest number of votes and an absolute majority of the votes of all the members of the Committee shall be declared elected.

"3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall provide the necessary staff and facilities for the Committee and its members; the staff shall be part of the United Nations Secretariat."

319. The Committee considered this article at its 1425th meeting.

#### *Amendments*

320. Three amendments were submitted by India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, para. 8).

321. The thirteen-Power amendments sought the following:

(a) To delete paragraph 1;

(b) To delete paragraph 2;

(c) In paragraph 3, to delete all the words after "staff and facilities", and to insert therein "for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee under the Covenant".

#### *Issues discussed*

322. Some representatives voiced misgivings regarding the thirteen-Power amendments, believing that the text proposed by the Commission on Human Rights would give both the Committee and the Secretary it elected a desirable measure of autonomy. The prevailing view, however, was that the character of the Committee having changed, the best course of action was to make provisions similar to those applicable to other United Nations bodies.

#### *Adoption of the article*

323. At its 1425th meeting the Third Committee voted on the text of article 36 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto.

324. The thirteen-Power amendment calling for the deletion of paragraph 1 (see para. 321 above) was adopted by 88 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

325. The thirteen-Power amendment calling for the deletion of paragraph 2 (see para. 321 above) was adopted by 91 votes to none with 1 abstention.

326. The thirteen-Power amendment to the original paragraph 3 (see para. 321 above) was adopted unanimously.

327. Article 36 as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

328. The text of article 36 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *"Article 36*

"The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall provide the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee under the present Covenant."

#### ARTICLE 37

329. The text of article 37 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene the initial meeting of the Committee at the Headquarters of the United Nations.

"2. After its initial meeting, the Committee shall meet:

"(a) At such times as it deems necessary;

"(b) When any matter is referred to it under article 40;

"(c) When convened by its Chairman or at the request of not less than five of its members.

"3. The Committee shall meet at the Headquarters of the United Nations or at Geneva."

330. The Committee considered this article at its 1425th meeting.

#### *Amendments*

331. Five amendments were submitted by India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, para. 9). An amendment was also proposed by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1390, para. 2).

332. The thirteen-Power amendments proposed the following:

(a) To delete sub-paragraph 2 (a);

(b) To delete sub-paragraph 2 (b);

(c) In sub-paragraph 2 (c), to replace "five" by "ten";

(d) In paragraph 3, to insert, between "shall" and "meet", the word "normally";

(e) In paragraph 3, to insert, before "Geneva", the words "the United Nations Office at".

333. The amendment of the United States of America sought the addition, at the end of paragraph 2, of a further sub-paragraph reading as follows: "(d) At such other times as shall be provided in its rules of procedure".

334. After some discussion, the representative of the United States of America agreed to the deletion of sub-paragraphs 2 (a) and (b), as envisaged in the thirteen-Power amendments (see para. 332 above), and orally proposed the deletion of sub-paragraph 2

(c) and the replacement of the whole of paragraph 2 by a text reading as follows: "After its initial meeting, the Committee shall meet at such times as shall be provided in its rules of procedure". This proposal was accepted by the sponsors of the thirteen-Power amendments who accordingly withdrew their three amendments to paragraph 2 (see para. 332 above).

#### *Adoption of the article*

335. At its 1425th meeting, the Committee voted on the text of article 37 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto.

336. Paragraph 1, as proposed by the Commission on Human Rights, was adopted unanimously.

337. The text of paragraph 2 orally proposed by the representative of the United States of America (see para. 334 above) was adopted by 93 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

338. The fourth thirteen-Power amendment, regarding paragraph 3 (see para. 332 above), was adopted unanimously.

339. The fifth thirteen-Power amendment, regarding paragraph 3 (see para. 332 above), was adopted by 97 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

340. Paragraph 3, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

341. Article 37 as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

342. The text of article 37 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *"Article 37*

"1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene the initial meeting of the Committee at the Headquarters of the United Nations.

"2. After its initial meeting, the Committee shall meet at such times as shall be provided in its rules of procedure.

"3. The Committee shall normally meet at the Headquarters of the United Nations or at the United Nations Office at Geneva."

#### ARTICLE 38

343. The text of article 38 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"Every member of the Committee shall, before taking up his duties, make a solemn declaration in open committee that he will exercise his powers impartially and conscientiously."

344. The Committee considered this article at its 1425th meeting.

#### *Amendments*

345. An amendment was submitted by India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, para. 10) whereby the words "exercise his powers" would be replaced by "perform his functions".

346. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, believing that the text of article 38, even with the thirteen-Power amendment, would

implicitly recognize that the Committee had some judicial attributes, orally moved the deletion of article 38.

#### *Adoption of the article*

347. At its 1425th meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 38 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto.

348. The motion of the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, calling for the deletion of article 38, was rejected by 47 votes to 19, with 27 abstentions.

349. The thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 345 above) was adopted by 83 votes to none, with 12 abstentions.

350. Article 38, as amended, was adopted by 81 votes to 9, with 7 abstentions.

351. The text of article 38 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *"Article 38*

"Every member of the Committee shall, before taking up his duties, make a solemn declaration in open committee that he will perform his functions impartially and conscientiously."

#### ARTICLE 39

352. The text of article 39 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. The Committee shall elect its Chairman and Vice-Chairman for a period of one year. They may be re-elected. The first Chairman and the first Vice-Chairman shall be elected at the initial meeting of the Committee.

"2. The Committee shall establish its own rules of procedure, but these rules shall provide, *inter alia*, that:

"(a) Seven members shall constitute a quorum;

"(b) Decisions of the Committee shall be made by a majority vote of the members present; if the votes are equally divided the Chairman shall have a casting vote;

"(c) If a State refers a matter to the Committee under article 40:

"(i) Such State, the State complained against, and any State Party to this Covenant whose national is concerned in such matter may make submissions in writing to the Committee;

"(ii) Such State and the State complained against shall have the right to be represented at the hearing of the matter and to make submissions orally;

"(d) The Committee shall hold hearings and other meetings in closed session."

353. The Committee considered this article at its 1425th and 1426th meetings.

#### *Amendments*

354. Four amendments were submitted by India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add./Corr.1, para. 11). Three amendments were

submitted by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1390, para. 3).

355. The thirteen-Power amendments proposed the following:

(a) To replace, in the first sentence of paragraph 1, the words "one year" by "two years";

(b) To replace, in sub-paragraph 2 (a), the word "seven" by "twelve";

(c) To delete from sub-paragraph 2 (b), all the words after "members present";

(d) To delete sub-paragraphs 2 (c) and (d);

356. The amendments of the United States of America sought the following changes in paragraph 1:

(a) To replace the words "Chairman and Vice-Chairman" by "officers";

(b) To replace "for a period of one year" by "for a term of two years";

(c) To delete the third sentence.

357. The representative of the United States of America agreed that her second amendment (see para. 356 above) was in substance the same as the first thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 355 above) and that, consequently, the two should be voted on as one.

#### *Issues discussed*

358. There was general agreement that the notion of a casting vote by the Chairman, which derived from article 55 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, would be out of place in the context under discussion.

359. Several speakers urged the retention of sub-paragraph 2 (d), which provided that the meetings of the Committee should be held in private, in order to ensure confidential treatment for the communications which the Committee would receive. Some other representatives felt that it might be preferable to leave the decision on that point to the Committee itself. The prevailing view was that the matter should be considered in the context of article 40 and other articles, which set forth any procedures for dealing with communications and complaints (see paras. 436 and 473 below).

#### *Adoption of the article*

360. At the 1426th meeting, the Committee voted on the text of article 39 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and on the amendments thereto.

361. The first thirteen-Power amendment to paragraph 1 (see para. 355 above) as revised to include the second amendment of the United States of America was adopted unanimously.

362. The first amendment of the United States of America to paragraph 1 (see para. 356 above) was adopted by 71 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

363. The third amendment of the United States of America to paragraph 1 (see para. 356 above) was adopted by 73 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

364. Paragraph 1, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

365. The second thirteen-Power amendment, regarding sub-paragraph 2 (a) (see para. 355 above), was adopted unanimously.

366. The third thirteen-Power amendment, regarding sub-paragraph 2 (b) (see para. 355 above), was adopted by 81 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

367. The fourth thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 355 above) in so far as it proposed the deletion of sub-paragraph 2 (d), was adopted by 50 votes to 2, with 37 abstentions.

368. The fourth thirteen-Power amendment (see para. 355 above), in so far as it proposed the deletion of sub-paragraph 2 (c), was adopted by 85 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

369. Paragraph 2, as amended, was adopted by 87 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

370. Article 39 as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

371. The text of article 39 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *"Article 39*

"1. The Committee shall elect its officers for a term of two years. They may be re-elected.

"2. The Committee shall establish its own rules of procedure, but these rules shall provide, *inter alia*, that:

"(a) Twelve members shall constitute a quorum;

"(b) Decisions of the Committee shall be made by a majority vote of the members present."

#### ARTICLE 39 *bis*

372. An amendment calling for the insertion of a new article, provisionally numbered 39 *bis*, was submitted by India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1379, para. 1). The proposed article in its revised form (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 1) read as follows:

"1. The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to submit reports on the measures they have adopted which give effect to the rights recognized herein and on the progress made in the enjoyment of those rights:

"(a) Within one year of the entry into force of the present Covenant for the States Parties concerned;

"(b) Thereafter whenever the Committee so requests.

"2. All reports shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall transmit them to the Committee for consideration. Reports shall indicate the factors and difficulties, if any, affecting the implementation of the present Covenant.

"3. The Committee shall study the reports submitted by the States Parties to the present Covenant. It shall transmit its reports, and such comments as it may consider appropriate, to the States Parties concerned. The Committee may also transmit to the Economic and Social Council its comments along with the copies of the reports it has received from States Parties to the present Covenant.

"4. The States Parties to the present Covenant may submit to the Committee observations on any recommendation that may be made in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article."

373. The Committee considered this amendment at its 1426th and 1427th meetings.

374. Before the discussion of this amendment, the sponsors orally revised the text as follows: the word

“concerned” in the second sentence of paragraph 3 was deleted; the word “general” was inserted before the word “comments” in the second sentence of paragraph 3; in the third sentence of paragraph 3, the word “its” was replaced by “these”; and the word “recommendation”, in paragraph 4, was replaced by “comments”.

375. In the light of the discussion, the sponsors submitted a further oral revision, whereby the introductory part of paragraph 1 was revised to read:

“The States Parties to this Covenant undertake to submit reports on the measures they have adopted which give effect to the rights recognized herein and on the progress made in the enjoyment of those rights . . .”.

#### *Amendments*

376. Sub-amendments to the nine-Power proposal were submitted by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1391, para. 1) and by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/C.3/L.1404).

377. The sub-amendment of the United States of America sought the replacement of the introductory part of paragraph 1 by the following text:

“The States Parties to this Covenant undertake to submit reports on the legislative, judicial or other action taken which gives effect to the rights recognized herein”.

This amendment was withdrawn at the 1427th meeting.

378. The sub-amendment of the United Kingdom proposed the insertion, between paragraphs 2 and 3, of a paragraph reading as follows:

“3. The specialized agencies shall receive from the Secretary-General copies of such parts of the reports concerning the rights as fall within their respective fields of activity.”

379. The text of the amendment submitted by the United Kingdom was orally revised by its sponsor, in the course of the discussion, to read as follows:

“3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations may, after consultation with the Committee, transmit to the specialized agencies concerned copies of such parts of the reports as may fall within their field of competence”.

#### *Issues discussed*

380. Many representatives thought that the text proposed in the nine-Power amendment represented a substantial improvement over the text originally proposed by the Commission on Human Rights as article 49 (see para. 546 below). It was also stressed that, since the procedure of conciliation envisaged in the proposed article 40 *et seq.* was to be purely optional, care should be taken to ensure the efficacy of the only other means of implementation, namely, the reporting system.

381. Certain representatives felt that the reports from the States Parties should be sent to the Economic and Social Council and not to the Human Rights Committee. The Committee, an autonomous body composed of persons acting in their personal capacity, should not be placed above national institutions and the Council.

382. Several speakers expressed doubts regarding the notion of progressiveness introduced in paragraph 1. A State should not ratify the Covenant until its legislation was in conformity with the provisions of

that instrument; and acceptance of the principle of progressive implementation might nullify the conciliation procedure proposed in articles 40 *et seq.*, as any State against which a complaint was lodged might invoke that principle as an excuse for inaction.

383. Certain representatives, supporting the amendment of the United States of America (see para. 377 above), thought that States Parties should be given some guidance regarding the contents of their reports and should be encouraged to furnish meaningful information. In particular, their attention should be drawn to the need of reporting legislative measures and the action taken by the courts to carry those measures into effect.

384. Other speakers, however, considered the formula proposed by the United States of America needlessly restrictive. In their view, the formulation contained in the nine-Power amendment (see para. 372 above), which spoke of “measures” without qualification, would give States Parties greater freedom to report on the entire range of steps taken to ensure compliance with the Covenant. Legislative and judicial measures, while of vital importance, were not the only measures possible. Moreover, the formula used in the nine-Power amendment had already been approved in connexion with article 17 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

385. As regards the amendment of the United Kingdom (see para. 378 above), some representatives thought that it was unnecessary, since the nine-Power text already provided for the possibility of the reports being transmitted by the Committee to the Economic and Social Council, to which the specialized agencies had access. Other speakers, however, believed that the United Kingdom amendment would greatly help to prevent duplication in certain matters wherein a given specialized agency might have a special procedure or interest. It was also stressed, in this connexion, that it would be understood that the Secretary-General would not transmit to a specialized agency a report emanating from a State which was not a member of that agency.

#### *Adoption of the article*

386. At its 1427th meeting, the Committee voted on the text of article 39 *bis* proposed in the nine-Power amendment (see paras. 372, 374 and 375) and on the amendments thereto.

387. At the request of the representative of Tunisia, a separate vote was taken on sub-paragraph 1 (*b*). The sub-paragraph was adopted by 78 votes to 3, with 10 abstentions.

388. Paragraph 1 as a whole, as orally amended (see paras. 372, 374 and 375 above), was adopted by 91 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

389. At the request of the representative of Tunisia, a separate vote was taken on the words “who shall transmit them to the Committee for consideration” in paragraph 2. The words were retained by 87 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

390. At the request of the representative of Chile, a separate vote was taken on the second sentence of paragraph 2. The sentence was retained by 75 votes to 10, with 4 abstentions.

391. Paragraph 2 was adopted by 89 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

392. The new paragraph 3 proposed in the amendment of the United Kingdom (see para. 378 above),

as orally revised (see para. 379 above) was adopted by 70 votes to 9, with 3 abstentions.

393. At the request of the representative of Canada, a separate vote was taken on the word "general" in the second sentence of the original paragraph 3 (see para. 374 above). The word was retained by 44 votes to 29, with 12 abstentions.

394. New paragraph 4 (original paragraph 3), as orally revised (see para. 374 above), was adopted by 86 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

395. New paragraph 5 (original paragraph 4), as orally revised (see para. 374 above), was adopted by 79 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

396. Article 39 *bis* as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 82 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

397. The text of article 39 *bis* of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 39 bis"*<sup>59</sup>

"1. The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to submit reports on the measures they have adopted which give effect to the rights recognized herein and on the progress made in the enjoyment of those rights:

"(a) Within one year of the entry into force of the present Covenant for the States Parties concerned;

"(b) Thereafter whenever the Committee so requests.

"2. All reports shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall transmit them to the Committee for consideration. Reports shall indicate the factors and difficulties, if any, affecting the implementation of the present Covenant.

"3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations may, after consultation with the Committee, transmit to the specialized agencies concerned copies of such parts of the reports as may fall within their field of competence.

"4. The Committee shall study the reports submitted by the States Parties to the present Covenant. It shall transmit its reports, and such general comments as it may consider appropriate, to the States Parties. The Committee may also transmit to the Economic and Social Council these comments along with the copies of the reports it has received from States Parties to the present Covenant.

"5. The States Parties to the present Covenant may submit to the Committee observations on any comments that may be made in accordance with paragraph 4 of this article."

ARTICLE 40

398. The text of article 40 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. If a State Party to the Covenant considers that another State Party is not giving effect to a provision of the Covenant, it may, by written communication, bring the matter to the attention of that State. Within three months after the receipt of the communication, the receiving State shall afford the

complaining State an explanation or statement in writing concerning the matter, which should include, to the extent possible and pertinent, references to domestic procedures and remedies taken, or pending, or available in the matter.

"2. If the matter is not adjusted to the satisfaction of both Parties within six months after the receipt by the receiving State of the initial communication, either State shall have the right to refer the matter to the Committee, by notice given to the Secretary of the Committee, and to the other State.

"3. Subject to the provisions of article 41 below, in serious and urgent cases the Committee may, at the request of the complaining State, deal expeditiously with the matter on receipt of that request in accordance with the powers conferred on it by this part of the Covenant and after notifying the States concerned."

399. The Committee considered this article from its 1414th to its 1421st meetings and at its 1428th meeting. As the discussion of this article was closely connected with that of other aspects of the implementation system to be included in the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, appropriate cross-references will be made to the summary contained in paragraphs 178 to 187 above.

*Amendments*

400. Amendments were submitted by Saudi Arabia (A/C.3/L.1334) and by India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1379 and Rev.1, para. 2 and A/C.3/L.1379/Corr.1). Sub-amendments to the nine-Power amendments (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 2) were submitted by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1391, para. 2), France (A/C.3/L.1393) and jointly by Chile and Ghana (A/C.3/L.1397, para. 1 and A/C.3/L.1397/Corr.1).

401. The amendment by Saudi Arabia (A/C.3/L.1334) was to replace article 40 by the following text:

"1. Every State should constitute a National Committee consisting of nine members chosen from independent and objective persons not having any official connexion with the Government of the State.

"2. Any person claiming that any of his rights enumerated in the Covenant has been violated may submit his case before this Committee.

"3. The National Committee shall ascertain the facts and if it deems that the case is well founded shall endeavour to obtain satisfaction for the petitioner from the Government.

"4. In the event the said Committee does not succeed in obtaining satisfaction for the petitioner or should the Committee dismiss the case, either the Committee or the petitioner, as the case may be, shall have the right to appeal to the United Nations Committee established by article 27.

"5. The names of the members constituting the National Committee shall be registered with the United Nations.

"6. The National Committee shall have an appropriate register to enter any complaint or alleged violation submitted to it, regardless of whether such complaint or violation is entertained by it or not.

"7. Certified copies of the register mentioned in the previous paragraph shall be submitted by the National Committee to the Secretary-General on the

<sup>59</sup> Article 40 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

understanding that the contents of such certified copies shall not be disclosed and will be kept confidential by the Secretary-General.”

This amendment was withdrawn at the 1420th meeting.

402. The nine-Power amendment in its original form (A/C.3/L.1379, para. 2) proposed to replace article 40 by the following:

“1. A State Party to the present Covenant may at any time declare under this article that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider complaints to the effect that a State Party claims that another State Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the present Covenant. Complaints under this article may be received and considered only if submitted by a State Party which has made a declaration recognizing in regard to itself the competence of the Committee. No communication shall be received by the Committee if it concerns a State Party which had not made such a declaration. Such complaints shall be dealt with in accordance with the following procedure:

“(a) If a State Party to the present Covenant considers that another State Party is not giving effect to the provisions of the present Covenant, it may, by written communication, bring the matter to the attention of that State Party. Within three months after the receipt of the communication, the receiving State shall afford the complaining State an explanation or any other statement in writing clarifying the matter, which should include, to the extent possible and pertinent, reference to domestic procedure and remedies taken, or pending, or available in the matter.

“(b) If the matter is not adjusted to the satisfaction of both States Parties concerned within six months after the receipt of the receiving State of the initial communication, either State shall have the right to refer the matter to the Committee by notice given to the Committee, and also to the other State.

“(c) The Committee shall deal with the matter referred to it only after it has ascertained that all available domestic remedies have been invoked and exhausted in the case, in conformity with the generally recognized principles of international law. This shall not be the rule where the application of the remedies would be unreasonably prolonged.

“(d) In any matter referred to it, the Committee may call upon the States concerned to supply any relevant information.

“(e) The States Parties concerned, referred to in sub-paragraph (b), shall have the right to be represented when the matter is being considered in the Committee and to make submissions orally and/or in writing.

“(f) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (c), the Committee shall ascertain the facts and make available its good offices to the States concerned with a view to a friendly solution of the matter on the basis of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in the present Covenant.

“(g) The Committee shall in every case, and in any event not later than eighteen months after the date of receipt of the notice under sub-paragraph (a), draw up a report which will be communicated to the States Parties concerned.

“(h) If a solution within the terms of sub-paragraph (f) is reached, the Committee shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts and of the solution reached. If such a solution is not reached, the Committee shall draw up a report on the facts. The written submissions and the record of oral submissions made by the Parties to the case in accordance with sub-paragraph (e) shall be attached to the report.

“2. The provisions of this article shall come into force when ten States Parties to the present Covenant have made declarations under paragraph 1 of this article. Such declarations shall be deposited by the States Parties concerned with the Secretary-General of the United Nations who shall transmit copies thereof to the other States Parties. A declaration may be withdrawn at any time by notification to the Secretary-General but such a withdrawal shall not affect complaints pending before the Committee.”

403. This amendment was subsequently revised to read as follows (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 2):

“1. A State Party to the present Covenant may at any time declare under this article that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications to the effect that a State Party claims that another State Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the present Covenant. Communications under this article may be received and considered only if submitted by a State Party which has made a declaration recognizing in regard to itself the competence of the Committee. No communication shall be received by the Committee if it concerns a State Party which had not made such a declaration. Such communications shall be dealt with in accordance with the following procedure:

“(a) If a State Party to the present Covenant considers that another State Party is not giving effect to the provisions of the present Covenant, it may, by written communication, bring the matter to the attention of that State Party. Within three months after the receipt of the communication, the receiving State shall afford the State which sent the communication an explanation or any other statement in writing clarifying the matter, which should include, to the extent possible and pertinent, reference to domestic procedures and remedies taken, or pending, or available in the matter.

“(b) If the matter is not adjusted to the satisfaction of both States Parties concerned within six months after the receipt by the receiving State of the initial communication, either State shall have the right to refer the matter to the Committee by notice given to the Committee, and also to the other State.

“(c) The Committee shall deal with the matter referred to it only after it has ascertained that all available domestic remedies have been invoked and exhausted in the case, in conformity with the generally recognized principles of international law. This shall not be the rule where the application of the remedies would be unreasonably prolonged.

“(d) In any matter referred to it, the Committee may call upon the States concerned to supply any relevant information.

“(e) The States Parties concerned, referred to in sub-paragraph (b), shall have the right to be represented when the matter is being considered

in the Committee and to make submissions orally and/or in writing.

“(f) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (c), the Committee shall make available its good offices to the States concerned with a view to a friendly solution of the matter on the basis of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in the present Covenant.

“(g) The Committee shall in every case, and in any event not later than eighteen months after the date of receipt of the notice under sub-paragraph (a), draw up a report which will be communicated to the States Parties concerned.

“(h) If a solution within the terms of sub-paragraph (f) is reached, the Committee shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts and of the solution reached. If such a solution is not reached, the Committee shall draw up a report on the facts. The written submissions and the record of oral submissions made by the Parties to the case in accordance with sub-paragraph (e) shall be attached to the report.

“2. The provisions of this article shall come into force when ten States Parties to the present Covenant have made declarations under paragraph 1 of this article. Such declarations shall be deposited by the States Parties concerned with the Secretary-General of the United Nations who shall transmit copies thereof to the other States Parties. A declaration may be withdrawn at any time by notification to the Secretary-General but such a withdrawal shall not affect matters pending before the Committee.”

404. The amendments of the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1391, para. 2) to the revised nine-Power amendment (see para. 403 above) were as follows:

(a) Delete the introductory part of paragraph 1.

(b) In paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (c), replace “the matter” by “a matter”; after the words “referred to it”, add “under sub-paragraph (b) of this article”; replace the word “case” by “matter”, and insert sub-paragraph (c) after sub-paragraphs (d) and (e), renumbering them as (c) and (d).

(c) Delete sub-paragraphs (f), (g) and (h) of paragraph 1.

(d) Delete paragraph 2.

The United States amendments were withdrawn at the 1420th meeting.

405. The amendment of France (A/C.3/L.1393) was to replace article 40 as proposed in the revised nine-Power amendment by the following articles 40 to 43:

#### “Article 40

“1. If a State Party considers that another State Party is not giving effect to the provisions of this Covenant, it may, by written communication bring the matter to the attention of that State Party. Within three months after the receipt of the communication, the receiving State shall afford the State which sent the communication an explanation or statement in writing which should include, to the extent possible and pertinent, reference to domestic procedures and remedies taken, or pending, or available in the matter.

“2. If the matter is not adjusted to the satisfaction of both Parties within six months after the receipt

by the receiving State of the initial communication, either State shall have the right to refer the matter to the Committee by notice given to the Secretary of the Committee and to the other State.

#### “Article 41

“The Committee shall not normally deal with a matter referred to it unless available domestic remedies have been invoked and exhausted in the case. Where the application of the remedies is unreasonably prolonged, the Committee may, in serious and urgent cases, invite the State concerned to accelerate the procedure.

#### “Article 42

“1. On the basis of the communication and the reply and with the agreement of the States Parties concerned, the Committee shall endeavour to bring the said Parties to an amicable solution in accordance with the provisions of this Covenant.

“2. The Committee may, if necessary and with the agreement of the States concerned, appoint an *ad hoc* conciliation commission.

#### “Article 43

“1. The Committee shall in every case, and in no event later than eighteen months after the date of receipt of the notice under article 40, draw up a report which will be sent to the States concerned and then communicated to the other States Parties to the Covenant.

“2. If a solution within the terms of article 42 is reached the Committee shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts and of the solution reached.

“3. If such a solution is not reached and it proves impossible to institute the procedure prescribed in article 42, the Committee shall draw up a report reproducing the texts of the communication and the reply of the States concerned. The Committee may make general comments, excluding any conclusion or recommendation addressed directly to the Parties.

“If the report does not represent in whole or in part the unanimous opinion of the Committee, any member of the Committee shall be entitled to attach to it his personal comments.”

Article 40 in the sub-amendment of France was voted upon at the 1420th meeting as applying to the third version of the nine-Power proposal (see para. 408 below), but the remainder of the sub-amendment was withdrawn.

406. The sub-amendment submitted by Chile and Ghana (A/C.3/L.1397, para. 1) sought to replace the second sentence of paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (c) of article 40 as proposed in the revised nine-Power amendment by the following text:

“This shall not be the rule where there are no local remedies to exhaust or where the application of the remedies would be unreasonably prolonged.”

407. This sub-amendment by Chile and Ghana was subsequently revised (A/C.3/L.1397/Corr.1) to replace the whole of paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (c) of article 40 as proposed in the revised nine-Power amendment by the following text:

“The Committee shall deal with a matter referred to it after it has ascertained that all available domestic remedies have been invoked and exhausted in the matter, in conformity with the generally recog-

nized principles of international law and the principles and purposes of this covenant. This shall not be the rule where the application of the remedies is unduly delayed or appears to be insufficient, illusory or ineffective in securing adequate redress.”

This revised sub-amendment was withdrawn at the 1428th meeting.

408. The nine-Power amendment was again revised (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1/Corr.1) to read as follows:

“1. A State Party to the present Covenant may at any time declare under this article that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications to the effect that a State Party claims that another State Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the present Covenant. Communications under this article may be received and considered only if submitted by a State Party which has made a declaration recognizing in regard to itself the competence of the Committee. No communication shall be received by the Committee if it concerns a State Party which has not made such a declaration. Communications received under this article shall be dealt with in accordance with the following procedure:

“(a) If a State Party to the present Covenant considers that another State Party is not giving effect to the provisions of the present Covenant, it may, by written communication, bring the matter to the attention of that State Party. Within three months after the receipt of the communication, the receiving State shall afford the State which sent the communication an explanation or any other statement in writing clarifying the matter, which should include, to the extent possible and pertinent, reference to domestic procedures and remedies taken, pending, or available in the matter.

“(b) If the matter is not adjusted to the satisfaction of both States Parties concerned within six months after the receipt by the receiving State of the initial communication, either State shall have the right to refer the matter to the Committee, by notice given to the Committee and to the other State.

“(c) The Committee shall deal with a matter referred to it only after it has ascertained that all available domestic remedies have been invoked and exhausted in the matter, in conformity with the generally recognized principles of international law. This shall not be the rule where the application of the remedies would be unreasonably prolonged.

“(d) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (c), the Committee shall make available its good offices to the States Parties concerned with a view to a friendly solution of the matter on the basis of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in the present Covenant.

“(e) In any matter referred to it, the Committee may call upon the States Parties concerned, referred to in sub-paragraph (b), to supply any relevant information.

“(f) The States Parties concerned, referred to in sub-paragraph (b), shall have the right to be

represented when the matter is being considered in the Committee and to make submissions orally and/or in writing.

“(g) The Committee shall, within twelve months after the date of receipt of notice under sub-paragraph (b), submit a report:

“(i) If a solution within the terms of sub-paragraph (d) is reached, the Committee shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts and of the solution reached;

“(ii) If a solution within the terms of sub-paragraph (d) is not reached, the Committee shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts; the written submissions and record of the oral submissions made by the States Parties concerned shall be attached to the report.

“In every matter, the report shall be communicated to the States Parties concerned.

“2. The provisions of this article shall come into force when ten States Parties to the present Covenant have made declarations under paragraph 1 of this article. Such declarations shall be deposited by the States Parties with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall transmit copies thereof to the other States Parties. A declaration may be withdrawn at any time by notification to the Secretary-General. Such a withdrawal shall not prejudice the consideration of any matter which is the subject of a communication already transmitted under this article; no further communication by any State Party shall be received after the notification of withdrawal of the declaration has been received by the Secretary-General, unless the State Party concerned has made a new declaration.”

409. At the 1428th meeting, the representative of France orally proposed to include a new sub-paragraph between sub-paragraphs (c) and (d) of paragraph 1 in the revised nine-Power amendment (see para. 408 above). The text of the proposed sub-paragraph was as follows:

“The Committee shall hold closed meetings when examining communications under this article.”  
The new sub-paragraph was accepted by the sponsors of the nine-Power amendment.

#### *Issues discussed*

##### *Optional or mandatory character of the fact-finding and conciliation procedure*

410. Under the Commission's draft (see para. 398 above) as well as under the proposals of Saudi Arabia (see para. 401 above), the United States of America (see para. 404 above) and France (see para. 405 above), it would be mandatory for any State Party against which a complaint would be made, to submit to a fact-finding and conciliation procedure. Under the introductory part of paragraph 1 of article 40 as proposed by the nine Powers (see para. 408 above), acceptance of such a procedure would be optional for the States Parties.

411. Some members thought that the Covenant should contain a fact-finding and conciliation clause no less effective than that proposed by the nine Powers, and that submission to such a procedure should be mandatory for the States Parties concerned (see para.

183 above). Since the Human Rights Committee would be composed of impartial members and would not be empowered to criticize any State, nor to take any binding decisions, there was no reason to fear that it would unduly interfere into the domestic affairs of the States Parties. There would be little justification for the establishment of that body and for the cost involved, if the optional clause proposed by the nine Powers never came into force or if only ten States accepted it. It was also undesirable that the policies of Governments bound by the optional clause should be reviewed, in the Committee, by the nationals of States which had not accepted such a provision.

412. A few representatives favoured the adoption of a mandatory clause for some of the reasons mentioned in paragraph 411 above, but felt that such a provision, in order to elicit wide acceptance, should be less far-reaching than the Commission's draft or the nine-Power proposal. The amendment of France (see para. 405 above) gave expression to that view.

413. Most representatives, however, thought that adoption of the optional article proposed by the nine Powers would provide a satisfactory solution to the main problems raised during the debate (see para. 184 above). It was felt that, if such provision were mandatory, many States nowadays would hesitate to ratify the Covenant. The international community must be given some time to overcome existing remnants of mutual suspicion. It could be readily understood that the new Member States, in particular, showed very great care to safeguard their independence. The governments of several developing countries also feared that their real difficulties in securing forthwith some of the rights recognized in the Covenant might be misconstrued as bad will by the Human Rights Committee. However, as all such difficulties would gradually disappear, an increasing number of States Parties would no doubt accept the optional clause proposed by the nine Powers, and thereby give full effect to the system of implementation of the Covenant. This approach was generally preferred to that mentioned in paragraph 412 above, which was considered likely to perpetuate a weak system of implementation.

#### *Procedure under the optional system*

414. Several representatives noted that sub-paragraph 1 (a) of the nine-Power text (see para. 403 above) failed to show how the Committee was to know the date from which the period of six months mentioned in sub-paragraph 1 (b) would begin to run. Perhaps it might have been better to provide that, upon sending a written communication to another State, the complaining State should inform the Committee of its act. In one representative's view, the very first communication should go to the Committee; it would then have to be supported by evidence and could not serve as an instrument of intimidation.

415. Many speakers, urging the adoption of the French proposal concerning closed meetings (see para. 409 above), voiced the opinion that privacy would prevent use being made of the Committee as an instrument of propaganda. Certain other representatives, however, felt that public meetings would discourage false accusations and the resulting loss of prestige.

416. Attention was drawn to the difference between sub-paragraph 1 (g) and article 43, paragraph 3, of the text of the Covenants prepared by the Commission on Human Rights (see para. 498 below). The Com-

mission's text provided that, if a solution was not reached, the Committee would draw up a report on the facts and state its opinion as to whether the facts found disclosed a breach by the State concerned of its obligations under the Covenant; the nine-Power amendment, on the other hand, stated that, if a solution was not reached, the Committee would confine itself to a "brief statement of the facts". In the opinion of some speakers, the change greatly weakened the implementation machinery. The sponsors of the nine-Power amendment stated, in reply, that the change was consistent with the transformation of the Committee from an adjudicating body into an organ of conciliation, and that the brief statement of facts would, in any event, reflect all the facts which the Committee might ascertain.

417. As regards the provisions of paragraph 2 allowing the withdrawal of a declaration recognizing the Committee's competence, as defined in article 40, some representatives felt that permitting such withdrawal after a State had already once exercised its free option would render the whole implementation procedure almost worthless. Certain representatives thought that the proposed withdrawal clauses were so complex that they might lead to abuse. Others believed that the last sentence of paragraph 2 introduced an unwelcome element of compulsion and might lead to interference in domestic affairs. The sponsors of the nine-Power amendment explained that, under paragraph 2, whereas a State against which a complaint had been lodged could not withdraw its declaration until consideration of that complaint had been completed, the same State would be protected against the institution of a new complaint before the first one had been dealt with. The restriction on withdrawal would apply only to the first communication.

#### *Adoption of the article*

418. At its 1420th meeting, the Committee voted on the introductory part of paragraph 1 of article 40 in the revised nine-Power amendment and on article 40 as proposed in the sub-amendment of France (see paras. 405 and 408 above). At its 1428th meeting the Committee voted on the remainder of the nine-Power proposal and other amendments thereto.

419. At the request of the representative of France, a roll-call vote was taken on article 40 as proposed in the amendment of France (see para. 405 above). This amendment was rejected by 44 votes to 14, with 31 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Austria, Belgium, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Norway, Paraguay, Sweden, Uruguay.

*Against:* Algeria, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Ceylon, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Yugoslavia.

*Abstaining:* Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Central African Republic, China,

Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Spain, Thailand, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela.

420. At the 1420th meeting at the request of the representative of Iran, a roll-call vote was taken on the introductory part of paragraph 1 of article 40 as proposed in the revised nine-Power amendment (see para. 408 above). This text was adopted by 65 votes to none, with 23 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Ivory Coast, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Yugoslavia.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* Austria, Belgium, Central African Republic, Chile, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela.

421. At its 1428th meeting, the Committee voted on the remainder of paragraph 1 of article 40 in the nine-Power proposal, which it had not voted on at the 1420th meeting (see paras. 418-420 above), and on the oral amendment thereto proposed by the representative of France (see para. 409 above). The voting was as follows.

422. Paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (a), was adopted by 78 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

423. Paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (b), was adopted by 79 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

424. At the request of the representative of Guinea a separate vote was taken on the second sentence of paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (c). The sentence was retained by 64 votes to 9, with 7 abstentions. Paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (c) as a whole, was adopted by 76 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

425. The new sub-paragraph (d) orally proposed by the representative of France (see para. 409 above) was adopted by 71 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions.

426. Paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (e) (original sub-paragraph (d)), was adopted by 76 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

427. Paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (f) (original sub-paragraph (e)), was adopted by 80 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

428. Paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (g) (original sub-paragraph (f)), was adopted unanimously.

429. At the request of the representative of Italy a separate vote was taken on paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (h) (ii) (original sub-paragraph (g) (ii)).

Paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (h) up to (ii), was adopted by 77 votes to none, with 4 abstentions. Paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (h) (ii), was adopted by 58 votes to none, with 24 abstentions. Paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (h), as a whole was adopted by 75 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

430. Paragraph 1, as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 77 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

431. At the 1428th meeting the Committee voted on paragraph 2 of article 40 proposed by the nine Powers. At the request of the representative of Chile, a separate roll-call vote was taken on the penultimate sentence of paragraph 2. The sentence was retained by 61 votes to 5, with 14 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Ceylon, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

*Against:* Chile, China, Costa Rica, Uruguay, Venezuela.

*Abstaining:* Chad, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Italy, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Spain.

432. At the request of the representatives of Chile and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, a separate vote was taken on the last sentence of paragraph 2. The sentence was retained by 57 votes to 9, with 13 abstentions.

433. The last two sentences of paragraph 2, together, were adopted by 53 votes to 4, with 20 abstentions.

434. Paragraph 2 as a whole was adopted by 62 votes to 2, with 13 abstentions.

435. Article 40 as a whole, as amended, was voted on at the 1428th meeting and was adopted by 72 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

436. The text of article 40 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 40<sup>60</sup>*

"1. A State Party to the present Covenant may at any time declare under this article that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications to the effect that a State Party claims that another State Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the present Covenant. Communications under this article may be received and considered only if submitted by a State Party which has made a declaration recognizing in regard to itself the competence of the Committee. No com-

<sup>60</sup> Article 41 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

munication shall be received by the Committee if it concerns a State Party which has not made such a declaration. Communications received under this article shall be dealt with in accordance with the following procedure:

“(a) If a State Party to the present Covenant considers that another State Party is not giving effect to the provisions of the present Covenant, it may, by written communication, bring the matter to the attention of that State Party. Within three months after the receipt of the communication, the receiving State shall afford the State which sent the communication an explanation or any other statement in writing clarifying the matter, which should include, to the extent possible and pertinent, reference to domestic procedures and remedies taken, pending, or available in the matter.

“(b) If the matter is not adjusted to the satisfaction of both States Parties concerned within six months after the receipt by the receiving State of the initial communication, either State shall have the right to refer the matter to the Committee, by notice given to the Committee and to the other State.

“(c) The Committee shall deal with a matter referred to it only after it has ascertained that all available domestic remedies have been invoked and exhausted in the matter, in conformity with the generally recognized principles of international law. This shall not be the rule where the application of the remedies is unreasonably prolonged.

“(d) The Committee shall hold closed meetings when examining communications under this article.

“(e) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (c), the Committee shall make available its good offices to the States Parties concerned with a view to a friendly solution of the matter on the basis of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in the present Covenant.

“(f) In any matter referred to it, the Committee may call upon the States Parties concerned, referred to in sub-paragraph (b), to supply any relevant information.

“(g) The States Parties concerned, referred to in sub-paragraph (b), shall have the right to be represented when the matter is being considered in the Committee and to make submissions orally and/or in writing.

“(h) The Committee shall, within twelve months after the date of receipt of notice under sub-paragraph (b), submit a report:

“(i) If a solution within the terms of sub-paragraph (e) is reached, the Committee shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts and of the solution reached;

“(ii) If a solution within the terms of sub-paragraph (e) is reached, the Committee shall shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts; the written submissions and record of the oral submissions made by the States Parties concerned shall be attached to the report.

“In every matter the report shall be communicated to the States Parties concerned.

“2. The provisions of this article shall come into force when ten States Parties to the present Covenant have made declarations under paragraph 1 of this article. Such declarations shall be deposited by

the States Parties with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall transmit copies thereof to the other States Parties. A declaration may be withdrawn at any time by notification to the Secretary-General. Such a withdrawal shall not prejudice the consideration of any matter which is the subject of a communication already transmitted under this article; no further communication by any State Party shall be received after the notification of withdrawal of the declaration has been received by the Secretary-General, unless the State Party concerned had made a new declaration.”

437. The text of article 41 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

“Normally, the Committee shall deal with a matter referred to it only if available domestic remedies have been invoked and exhausted in the case. This shall not be the rule where the application of the remedies is unreasonably prolonged.”

438. The Committee considered this article at its 1429th, 1430th and 1431st meetings.

#### Amendments

439. Amendments to article 41 were submitted by the Netherlands (A/C.3/L.1355, para. 2) and jointly by India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 3).

440. The amendment submitted by the Netherlands proposed the replacement of article 41 by the following text:

“The Committee shall deal with a matter referred to it only if all domestic remedies have been invoked and exhausted in the case, in conformity with the generally recognized principles of international law, and if no more than six months have elapsed since the date of the final decision of the domestic authorities.”

The amendment submitted by the Netherlands was withdrawn at the 1428th meeting, the sponsor stating that the purpose thereof had been met by paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (c), of the text of article 40 which the Committee had adopted (see para. 436 above).

441. The nine-Power amendment proposed the replacement of article 41 by the following text:

“1. (a) If the matter is not settled to the satisfaction of the parties concerned in accordance with the provision of article 40, the Committee may appoint at the request of both the parties an *ad hoc* Conciliation Commission (hereinafter referred to as the Commission) comprising five persons. The members of the Commission should be appointed by agreement between the parties concerned. The good offices of the Commission shall be made available to the States concerned with a view to an amicable solution to the matter on the basis of respect for this Covenant;

“(b) If both of the parties fail to reach agreement within three months on all or part of the composition of the Commission, the members of the Commission concerning whom no agreement was reached shall be elected with the consent of the parties concerned, by secret ballot by a two-thirds majority vote of the Committee from among its members.

“2. The members of the Commission shall serve in their personal capacity. They shall not be nationals

of the States Parties concerned, of a State not party to the present Covenant, or of a State Party which has not made a declaration under article 40.

"3. The Commission shall elect its own Chairman and adopt its own rules of procedure.

"4. The meetings of the Commission shall normally be held at the Headquarters of the United Nations or at any other convenient place the Commission may determine in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

"5. The secretariat provided in accordance with article 36 shall also service the commissions established under this article.

"6. The information received and collated by the Committee shall be made available to the Commission and the Commission may call upon the States Parties concerned to supply any other relevant information.

"7. When the Commission has fully considered the matter it shall prepare and submit to the Chairman of the Committee, and in any event not later than twelve months after having been seized of the matter, a report embodying its findings on all questions of fact relevant to the issue between the Parties and containing such recommendations as it may consider proper for the amicable solution of the matter.

"8. The Chairman of the Committee shall communicate the report of the Commission to the States concerned. These States shall, within three months, inform the Chairman of the Committee whether or not they accept the recommendations contained in the report of the Commission.

"9. The provisions of this article are without prejudice to the responsibilities of the Committee under article 40.

"10. The States Parties concerned shall share equally all the expenses of the members of the Commission in accordance with estimates to be provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

"11. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be empowered to pay the expenses of the members of the Commission, if necessary, before reimbursement by the States Parties to the dispute in accordance with paragraph 10 of this article."

442. Amendments to the nine-Power amendments (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 3) were submitted by the United States of America (A/C.3/L.1391, para. 3), Chile and Ghana jointly (A/C.3/L.1397, para. 2) and Chile (A/C.3/L.1405, para. 1). Oral amendments were submitted in the course of the debate by France, Syria and Yugoslavia.

443. The United States of America proposed the following six amendments to the nine-Power text:

(a) In paragraph 1, to replace sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) by the following text:

"(a) If a matter referred to the Committee in accordance with article 40 is not resolved to the satisfaction of the States Parties concerned, the Committee may, with the prior consent of the States Parties concerned, appoint an *ad hoc* Conciliation Commission (hereinafter referred to as the Commission). The good offices of the Commission shall be made available to the States Parties concerned with a view to an amicable solution of the matter on the basis of respect for the present Covenant;

"(b) The Commission shall consist of five persons acceptable to the States Parties concerned. If the

States Parties concerned fail to reach agreement within three months on all or part of the composition of the Commission, the members of the Commission concerning whom no agreement has been reached shall be elected by secret ballot by a two-thirds majority vote of the Committee from among its members."

(b) In paragraph 2, to replace the second sentence by the following:

"They shall not be nationals of the States Parties concerned, nor of a State not party to this Covenant".

(c) In paragraph 4, to delete everything after "United Nations" and to insert the following new sentence:

"However, they may be held at such other convenient places as the Commission may determine in consultation with the Secretary-General";

(d) To replace paragraphs 7 and 8 by the following new paragraph:

"When the Commission has fully considered the matter, but in any event not later than twelve months after having been seized of the matter, it shall submit to the Chairman of the Committee a report for communication to the States Parties concerned.

"(a) If the Commission is unable to complete its consideration of the matter within twelve months, it shall confine its report to a brief statement of the status of its consideration of the matter;

"(b) If an amicable solution to the matter on the basis of respect for human rights as recognized in the present Covenant is reached, the Commission shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts and of the solution reached;

"(c) If a solution within the terms of sub-paragraph (b) is not reached, the Commission's report shall embody its findings on all questions of fact relevant to the issues between the States Parties concerned, and contain such recommendations as it may consider proper for the amicable solution of the matter. This report shall also contain the written submissions and a record of the oral submissions made by the States Parties concerned;

"(d) If the Commission's report is submitted under sub-paragraph (c), the States Parties concerned shall, within three months of the receipt of the report, notify the Chairman of the Committee whether or not they accept the recommendations contained therein. After the period provided for in the preceding sentence, the Chairman of the Committee shall communicate the report of the Commission and the declarations of the States Parties concerned to the other States Parties to this Covenant and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for publication."

"(e) To delete paragraph 9 and renumber the subsequent paragraphs;

"(f) In paragraph 11, to replace the words "the States Parties to the dispute" by "the States Parties concerned".

444. At the 1429th meeting the representative of the United States of America withdrew her amendments to paragraph 2 and paragraph 9 of the nine-Power proposal. At the 1431st meeting, she withdrew the last sentence of her amendment to paragraphs 7 and 8.

445. The amendment proposed jointly by Ghana and Chile (A/C.3/L.1397, para. 2) sought the insertion, after sub-paragraph 1 (b), of the following:

“(c) The Committee shall consider inadmissible any complaint which:

“(i) Is substantially the same as a matter which was previously examined by the Committee or has already been submitted to another procedure of international investigation or settlement and if it contains no relevant new information;

“(ii) It considers incompatible with the provisions of the present Covenant, manifestly ill-founded, or an abuse of the right of complaint;

“(d) The Committee shall reject any complaint referred to it which it considers inadmissible under article 41.”

This amendment was withdrawn at the 1429th meeting.

446. The amendment proposed by Chile (A/C.3/L.1405, para. 1) called for the replacement of the nine-Power text by the following:

“1. (a) If the matter is not settled by means of the procedure provided in article 40, the Committee shall invite the States concerned to appoint from among its own members and ‘*ad hoc* conciliation sub-committee’, hereinafter referred to as ‘the Sub-Committee’. The Sub-Committee shall be composed of five members;

“(b) If within three months the two States concerned have not reached agreement on all the members of the Sub-Committee, the Committee shall elect from among its members, by secret ballot and by a two-thirds majority vote, the members who have not yet been appointed.

“2. The members of the Sub-Committee may not be nationals of either of the States concerned. They shall serve in their personal capacity.

“3. The Sub-Committee shall elect its Chairman and adopt its own rules of procedure. It shall normally hold its meetings at the Headquarters of the United Nations, but it may also meet, as an exception, at any place it may determine in consultation with the Secretary-General. The secretariat of the Committee shall provide whatever services are required.

“4. The Sub-Committee shall carry out its work of conciliation between the States concerned, with a view to reaching an amicable settlement of the matter, based on respect for this Covenant.

“5. The Sub-Committee shall have at its disposal all the documentation assembled by the Committee and may call upon States concerned for any further information it may require.

“6. When the Sub-Committee has finished its work of conciliation and not later than one year from the time of beginning that work, it shall submit a report to the Committee:

“(a) If the matter has been settled, the report shall be confined to a brief statement of the facts and of the settlement reached;

“(b) If no settlement has been reached, the Sub-Committee shall set forth in its report the conclusions it has reached on the questions raised between the

parties and the recommendations it considers appropriate for the amicable settlement of the matter.

“7. In the case referred to under sub-paragraph (b) above, the Chairman of the Committee shall transmit the report of the Sub-Committee to the States concerned, which shall reply within three months stating whether or not they accept the recommendations. If either of the States concerned does not reply within this period, it will be understood that it rejects the recommendations.

“8. The States concerned shall share equally all the expenses which the conciliation efforts entail for the members of the Sub-Committee. To that end, the expenses shall be estimated by the Secretary-General, who shall be empowered to advance the necessary funds to pay them, if the continuance of the efforts so requires, and subsequently to claim reimbursement from the States concerned.”

447. The oral amendments proposed by France at the 1430th meeting sought the replacement, in paragraph 7 of the nine-Power proposal, of all the words after “between the Parties” by “and containing its views on the possibilities of an amicable solution of the matter”; and the replacement, in paragraph 8, of the words “the recommendations contained in the report” by “the contents of the report of the Commission”. The representative of France stated that these amendments to the nine-Power proposal would also apply to the corresponding parts of the United States sub-amendments (see para. 443 above).

448. The oral sub-amendment moved by Syria at the same meeting proposed the insertion in paragraph 4 of the nine-Power amendment (see para. 441 above), after “United Nations”, of the words “or at the United Nations Office at Geneva”. This amendment was accepted by the sponsors of the nine-Power amendments.

449. The oral amendment proposed by Yugoslavia at the 1431st meeting sought the insertion, at the end of paragraph 4 of the nine-Power amendment (see para. 441 above), of the words “and the States Parties concerned”. This proposal was also accepted by the sponsors of the nine-Power amendments.

450. At the 1430th meeting, in the light of the discussion, the sponsors of the nine-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1) submitted a revised text thereof (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1/Corr.2) with the following changes:

(a) In paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (a), the words “comprising five persons” at the end of the first sentence were deleted;

(b) In paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (a), the second sentence was deleted;

(c) In paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (b), an introductory sentence was inserted, reading: “The Commission shall consist of five persons acceptable to the States Parties concerned”;

(d) Paragraph 4 was redrafted to read as follows:

“The meetings of the Commission shall normally be held at the Headquarters of the United Nations or at the United Nations Office at Geneva. However, they may be held at such other convenient places as the Commission may determine in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations”;

(e) In paragraph 11, the words “the States Parties to the dispute” were replaced by “the States Parties concerned”.

*Issues discussed*

451. The sponsors of the nine-Power amendment (see para. 441 above) explained that the purpose of the proposed article 41 was to provide a further and more effective method—namely, conciliation—for cases where the limited system of good offices envisaged in article 40 (see para. 436 above) might prove inadequate to resolve the disagreement.

452. Representatives supporting the alternative text proposed by Chile (see para. 446 above) contended that conciliation could only be effective if it was mandatory. The successive optional clauses provided for in the nine-Power amendment would destroy the conciliation system at its root, since they would make it possible for a State to frustrate the process at any juncture. Once a State had exercised its option in accepting the competence of the Human Rights Committee, it should be deemed to have accepted each further step in the procedure.

453. Speakers opposed to the Chilean text expressed the view that the notion of compulsory conciliation, besides being inconsistent with the principle of State sovereignty, was incompatible with Article 33 of the Charter, which provided that parties to any dispute should seek a peaceful solution of their own choice. Moreover, the Chilean proposal was unrealistic, since the solution of matters arising out of the Covenant must essentially depend on the goodwill and co-operation of the States concerned.

454. As regards paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (a), of the nine-Power proposal, several speakers thought that it would be preferable to accept the first United States amendment (see para. 443 above) which authorized the Human Rights Committee to appoint the Conciliation Commission with the prior consent of the States Parties concerned. In their view, the Committee, if it were denied this right of initiative, might be reduced to impotence. Other representatives, however, felt that the first initiative should come from the States Parties concerned, as envisaged in the nine-Power proposal, since those States alone could decide whether the procedure might produce something permanent.

455. Again, with reference to paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (b), many speakers said that, in the event of disagreement between the parties concerned as to the composition of the Conciliation Commission, the Commission could only be composed of persons whose election had been approved by both the States Parties. A provision to that effect, as in the nine-Power proposal, would ensure that each State could place its full confidence in the Commission.

456. Other representatives, preferring the text of paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (b), proposed by the United States (see para. 443 above) thought that, in the event of disagreement, the Committee should be free to proceed to the election of the necessary members without again having to seek the consent of the States Parties.

457. As to paragraph 2, it was widely agreed that no person should be a member of the Commission if he was a national of a State Party concerned, of a State not party to the Covenant, or of a State which had not made a declaration under article 40. Certain representatives, however, felt that such a provision would be unduly restrictive.

*Adoption of the article*

458. At its 1431st meeting, the Committee voted on the text of article 41 contained in the revised nine-

Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1/Corr.2) and on the amendments thereto.

459. The text of article 41 proposed in the amendment of Chile (see para. 446 above) was rejected in a roll-call vote requested by the representative of Venezuela by 45 votes to 22, with 26 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Israel, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela.

*Against:* Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Ethiopia, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syria, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Abstaining:* Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Ceylon, Chad, China, Colombia, Cyprus, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Madagascar, Mexico, New Zealand, Philippines, Portugal, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America.

460. The text of paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (a), proposed in the first amendment of the United States of America (see para. 443 above) was adopted in a roll-call vote requested by the representative of the United Kingdom by 42 votes to 32, with 19 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Ceylon, China, Colombia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Against:* Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Guinea, Hungary, India, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Syria, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Abstaining:* Afghanistan, Brazil, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Dahomey, Ecuador, Guyana, Indonesia, Kuwait, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Spain, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela.

461. The text of paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (b), proposed in the first amendment of the United States of America (see para. 443 above) was adopted in a roll-call vote requested by the representative of Canada by 41 votes to 36, with 16 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark,

Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

*Against:* Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Abstaining:* Afghanistan, Brazil, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Cyprus, Dahomey, Guyana, Ivory Coast, Japan, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Thailand, Togo.

462. Paragraph 1, as amended, was adopted by 53 votes to 13, with 27 abstentions.

463. Paragraph 2 (see para. 441 above) was adopted by 86 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

464. Paragraph 3 (see para. 441 above) was adopted by 89 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

465. Paragraph 4 (see para. 450 above), as orally amended (see para. 449 above), was adopted by 86 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

466. Paragraph 5 (see para. 441 above) was adopted by 86 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

467. Paragraph 6 (see para. 441 above) was adopted by 87 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

468. The two oral amendments proposed by France (see para. 447 above) to paragraphs 7 and 8 or to the corresponding parts of the amendments of the United States of America, as the case might be, was adopted by 50 votes to 22, with 18 abstentions. The amendment of the United States of America calling for a new paragraph to replace paragraphs 7 and 8 (see para. 443 above), as amended, was adopted as new paragraph 7 by 41 votes to 39, with 10 abstentions.

469. Paragraph 8 (original paragraph 9, see para. 441 above) was adopted by 81 votes to none, with 10 abstentions.

470. Paragraph 9 (original paragraph 10, see para. 441 above) was adopted by 77 votes to none, with 10 abstentions.

471. Paragraph 10 (original paragraph 11, see paras. 441 and 450 above) was adopted by 77 votes to none, with 12 abstentions.

472. Article 41 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 80 votes to none, with 12 abstentions.

473. The text of article 41 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

“Article 41<sup>61</sup>

“1. (a) If a matter referred to the Committee in accordance with article 40 [41] is not resolved to the satisfaction of the States Parties concerned, the

Committee may, with the prior consent of the States Parties concerned, appoint an *ad hoc* Conciliation Commission (hereinafter referred to as the Commission). The good offices of the Commission shall be made available to the States Parties concerned with a view to an amicable solution of the matter on the basis of respect for the present Covenant;

“(b) The Commission shall consist of five persons acceptable to the States Parties concerned. If the States Parties concerned fail to reach agreement within three months on all or part of the composition of the Commission, the members of the Commission concerning whom no agreement has been reached shall be elected by secret ballot by a two-thirds majority vote of the Committee from among its members.

“2. The members of the Commission shall serve in their personal capacity. They shall not be nationals of the States Parties concerned, or of a State not party to the present Covenant, or of a State Party which has not made a declaration under article 40 [41].

“3. The Commission shall elect its own Chairman and adopt its own rules of procedure.

“4. The meetings of the Commission shall normally be held at the Headquarters of the United Nations or at the United Nations Office at Geneva. However, they may be held at such other convenient places as the Commission may determine in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the States Parties concerned.

“5. The secretariat provided in accordance with article 36 shall also service the commissions appointed under this article.

“6. The information received and collated by the Committee shall be made available to the Commission and the Commission may call upon the States Parties concerned to supply any other relevant information.

“7. When the Commission has fully considered the matter, but in any event not later than twelve months after having been seized of the matter, it shall submit to the Chairman of the Committee a report for communication to the States Parties concerned.

“(a) If the Commission is unable to complete its consideration of the matter within twelve months, it shall confine its report to a brief statement of the status of its consideration of the matter;

“(b) If an amicable solution to the matter on the basis of respect for human rights as recognized in the present Covenant is reached, the Commission shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts and of the solution reached;

“(c) If a solution within the terms of sub-paragraph (b) is not reached, the Commission's report shall embody its findings on all questions of fact relevant to the issues between the States Parties concerned, and its views on the possibilities of an amicable solution of the matter. This report shall also contain the written submissions and a record of the oral submissions made by the States Parties concerned;

“(d) If the Commission's report is submitted under sub-paragraph (c), the States Parties concerned shall, within three months of the receipt of the report, notify the Chairman of the Committee whether or not

<sup>61</sup> Article 42 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

they accept the contents of the report of the Commission.

"8. The provisions of this article are without prejudice to the responsibilities of the Committee under article 40 [41].

"9. The States Parties concerned shall share equally all the expenses of the members of the Commission in accordance with estimates to be provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

"10. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be empowered to pay the expenses of the members of the Commission, if necessary, before reimbursement by the States Parties concerned, in accordance with paragraph 9 of this article."

#### ARTICLE 41 *bis*

474. An amendment of the Netherlands (A/C.3/L.1355, para. 3) proposed the insertion in the Covenant of an article on the right of individual petition, worded as follows:

"1. The Committee may receive petitions from individuals or groups of individuals claiming to be the victim of a violation of the rights set forth in this covenant by any State Party, provided that the State Party complained of had declared that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive such petitions.

"2. The declaration of a State Party mentioned in the preceding paragraph may be made in general terms, or for a particular case or for a specific period, and shall be deposited with the Secretary-General who shall transmit copies thereof to the other States parties.

"3. The Committee shall consider inadmissible any petition under this article which:

"(a) Is anonymous;

"(b) Is substantially the same as a matter which was previously examined by the Committee or has already been submitted to another procedure of international investigation or settlement and if it contains no relevant new information;

"(c) It considers incompatible with the provisions of the present Covenant, manifestly ill-founded, or an abuse of the right of petition.

"4. The Committee shall reject any petition referred to it which it considers inadmissible under article 41."

#### *Amendments*

475. Two amendments to the amendment of the Netherlands were submitted by Jamaica (A/C.3/L.1389). The first amendment sought the deletion, in paragraph 1, of all the words after "any State Party". The second amendment called for the deletion of paragraph 2 and the renumbering of the following paragraphs accordingly.

476. A further amendment to the amendment of the Netherlands was submitted by France (A/C.3/L.1394), calling for the replacement of the Netherlands text by the following:

"1. The Committee shall have the right, in the circumstances specified hereunder, to receive written communications from individuals or groups of individuals alleging non-application of the provisions of this Covenant by a State Party to it.

"2. Communications from individuals or groups of individuals belonging to the following categories shall be admissible:

". . .

"3. The Committee shall transmit the text of each communication to the Government of the State Party concerned, which shall lodge its reply with the Committee within three months after the receipt of the communication.

"4. The Committee shall confine itself to taking note of the written communication and reply, which shall remain confidential."

477. The amendments of the Netherlands (A/C.3/L.1355 para. 3), Jamaica (A/C.3/L.1389) and France (A/C.3/L.1394) were withdrawn at the 1432nd meeting in favour of a revised amendment submitted jointly by Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ghana, Jamaica, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines and Uruguay (A/C.3/L.1402/Rev.2), which proposed the insertion of an article 41 *bis* reading as follows:

"1. A State Party may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications from individuals, subject to its jurisdiction, claiming to be victims of a violation by that State Party of any of the rights set forth in this Covenant. No communication shall be received by the Committee if it concerns a State Party which has not made such a declaration.

"2. A declaration made in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall be deposited by the State Party concerned with the Secretary-General of the United Nations who shall transmit copies thereof to the other States Parties. The provision of this article shall come into force when ten States Parties have made such a declaration. A declaration may be withdrawn at any time by notification to the Secretary-General, but such withdrawal shall not affect communications pending before the Committee.

"3. Individuals claiming that any of their rights enumerated in this Covenant have been violated and who have exhausted all available domestic remedies, may submit a written communication to the Committee for consideration.

"4. The Committee shall consider inadmissible any communication under this article which:

"(i) Is anonymous;

"(ii) Is an abuse of the right of submitting such communications;

"(iii) It considers incompatible with the provisions of this Covenant.

"5. (a) Subject to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the Committee shall confidentially bring any communication submitted to it to the attention of the State Party alleged to be violating any provision of this Covenant;

"(b) Within six months, the receiving State shall submit to the Committee written explanations or statements clarifying the matter and the remedy, if any, that may have been taken by that State.

"6. (a) The Committee shall consider communications in the light of all information made available to it by the individual and by the State Party concerned. The Committee shall not consider any com-

munication from an individual unless it has ascertained that:

“(i) The same matter has not already been submitted to another procedure of international investigation or settlement;

“(ii) The individual has exhausted all available domestic remedies. This shall not be the rule where the application of the remedies is unreasonably prolonged;

“(b) The Committee shall hold closed meetings when examining communications under this article;

“(c) The Committee shall forward its suggestions, if any, to the State Party concerned and to the individual.

“7. The Committee shall include in its annual report under article 45 a summary of such communications and, where appropriate, a summary of the explanations and statements of the States Parties concerned and of its own suggestions.

“8. Pending the achievement of the objectives of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 concerning the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the provisions of this article shall in no way limit the right of petition granted to these peoples by the Charter of the United Nations and other international conventions and instruments under the United Nations and its specialized agencies.”

478. The Committee considered this text at its 1438th to 1440th meetings.

#### *Issues discussed*

479. Representatives favouring the notion of including in the draft Covenant an article on the right of individual communication stressed that, as the basic purpose of the draft Covenant was to safeguard the rights of individual human beings, there was undeniable need to include, in the body of the instrument, a provision permitting private persons to seek redress of wrongs before an international organ. Precedents for such a provision were many, the most recent being the petitions procedure under the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

480. It was also contended, in support of the proposed article 41 *bis*, that the provision in no way infringed the principle of State sovereignty, as its acceptance would be purely voluntary. This argument, however, evoked the reply that the principle of sovereignty would indeed be seriously compromised if an individual were permitted to challenge before an international body the rulings of the highest judicial organs of his State of nationality or residence. Moreover, the adoption of article 41 *bis* might lead certain States to incite individuals to make allegations against other States, thus endangering international relations. Special stress was laid, in this connexion, on the potential danger of propaganda by exile groups.

481. Some speakers opposed to the right of individual communication under the draft Covenant maintained, furthermore, that the proposed article 41 *bis* started from the false premise that an individual could be the subject of international law; in reality, individuals acquired rights or assumed duties in the international sphere only through the State. Others, how-

ever, felt that recent conventional provisions vesting in the individual the right of direct recourse to an international body had greatly transformed some formerly accepted principles.

482. In the view of several representatives, the proposed article 41 *bis* was unexceptionable because, in addition to being optional, it contained other valuable safeguards: local remedies had to be exhausted; other relevant procedures of settlement must be respected; communications must be in writing; the Human Rights Committee would exclude inappropriate communications; and the meetings must be closed. Others felt that the supposed safeguards would be of doubtful value, particularly since there were no known criteria for determining, under paragraph 4, sub-paragraph (ii), what was an abuse of the right to submit a communication, while the provision in paragraph 7, that the Committee would summarize the communications in its annual report, seemed to make undesirable publicity certain.

483. The most dangerous features of the article, in the view of many speakers, was that its inclusion might limit ratifications to the extent that the Covenant would not enter into force. Those advocating the adoption of the article thought this line of reasoning faulty, and again pointed to the optional nature of the suggested procedure; this right of option on the part of the State should, in their view, allay the fears of States that felt unable to accept the article.

484. The discussion centred largely on the question whether the ideas contained in article 41 *bis* should be embodied in the draft Covenant itself or be set forth in a separate protocol annexed thereto. Those favouring the inclusion of the article in the draft Covenant stressed that a separate protocol would disturb the organic unity of the instrument. Others held that, despite the fact that the difference between an optional article and a separate protocol was legally unimportant, the very presence of such a provision in the Covenant itself might make it impossible, on grounds of principle, for many States to become parties.

#### *Decision on article 41 bis*

485. At the 1440th meeting, the representative of Lebanon proposed that the substance of article 41 *bis* relating to individual communications be included in a separate protocol annexed to the draft Covenant. This proposal was adopted in a roll-call vote requested by the representative of Nigeria by 41 votes to 39, with 16 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Spain, Sweden, Trini-

dad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

*Abstaining:* Brazil, Chad, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cyprus, Gabon, Greece, Israel, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Pakistan, Portugal, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Turkey.

#### ARTICLE 41 *ter*

486. At the 1424th meeting (see paras 316-317 above), the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland submitted a proposal (A/C.3/L.1356/Rev.1, para. 2) for the insertion, in the appropriate place, of an article reading as follows:

"1. The members of the Committee shall, while exercising their functions and during their journeys to and from their place of meeting, enjoy the following privileges and immunities:

"(a) Immunity from personal arrest or detention and from seizure of their personal baggage, and, in respect of words spoken or written and of acts done by them in their official capacity, immunity from legal process of every kind; this immunity shall not, however, apply in the case of a motor traffic offence committed by a member of the Committee, nor in the case of damages caused by a motor vehicle belonging to or driven by him;

"(b) Inviolability for all papers and documents;

"(c) Exemption in respect of themselves and their spouses from immigration restrictions or aliens registration in the State which they are visiting or through which they are passing in the exercise of their functions.

"2. No administrative or other restrictions shall be imposed on the free movement of members of the Committee to and from the place of meeting of the Committee.

"3. Members of the Committee shall, in the matter of customs and exchange control, be accorded:

"(a) By their own Government, the same facilities as those accorded to senior officials travelling abroad on temporary official duty;

"(b) By the Governments of other States Parties, the same facilities as those accorded to representatives of foreign Governments on temporary official duty.

"4. In order to secure for members of the Committee complete freedom of speech and independence in the discharge of their duties, the immunity from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and of acts done by them in discharging their duties shall continue to be accorded, notwithstanding that the persons concerned are no longer engaged in the discharge of such duties.

"5. Privileges and immunities are accorded to the members of the Committee, not for personal benefit of the individuals themselves, but in order to safeguard the independent exercise of their functions. The Committee alone shall be competent to waive the immunity of its members; it has not only the right, but is under a duty to waive the immunity of one of its members in any case where, in its opinion, the immunity would impede the course of justice, and where it could be waived without prejudice to the purpose for which the immunity is accorded."

487. This proposal was considered by the Committee at its 1435th, 1436th and 1437th meetings.

488. At the 1436th meeting, after hearing the advice of the Legal Counsel, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland submitted a revised text (A/C.3/L.1356/Rev.1/Corr.1) of her proposal, reading as follows:

"The members of the Committee and of the *ad hoc* conciliation commissions which may be appointed under article 41, shall be entitled [in the exercise of their functions] to the facilities, privileges and immunities of experts on mission for the United Nations as laid down in the relevant sections of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations."

#### *Issues discussed*

489. In reply to questions, the Legal Counsel advised the Third Committee that, since it might possibly be argued in the future that the Human Rights Committee would legally not be a subsidiary organ of the United Nations, the Covenant should preferably contain a specific provision on the privileges and immunities of its members. The revised proposal of the United Kingdom would protect a member of the Committee from vexation while exercising his functions and, subsequently, in respect of any act done by him in his official capacity while a member.

#### *Adoption of the article*

490. At its 1437th meeting, the Committee voted on the revised proposal of the United Kingdom for an article on privileges and immunities, provisionally numbered 41 *ter* (see para. 488 above).

491. The text of article 41 *ter* proposed by the United Kingdom was adopted by 77 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

492. The text of article 41 *ter* of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *"Article 41 ter"*<sup>62</sup>

"The members of the Committee and of the *ad hoc* conciliation commissions which may be appointed under 41 [42], shall be entitled to the facilities, privileges and immunities of experts on mission for the United Nations as laid down in the relevant sections of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations."

#### ARTICLE 42

493. The text of article 42 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"In any matter referred to it, the Committee may call upon the States concerned to supply any relevant information."

494. The Committee considered this article at its 1432nd meeting.

<sup>62</sup> Article 43 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

*Amendment*

495. An amendment was submitted by India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 4) calling for the deletion of article 42, the text of which had already been adopted as article 40, subparagraph 1 (f).

*Deletion of article 42*

496. At its 1432nd meeting the Committee voted on the nine-Power amendment calling for the deletion of article 42.

497. The amendment was adopted unanimously. Article 42 was deleted.

## ARTICLE 43

498. The text of article 43 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"1. Subject to the provisions of article 41, the Committee shall ascertain the facts and make available its good offices to the States concerned with a view to a friendly solution of the matter on the basis of respect for human rights as recognized in this Covenant.

"2. The Committee shall in every case, and in no event later than eighteen months after the date of receipt of the notice under article 40, draw up a report which will be sent to the States concerned and then communicated to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for publication.

"3. If a solution within the terms of paragraph 1 of this article is reached the Committee shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts and of the solution reached. If such a solution is not reached the Committee shall draw up a report on the facts and state its opinion as to whether the facts found disclose a breach by the State concerned of its obligations under the Covenant. If the report does not represent in whole or in part the unanimous opinion of the members of the Committee, any member of the Committee shall be entitled to attach to it a separate opinion. The written and oral submissions made by the Parties to the case in accordance with article 39, paragraph 2 (c), shall be attached to the report."

499. This article was considered by the Committee at its 1432nd meeting.

*Amendment*

500. An amendment was submitted by India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 5) calling for the deletion of article 43, which had been rendered unnecessary by the Committee's decision to establish a body of a different character and with different functions.

*Deletion of article 43*

501. At its 1432nd meeting the Committee voted on the nine-Power amendment calling for the deletion of article 43.

502. The amendment was adopted by 76 votes to none, with 1 abstention. Article 43 was deleted.

ARTICLE 43 *bis*

503. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland submitted a revised amendment (A/C.3/L.1356/Rev.1, para. 3) which proposed the insertion between articles 43 and 44 of a new article reading as follows:

"The Committee shall deal with any matter referred to it under article 40, but it shall take no action with regard to any matter:

"(a) For which any organ or specialized agency of the United Nations competent to do so has established a special procedure by which the States concerned are governed;

"(b) With which the International Court of Justice is already seized."

This amendment was withdrawn at the 1434th meeting.

ARTICLE 43 *ter*

504. An amendment was submitted by France (A/C.3/L.1395) calling for the insertion after article 43 of a new article provisionally numbered 43 *ter* reading as follows:

"The provisions for the implementation of this Covenant shall apply without prejudice to the procedures prescribed in the matter of human rights by the individual conventions of the United Nations or the specialized agencies or by any other general or special international agreement to which some of the States acceding to the present Covenant may be parties."

505. An amendment was submitted by Canada, Ceylon, Chile, Denmark, Ghana and New Zealand (A/C.3/L.1396) calling for the insertion after article 43 of an article on the same subject reading as follows:

"1. The provisions of this part of this Covenant shall be applied without prejudice to those procedures in the field of human rights laid down in the constituent instruments of, or in conventions adopted by, the United Nations and its specialized agencies, and shall not prevent the States Parties from having recourse to other procedures for settling a dispute in accordance with general or special international agreements in force.

"2. The Committee shall take no action with regard to any matter in respect of which any of the procedures referred to in paragraph 1 of this article has been invoked."

506. These two amendments were withdrawn at the 1432nd meeting in favour of a proposal submitted jointly by Canada, Ceylon, Chile, Denmark, France, Ghana and New Zealand (A/C.3/L.1399). The proposed new text of article 43 *ter* read as follows:

"1. The provisions for the implementation of this Covenant shall apply without prejudice to the procedures prescribed in the field of human rights by the constituent instruments and the conventions of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies or by any other general or special international agreement to which any of the States adhering to the present Covenant may be parties.

"2. The Committee shall take no action under articles . . . of this Covenant with regard to any matter in respect of which any of the procedures referred to in paragraph 1 of this article has been invoked."

507. At the 1433rd meeting the sponsors submitted a revised version of their text (A/C.3/L.1399/Rev.1), reading as follows:

“The provisions for the implementation of the present Covenant shall apply without prejudice to the procedures prescribed in the field of human rights by or under the constituent instruments and the conventions of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies and shall not prevent the States Parties to the present Covenant from having recourse to other procedures for settling a dispute in accordance with general or special international agreements in force between them.”

508. The Committee considered article 43 *ter* at its 1432nd, 1433rd and 1434th meetings.

#### *Issues discussed*

509. Representatives supporting the proposal (see para. 506 above) said that the purpose of the new article, based on article 16 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, was to establish a simple rule for the prevention of conflicts of competence between the implementation machinery established by the Covenant and that available under other international instruments. The Covenant was general in its coverage and its implementation procedures should not normally come into play where another procedure, available to the States Parties concerned under a general or special agreement to which they were also parties, was more specifically adapted to provide a solution of the matter in issue.

510. Other speakers felt that the proposal tended to subordinate the procedures created by the Covenant, which were intended to be the principal ones on civil and political rights in the world community, to those prescribed by conventions of the specialized agencies and by regional arrangements. Adoption of the proposal would thus weaken the Human Rights Committee at the outset and—with the list of conventions of various specific aspects of human rights becoming constantly longer—would soon render its existence meaningless.

511. Several representatives thought that paragraph 1 of the proposal might somehow be combined with article 50 (see para. 551 below) which already stated that nothing in the Covenant could impair the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the constitutions of the specialized agencies. The prevailing view, however, was that article 50 was a provision of a general nature, and that the Covenant should also contain a specific provision which would safeguard, not only the United Nations Charter and the constitutions of the specialized agencies, but in addition the conventions concluded within the United Nations family or on a regional basis.

#### *Adoption of the article*

512. At its 1434th meeting the Committee voted on the revised proposal for article 43 *ter* (see para. 507 above).

513. At the request of the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, a separate vote was taken on the words “and shall not prevent the States Parties to the present Covenant from having recourse to other procedures for settling a dispute in accordance with general or special international agreements in force between them”. The words were retained by 44 votes to 29, with 12 abstentions.

514. Article 43 *ter* was adopted by 49 votes to 20, with 16 abstentions.

515. The text of article 43 *ter* of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *“Article 43 ter”<sup>63</sup>*

“The provisions for the implementation of the present Covenant shall apply without prejudice to the procedures prescribed in the field of human rights by or under the constituent instruments and the conventions of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies and shall not prevent the States Parties to the present Covenant from having recourse to other procedures for settling a dispute in accordance with general or special international agreements in force between them.”

#### ARTICLE 44

516. The text of article 44 of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

“The Committee may recommend to the Economic and Social Council that the Council request the International Court of Justice to give an advisory opinion on any legal question connected with a matter of which the Committee is seized.”

517. The Committee considered this article at its 1434th and 1435th meetings.

#### *Amendment*

518. An amendment was submitted by India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 6) calling for the deletion of article 44.

#### *Issues discussed*

519. Speakers advocating the retention of article 44 thought that the rational progress of the Committee's work might at times require outside legal guidance on certain points. The Committee might, for example, wish advice on matters such as the interpretation of the Covenant, its own competence in a given matter, or whether legal remedies had been exhausted. It was emphasized, in this connexion, that the advisory function of the International Court of Justice was distinct from its contentious function, the former having no legally binding effect.

520. Others, however, contended that article 44, if adopted, would introduce into the Covenant a strong element of compulsion, by giving the International Court of Justice a measure of mandatory jurisdiction over the States Parties. An advisory opinion might not be legally binding, but its persuasive force might be deemed almost as strong as that of a judgement. Moreover, if the Third Committee were to adopt an article on the right of individual petition, article 44 would give the Court a right to adjudicate on a complaint by an individual against his State of nationality, which would be an unprecedented departure from the accepted rules of international law.

<sup>63</sup> Article 44 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

521. In reply to questions, it was stated on behalf of the Legal Counsel that the General Assembly, by its resolution 89 (I) had authorized the Economic and Social Council to seek advisory opinions from the International Court of Justice on legal questions arising within the scope of the Council's activities. Article 44 would thus not be at variance with Article 96 of the Charter; nor would the article be inconsistent with Article 36 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, which did not apply to advisory opinions requested by United Nations organs.

#### *Deletion of article 44*

522. At its 1435th meeting, the Committee voted on the nine-Power amendment calling for the deletion of article 44.

523. At the request of the representative of the United Arab Republic, the vote was taken by roll-call. The Committee decided to delete the article by 51 votes to 32, with 7 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

*Abstaining:* Afghanistan, Ceylon, China, Japan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Turkey.

#### ARTICLE 45

524. The text of article 45 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"The Committee shall submit to the General Assembly, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, an annual report on its activities."

525. The Committee considered this article at its 1435th meeting.

#### *Amendment*

526. An amendment was submitted by India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 7) calling for the replacement of the text of article 45 by the following:

"The Committee shall submit to the General Assembly of the United Nations, through the Economic and Social Council, an annual report on its activities."

#### *Adoption of the article*

527. At its 1435th meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 45 proposed in the nine-Power amendment (see para. 526 above).

528. Article 45 was adopted by 81 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

529. The text of article 45 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

#### *"Article 45*

"The Committee shall submit to the General Assembly of the United Nations, through the Economic and Social Council, an annual report on its activities."

#### ARTICLE 46

530. The text of article 46 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"The States Parties to this Covenant agree that any State Party complained of or lodging a complaint may, if no solution has been reached within the terms of article 43, paragraph 1, bring the case before the International Court of Justice after the report provided for in article 43, paragraph 3, has been drawn up."

531. The Committee considered this article at its 1435th meeting.

#### *Amendments*

532. An amendment was submitted by India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 8) calling for the deletion of article 46.

533. An amendment was submitted by Chile (A/C.3/L.1405, para. 2) to the nine-Power amendment, proposing that, subject to drafting changes designed to bring it into line with articles already adopted, article 46 be worded as follows:

"If the recommendations of the Sub-Committee are not accepted by one of the States concerned within the three months prescribed under article 41, paragraph 7, and if the States do not submit the matter to arbitration within the following three months, either of the States may have recourse to the International Court of Justice for the settlement of the dispute."

This amendment was withdrawn at the 1435th meeting.

#### *Deletion of article 46*

534. At its 1435th meeting the Committee voted on the nine-Power amendment calling for the deletion of article 46.

535. The amendment was adopted by 63 votes to 10, with 7 abstentions. Article 46 was deleted.

#### ARTICLE 47

536. The text of article 47 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

"The provisions of this Covenant shall not prevent the States Parties to the Covenant from submitting to the International Court of Justice any dispute arising out of the interpretation or application of the Cove-

nant in a matter within the competence of the Committee.”

537. The Committee considered this article at its 1435th meeting.

#### *Amendment*

538. An amendment was submitted by India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 9) calling for the deletion of article 47, which was considered superfluous by virtue of the fact that article 43 *ter* (see para. 515 above) already established the principle that parties could have recourse to any available procedure they wished.

#### *Deletion of article 47*

539. At its 1435th meeting the Committee voted on the nine-Power amendment calling for the deletion of article 47.

540. The amendment was adopted by 49 votes to 14, with 12 abstentions. Article 47 was deleted.

#### ARTICLE 48

541. The text of article 48 of the Draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

“1. The States Parties to this Covenant, including those who are responsible for the administration of any Non-Self-Governing Territory, undertake to submit reports annually to the Committee on the measures taken by them to meet the obligations set forth in article 1 of this Covenant.

“2. The States Parties to this Covenant who are responsible for the administration of any Non-Self-Governing Territory, undertake, through elections, plebiscites or other recognized democratic means, preferably under the auspices of the United Nations, to determine the political status of such territory, should the Committee make a proposal to that effect and such proposal be adopted by the General Assembly. Such decision shall be based on evidence of the desire of the inhabitants of such territory as expressed through their political institutions or parties.

“3. The States Parties to this Covenant shall report to the Committee any violation of the right laid down in article 1, paragraph 3.”

542. The Committee considered this article at its 1435th meeting.

#### *Amendment*

543. An amendment was submitted by India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 10) calling for the deletion of article 48, on the grounds that the question of Non-Self-Governing Territories was dealt with by special organs and that the Covenant should make no distinction between citizens of a sovereign State and persons still awaiting their independence.

#### *Deletion of article 48*

544. At its 1435th meeting the Committee voted on the nine-Power amendment calling for the deletion of article 48.

545. The amendment was adopted by 76 votes to none, with 1 abstention. Article 48 was deleted.

#### ARTICLE 49

546. The text of article 49 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

“1. The States Parties to this Covenant undertake to submit a report on the legislative or other measures, including judicial remedies, which they have adopted and which give effect to the rights recognized herein (a) within one year of the entry into force of the Covenant for the State concerned and (b) thereafter whenever the Economic and Social Council so requests upon recommendation of the Commission on Human Rights and after consultation with the States Parties.

“2. Reports shall indicate factors and difficulties, if any, affecting the progressive implementation of article 22, paragraph 4, of this Covenant.

“3. All reports shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the Economic and Social Council which may transmit them to the Commission on Human Rights for information, study and, if necessary, general recommendations.

“4. The specialized agencies shall receive such parts of the reports concerning the rights as fall within their respective fields of activity.

“5. The States Parties directly concerned and the above agencies may submit to the Economic and Social Council observations on any general recommendation that may be made in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article.”

547. The Committee considered this article at its 1435th meeting.

#### *Amendment*

548. An amendment was submitted by India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, the United Arab Republic and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1, para. 11) calling for the deletion of article 49, the substance of which was already covered by article 39 *bis* (see para. 397 above).

#### *Deletion of article 49*

549. At its 1435th meeting the Committee voted on the nine-Power amendment calling for the deletion of article 49.

550. The amendment was adopted by 79 votes to 1. Article 49 was deleted.

#### ARTICLE 50

551. The text of article 50 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

“Nothing in the present Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the constitutions of the specialized agencies which define the respective responsibilities of the various organs of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies in regard to the matters dealt with in the present Covenant.”

The Committee considered this article at its 1435th meeting.

*Adoption of the article*

552. At its 1435th meeting the Committee voted on the text of article 50 proposed by the Commission on Human Rights and adopted that article by 76 votes to none, with 1 abstention. The text of article 50 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 50<sup>64</sup>*

"Nothing in the present Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the constitutions of the specialized agencies which define the respective responsibilities of the various organs of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies in regard to the matters dealt with in the present Covenant."

ARTICLE 50 *bis*

553. A proposal was submitted by Afghanistan, Algeria, Chile, Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Morocco, Pakistan, Panama, Sudan, Syria, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Yugoslavia (A/C.3/L.1381 and Add.1 and 2) for the insertion after article 50 of an article, identical with article 25 *bis* of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (see para. 101 above), reading as follows:

"Nothing in the present Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the inherent right of all peoples to enjoy and utilize fully and freely their natural wealth and resources."

554. The Committee considered this article at its 1435th and 1436th meetings.

*Adoption of the article*

555. At its 1436th meeting the Committee voted on the text of the proposed new article 50 *bis* (see para. 553 above). Article 50 *bis* was adopted by 50 votes to 2, with 17 abstentions.

556. The text of article 50 *bis* of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"Article 50 bis<sup>65</sup>*

"Nothing in the present Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the inherent right of all peoples to enjoy and utilize fully and freely their natural wealth and resources."

ARTICLE 50 *ter*

557. At the 1436th meeting, the representative of Jamaica submitted a proposal (A/C.3/L.1407) for the insertion, after article 50, of a new independent article, which would constitute a separate part of the Covenant. The text of the article read as follows:

"1. Each State Party undertakes to establish or designate in accordance with its constitutional processes a National Commission on Human Rights or another appropriate institution which shall perform

throughout the territories under its jurisdiction the functions set out in this article:

"(a) It shall study and keep under review the status of the legislation, judicial decisions and administrative arrangements for the protection of the rights recognized in this Covenant and shall prepare and submit to the Head of State and the appropriate authorities of the Government an annual report on the progress made during each year in giving effect to the provisions of this Covenant;

"(b) It may also advise the Government on any question referred to it by the Government in regard to the protection of the rights recognized in this Covenant;

"(c) Copies of the report referred to in subparagraph (a) of this article shall be transmitted to the Human Rights Committee established under article 27 of this Covenant. The Committee may communicate to the Government concerned its confidential comments of a general character on the report thus submitted.

"2. Every member of the National Commission or other institution referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall be a person of recognized competence and experience in the field of human rights.

"3. During their term of office the members of the National Commission or other institution referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall be guaranteed the independent exercise of their functions."

558. The Committee considered this proposal at its 1436th meeting.

559. The representative of Jamaica refrained from pressing the proposal to a vote as an amendment to the Covenant, but subsequently submitted a draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1408) calling for the placement of the proposal on the agenda of the twenty-second session of the General Assembly (see para. 613 below).

*Issues discussed*

560. In support of the Jamaican proposal, it was stated that the proposed national commission on human rights would merely review and report on measures taken in the sphere of human rights and, if requested, advise the Government in the matter. The idea behind the proposal was not new, as the Economic and Social Council had on several occasions urged States to establish such institutions. The only new element would be the binding undertaking required of States to create or designate some such body.

561. Several speakers, however, contended that the adoption of the article would entail constitutional changes in their country, since it might in effect require the creation of a new branch of government, separate from the judiciary and the administrative authorities, to deal exclusively with human rights. Most countries needed no special machinery for that purpose; if some did, it was a strictly domestic matter.

**Final clauses of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (part VI)**

562. The final clauses of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights proposed by the Commission on Human Rights were identical with those proposed by the Commission for the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. They read as follows:

<sup>64</sup> Article 46 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

<sup>65</sup> Article 47 in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

*“Article 51*

“1. This Covenant shall be open for signature and ratification or accession on behalf of any State Member of the United Nations or of any non-member State to which an invitation has been extended by the General Assembly.

“2. Ratification of or accession to this Covenant shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of ratification or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and as soon as twenty States have deposited such instruments, the Covenant shall come into force among them. As regards any State which ratifies or accedes thereafter the Covenant shall come into force on the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification or accession.

“3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all Members of the United Nations, and other States which have signed or acceded, of the deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession.

*“Article 52*

“The provisions of the present Covenant shall extend to all parts of federal States without any limitations or exceptions.

*“Article 53*

“The provisions of the present Covenant shall extend to or be applicable equally to a signatory metropolitan State and to all the territories, be they Non-Self-Governing, Trust, or colonial Territories, which are being administered or governed by such metropolitan State.

*“Article 54*

“1. Any State Party to the present Covenant may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General shall thereupon communicate any proposed amendments to the States Parties to the present Covenant with a request that they notify him whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposals. In the event that at least one third of the States Parties favours such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Any amendment adopted by a majority of States Parties present and voting at the conference shall be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations for approval.

“2. Amendments shall come into force when they have been approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and accepted by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties to the present Covenant in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

“3. When amendments come into force they shall be binding on those States Parties which have accepted them, other States Parties being still bound by the provisions of the present Covenant and any earlier amendment which they have accepted.”

563. The Committee considered the final clauses at its 1437th meeting.

*Amendment*

564. An amendment was submitted by the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/C.3/L.1353/Rev. 3) calling for the addition, after article 51, of a new article reading as follows:

“1. Any State may, on depositing its instrument of ratification or accession to this Covenant, make a reservation which is not incompatible with the object and purpose of this Covenant.

“2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall receive and circulate to all States which are or may become Parties to this Covenant reservations made by States at the time of ratification or accession. Any State which objects to the reservation shall, within a period of six months from the date of the said communication, notify the Secretary-General that it does not accept it.

“3. A reservation shall be deemed to be accepted if not less than two-thirds of the States Parties to whom copies have been circulated in accordance with this article accept or do not object to it within a period of six months, following the date of circulation.

“4. Upon the acceptance of a reservation in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article, the instrument of ratification or accession together with the reservation shall become effective.

“5. Any State making a reservation in accordance with this article may withdraw that reservation either in whole or in part at any time after its acceptance, by a notice addressed to the Secretary-General; such notice shall take effect on the date of its receipt; and a copy of such notice shall be circulated by the Secretary-General to all States Parties hereto.

“6. In order to achieve the application to the fullest extent of the provisions of this Covenant, any State making a reservation in accordance with the article should, as soon as may be practicable, take such steps as would enable it to withdraw the reservation either in whole or in part.”

This amendment was withdrawn in the light of the discussion.

*Adoption of the final clauses*

565. At its 1437th meeting, the Committee voted on a proposal by the Chairman that it adopt, as the final clauses of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the final clauses already adopted for the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

566. The final clauses, as a whole, were adopted unanimously.

567. The text of the final clauses of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*“PART VI**“Article 51<sup>66</sup>*

“1. The present Covenant is open for signature by any State Member of the United Nations or member of any of its specialized agencies, by any State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other State which has been invited by the General Assembly of the United Nations to become a party to the present Covenant.

“2. The present Covenant is subject to ratification. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

“3. The present Covenant shall be open to accession by any State referred to in paragraph 1 of this article.

"4. Accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

"5. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States which have signed this Covenant or acceded to it of the deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession.

*"Article 51 bis<sup>66</sup>*

"1. The present Covenant shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification or instrument of accession.

"2. For each State ratifying the present Covenant or acceding to it after the deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification or instrument of accession, the present Covenant shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit of its own instrument of ratification or instrument of accession.

*"Article 52<sup>66</sup>*

"The provisions of the present Covenant shall extend to all parts of federal States without any limitations or exceptions."

[Article 53 was deleted (see para. 138 above).]

*"Article 54<sup>66</sup>*

"1. Any State Party to the present Covenant may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall thereupon communicate any proposed amendments to the States Parties to the present Covenant with a request that they notify him whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposals. In the event that at least one third of the States Parties favours such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Any amendment adopted by a majority of the States Parties present and voting at the conference shall be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations for approval.

"2. Amendments shall come into force when they have been approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and accepted by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties to the present Covenant in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

"3. When amendments come into force, they shall be binding on those States Parties which have accepted them, other States Parties still being bound by the provisions of the present Covenant and any earlier amendment which they have accepted.

*"Article 54 bis<sup>66</sup>*

"Irrespective of the notifications made under article 51 [48], paragraph 5, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States referred to in paragraph 1 of the same article of the following particulars:

"(a) Signatures, ratifications and accessions under article 51 [48];

"(b) The date of the entry into force of the present Covenant under article 51 *bis* [49] and the date of the entry into force of any amendments under article 54 [51].

*"Article 54 ter<sup>66</sup>*

"1. The present Covenant, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

"2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit certified copies of the present Covenant to all States referred to in article 51 [48]."

**Optional Protocol to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**

568. At the 1441st meeting, in consequence of the decision taken by the Committee on article 41 *bis* (see para. 485 above), the representative of Nigeria submitted a draft protocol (A/C.3/L.1411) on the right of individual petition. As later revised (A/C.3/L.1411/Rev.2) and sponsored jointly by Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ghana, Jamaica, Lebanon, Netherlands, Nigeria, and Philippines, the proposal read as follows:

*"The States Parties to the present Protocol,*

*"Considering that in order further to achieve the purposes of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (hereinafter referred to as the Covenant) and the implementation of its provisions it would be appropriate to enable the Human Rights Committee set up in part IV of the Covenant (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) to receive and consider, as provided in the present Protocol, communications from individuals claiming to be victims of violations of any of the rights set forth in the Covenant,*

*"Have agreed as follows:*

*"Article 1*

"A State Party to the Covenant that becomes a party to the present Protocol recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications from individuals subject to its jurisdiction who claim to be victims of a violation by that State Party of any of the rights set forth in the Covenant. No communication shall be received by the Committee under this article if it concerns a State Party which is not a party to the Covenant and to the present Protocol.

*"Article 2*

"Subject to the provisions of article 1, individuals who claim that any of their rights enumerated in the Covenant have been violated and who have exhausted all available domestic remedies may submit a written communication to the Committee for consideration.

*"Article 3*

"The Committee shall consider inadmissible any communication under the present Protocol which is anonymous, or which it considers to be an abuse of the right of submission of such communications or

<sup>66</sup> The present articles 51, 51 *bis*, 52, 54, 54 *bis* and 54 *ter* in the final clauses appear as articles 48, 49, 50, 51, 52 and 53 respectively in the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

to be incompatible with the provisions of the Covenant.

*“Article 4*

“1. Subject to the provisions of article 3, the Committee shall bring any communication submitted to it to the attention of the State Party to the present Protocol alleged to be violating any provision of the Covenant.

“2. Within six months, the receiving State shall submit to the Committee written explanations or statements clarifying the matter and the remedy, if any, that may have been taken by that State.

*“Article 5*

“1. The Committee shall consider communications in the light of all written information made available to it by the individual and by the State Party concerned.

“2. The Committee shall not consider any communication from an individual unless it has ascertained that:

“(a) The same matter is not being examined under another procedure of international investigation or settlement;

“(b) The individual has exhausted all available domestic remedies. This shall not be the rule where the application of the remedies is unreasonably prolonged.

“3. The Committee shall hold closed meetings when examining communications under the present Protocol.

“4. The Committee shall forward its views, if any, to the State Party concerned and to the individual.

*“Article 6*

“The Committee shall include in its annual report under article 45 of the Covenant a summary of its activities under the present Protocol.

*“Article 7*

“Pending the achievement of the objectives of resolution 1514 (XV) adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 14 December 1960 concerning the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the provisions of the present Protocol shall in no way limit the right of petition granted to these peoples by the Charter of the United Nations and other international conventions and instruments under the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

*“Article 8*

“1. The present Protocol is open for signature by any State which has signed the Covenant.

“2. The present Protocol is subject to ratification by any State which has ratified the Covenant. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

“3. The present Protocol shall be open to accession by any State which is a Party to the Covenant.

“4. Accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

“5. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States which have signed the present Protocol or acceded to it of the deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession.

*“Article 9*

“1. Subject to the entry into force of the Covenant, the present Protocol shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the tenth instrument of ratification or instrument of accession.

“2. For each State ratifying the present Protocol or acceding to it after the deposit of the tenth instrument of ratification or instrument of accession, the present Protocol shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit of its own instrument of ratification or instrument of accession.

*“Article 10*

“The provisions of the present Protocol shall extend to all parts of federal States without any limitations or exceptions.

*“Article 11*

“1. Any State Party to the present Protocol may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General shall thereupon communicate any proposed amendments to the States Parties to the present Protocol with a request that they notify him whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposals. In the event that at least one third of the States Parties favours such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Any amendment adopted by a majority of States Parties present and voting at the conference shall be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations for approval.

“2. Amendments shall come into force when they have been approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and accepted by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties of the present Protocol in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

“3. When amendments come into force, they shall be binding on those States Parties which have accepted them, other States Parties still being bound by the provisions of the present Protocol and any earlier amendment which they have accepted.

*“Article 12*

“1. Any State Party may denounce the present Protocol at any time by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Denunciation shall take effect three months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.

“2. Denunciation shall be without prejudice to the continued application of the provisions of the present Protocol to any communication submitted under article 2 before the effective date of denunciation.

*“Article 13*

“Irrespective of the notifications made under article 8, paragraph 5, of the present Protocol, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States referred to in article 51, paragraph 1, of the Covenant of the following particulars:

“(a) Signatures, ratifications and accessions under article 8;

“(b) The date of the entry into force of the present Protocol under article 9 and the date of the entry into force of any amendments under article 11;

“(c) Denunciations under article 12.

*“Article 14*

“1. The present Protocol, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

“2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit certified copies of the present Protocol to all States referred to in article 51 of the Covenant.”

569. The Committee considered the proposed protocol at its 1441st and 1446th meetings. During the discussion several speakers reaffirmed the views expressed with regard to the formerly proposed text of article 41 *bis* (see paras. 479-484 above).

570. At the 1446th meeting, the sponsors orally revised the text of the proposed protocol in the following particulars:

*Title.* The title was to read “Draft Optional Protocol to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights”;

*Article 1.* In the second sentence, the words “under this article” and the words “Covenant and to the” were deleted, so that the sentence would read: “No communication shall be received by the Committee if it concerns a State Party to the Covenant which is not a party to the present Protocol”;

*Article 4.* In paragraph 1, the words “under the present Protocol” were inserted after the words “submitted to it”;

*Article 5.* In paragraph 1, the words “received under the present Protocol” were inserted after the word “communications” and, in paragraph 4, the words “if any” were deleted;

*Article 8.* In paragraph 2, the words “or acceded to” were inserted after the words “has ratified” in the first sentence and paragraph 3 was changed to read: “The present Protocol shall be open to accession by any State which has ratified or acceded to the Covenant”.

*Voting on the preamble and articles of the protocol*

571. At its 1446th meeting, the Committee voted on the preamble and articles of the protocol. The voting was as follows:

*Preamble*

572. The preamble was adopted by 57 votes to none, with 22 abstentions.

*Article 1*

573. Article 1 was adopted by 57 votes to 1, with 25 abstentions.

*Article 2*

574. Article 2 was adopted by 56 votes to none, with 26 abstentions.

*Article 3*

575. At the request of the representative of Upper Volta, a separate vote was taken on the words “or which it considers to be an abuse of the right of submission of such communications”. The words were adopted by 49 votes to 2, with 30 abstentions.

576. Article 3 as a whole was adopted by 59 votes to none, with 25 abstentions.

*Article 4*

577. Article 4 was adopted by 59 votes to none, with 24 abstentions.

*Article 5*

578. Article 5, paragraph 1, was adopted by 55 votes to none, with 29 abstentions.

579. At the request of the representative of Iran, a separate vote was taken on article 5, sub-paragraph 2 (b). The sub-paragraph was adopted by 49 votes to 1, with 32 abstentions. Article 5, paragraph 2, as a whole, was adopted by 54 votes to none, with 29 abstentions.

580. Article 5, paragraph 3, was adopted by 58 votes to none, with 27 abstentions.

581. At the request of the representatives of Iran and the United Arab Republic, a separate vote was taken on the words “and to the individual” in article 5, paragraph 4. The words were adopted by 45 votes to 18, with 17 abstentions.

582. Article 5, paragraph 4, as a whole, was adopted by 48 votes to none, with 34 abstentions.

583. Article 5 as a whole was adopted by 54 votes to none, with 30 abstentions.

*Article 6*

584. Article 6 was adopted by 53 votes to none, with 32 abstentions.

*Article 7*

585. Article 7 was adopted by 81 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

*Article 8*

586. Article 8 was adopted by 66 votes to none, with 15 abstentions.

*Article 9*

587. Article 9 was adopted by 63 votes to none, with 21 abstentions.

*Article 10*

588. Article 10 was adopted by 66 votes to none, with 17 abstentions.

*Article 11*

589. Article 11 was adopted by 63 votes to none, with 21 abstentions.

*Article 12*

590. Article 12 was adopted by 62 votes to none, with 17 abstentions.

*Article 13*

591. Article 13 was adopted by 55 votes to none, with 27 abstentions.

*Article 14*

592. Article 14 was adopted by 61 votes to none, with 23 abstentions.

593. The text of the preamble and articles of the Optional Protocol to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as adopted by the Third Committee, reads as follows:

*"The States Parties to the present Protocol,*

*"Considering that in order further to achieve the purposes of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (hereinafter referred to as the Covenant) and the implementation of its provisions it would be appropriate to enable the Human Rights Committee set up in part IV of the Covenant (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) to receive and consider, as provided in the present Protocol, communications from individuals claiming to be victims of violations of any of the rights set forth in the Covenant,*

*"Have agreed as follows:*

*"Article 1*

*"A State Party to the Covenant that becomes a party to the present Protocol recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications from individuals subject to its jurisdiction who claim to be victims of a violation by that State Party of any of the rights set forth in the Covenant. No communication shall be received by the Committee if it concerns a State Party to the Covenant which is not a party to the present Protocol.*

*"Article 2*

*"Subject to the provisions of article 1, individuals who claim that any of their rights enumerated in the Covenant have been violated and who have exhausted all available domestic remedies may submit a written communication to the Committee for consideration.*

*"Article 3*

*"The Committee shall consider inadmissible any communication under the present Protocol which is anonymous, or which it considers to be an abuse of the right of submission of such communications or to be incompatible with the provisions of the Covenant.*

*"Article 4*

*"1. Subject to the provisions of article 3, the Committee shall bring any communications submitted to it under the present Protocol to the attention of the State Party to the present Protocol alleged to be violating any provision of the Covenant.*

*"2. Within six months, the receiving State shall submit to the Committee written explanations or statements clarifying the matter and the remedy, if any, that may have been taken by that State.*

*"Article 5*

*"1. The Committee shall consider communications received under the present Protocol in the light of all written information made available to it by the individual and by the State Party concerned.*

*"2. The Committee shall not consider any communication from an individual unless it has ascertained that:*

*"(a) The same matter is not being examined under another procedure of international investigation or settlement;*

*"(b) The individual has exhausted all available domestic remedies.*

*"This shall not be the rule where the application of the remedies is unreasonably prolonged.*

*"3. The Committee shall hold closed meetings when examining communications under the present Protocol.*

*"4. The Committee shall forward its views to the State Party concerned and to the individual.*

*"Article 6*

*"The Committee shall include in its annual report under article 45 of the Covenant a summary of its activities under the present Protocol.*

*"Article 7*

*"Pending the achievement of the objectives of resolution 1514 (XV) adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 14 December 1960 concerning the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the provisions of the present Protocol shall in no way limit the right of petition granted to these peoples by the Charter of the United Nations and other international conventions and instruments under the United Nations and its specialized agencies.*

*"Article 8*

*"1. The present Protocol is open for signature by any State which has signed the Covenant.*

*"2. The present Protocol is subject to ratification by any State which has ratified or acceded to the Covenant. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.*

*"3. The present Protocol shall be open to accession by any State which has ratified or acceded to the Covenant.*

*"4. Accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.*

*"5. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States which have signed the present Protocol or acceded to it of the deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession.*

*"Article 9*

*"1. Subject to the entry into force of the Covenant, the present Protocol shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the tenth instrument of ratification or instrument of accession.*

*"2. For each State ratifying the present Protocol or acceding to it after the deposit of the tenth instrument of ratification or instrument of accession, the present Protocol shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit of its own instrument of ratification or instrument of accession.*

*"Article 10*

*"The provisions of the present Protocol shall extend to all parts of federal States without any limitations or exceptions.*

*"Article 11*

"1. Any State Party to the present Protocol may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General shall thereupon communicate any proposed amendments to the States Parties to the present Protocol with a request that they notify him whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposals. In the event that at least one third of the States Parties favours such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Any amendment adopted by a majority of the States Parties present and voting at the conference shall be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations for approval.

"2. Amendments shall come into force when they have been approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and accepted by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties to the present Protocol in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

"3. When amendments come into force, they shall be binding on those States Parties which have accepted them, other States Parties still being bound by the provisions of the present Protocol and any earlier amendment which they have accepted.

*"Article 12*

"1. Any State Party may denounce the present Protocol at any time by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Denunciation shall take effect three months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.

"2. Denunciation shall be without prejudice to the continued application of the provisions of the present Protocol to any communication submitted under article 2 before the effective date of denunciation.

*"Article 13*

"Irrespective of the notifications made under article 8, paragraph 5, of the present Protocol, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States referred to in article 51 [48], paragraph 1, of the Covenant of the following particulars:

"(a) Signatures, ratifications and accessions under article 8;

"(b) The date of the entry into force of the present Protocol under article 9 and the date of the entry into force of any amendments under article 11;

"(c) Denunciations under article 12.

*"Article 14*

"1. The present Protocol, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

"2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit certified copies of the present Protocol to all States referred to in article 51 [48] of the Covenant."

**Adoption of the draft International Covenants on Human Rights and the draft resolutions relating thereto**

594. At its 1451st meeting the Committee voted on the text of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (A/C.3/L.1414 and Corr.1), of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/C.3/L.1414 and Corr.1) and of the draft Optional Protocol to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/C.3/L.1414/Add.1), each as a separate whole, with minor drafting changes suggested by its officers (A/C.3/L.1417)<sup>67</sup> and by representatives in the course of the discussion.

595. The draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was adopted unanimously.

596. The draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights was also adopted unanimously. At the request of the representative of the United States of America, the vote was taken by roll-call. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* None.

597. The Optional Protocol to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights was adopted by 59 votes to 2, with 32 abstentions. At the request of the representative of the Philippines, the vote was taken by roll-call. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, India, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia.

*Against:* Niger, Togo.

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic

<sup>67</sup> These changes have been incorporated in the present report.

Republic of), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Ethiopia, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iraq, Japan, Liberia, Mali, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Syria, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia.

598. At the same meeting, the Committee considered a draft resolution submitted by Afghanistan, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Libya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Upper Volta, Uruguay and Venezuela (A/C.3/L.1409 and Add.1) concerning the adoption and opening for signature of the Covenants and Optional Protocol. The representative of Nigeria later withdrew as sponsor of the draft resolution.

599. The draft resolution read as follows:

*"The General Assembly,*

*"Considering that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,*

*"Considering that in Article 56 of the Charter all Members of the United Nations have pledged themselves to take joint and separate action in co-operation with the Organization for the achievement of that purpose,*

*"Recalling the proclamation by the General Assembly on 10 December 1948 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations,*

*"Having considered since its ninth session the draft International Covenants on Human Rights prepared by the Commission on Human Rights and transmitted to it by Economic and Social Council resolution 545 B (XVIII) of 29 July 1954, and having completed the elaboration of the Covenants at its twenty-first session,*

*"1. Adopts and opens for signature, ratification and accession the International Covenants on Human Rights which are annexed to the present resolution;*

*"2. Expresses the hope that the Covenants will be signed and ratified or acceded to without delay and come into force at an early date;*

*"3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its future sessions reports concerning the state of ratifications of the Covenants which the Assembly will consider as a separate agenda item."*

600. The representative of Lebanon orally proposed an amendment which, as revised in the course of the discussion, called for the replacement of operative paragraph 1 by the following:

*"1. Adopts and opens for signature, ratification and accession the following international instruments, the texts of which are annexed to the present resolution:*

*"(a) The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;*

*"(b) The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;*

*"(c) The Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights."*

601. The representative of the Netherlands proposed an amendment calling for the insertion in operative paragraph 2, after the word "Covenants", of the words "and the Optional Protocol".

602. The representative of Ghana proposed a similar amendment calling for the insertion in operative paragraph 3, after the word "Covenants" of the words "and of the Optional Protocol".

603. Sub-paragraph 1 (c) of the amendment of Lebanon (see para. 600 above), having been put to the vote separately at the request of the representatives of Iraq and Congo (Brazzaville), was adopted by 53 votes to 7, with 27 abstentions. The text of operative paragraph 1 proposed in the amendment of Lebanon, as a whole, was adopted by 56 votes to 1, with 29 abstentions.

604. The amendment of the Netherlands (see para. 601 above) was adopted by 47 votes to 13, with 27 abstentions. Operative paragraph 2 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 50 votes to 1, with 36 abstentions.

605. The amendment of Ghana (see para. 602 above) was adopted by 49 votes to 6, with 32 abstentions. Operative paragraph 3 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 51 votes to none, with 37 abstentions.

606. The draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 75 votes to none, with 12 abstentions (see para. 627 below, draft resolution A).

607. At its 1452nd meeting, the Committee considered a draft resolution submitted by Afghanistan, Chile, Denmark, Ghana, India, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1410) concerning the publicity to be given to the Covenants. The text read as follows:

*"The General Assembly,*

*"Considering that the text of the International Covenants on Human Rights should be made known throughout the world,*

*"1. Requests the Governments of States and non-governmental organizations to publicize the text of the Covenants as widely as possible, using every means at their disposal, including all the appropriate media of information;*

*"2. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure immediate and wide circulation of the Covenants and, to that end, to publish and distribute the text thereof."*

608. Two amendments submitted by the representative of Uruguay, as revised on the suggestion of the representative of Lebanon, called for the following: first, the replacement of the preamble by the following:

*"Considering that the text of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the text of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the text of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights should be made known throughout the world";*

secondly, the replacement, in operative paragraphs 1 and 2, of the words "the Covenants" by "these instruments".

609. The amendment of Uruguay to the preamble (see para. 608 above) was adopted by 51 votes to 11, with 27 abstentions. The preamble as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 61 votes to none, with 27 abstentions.

610. The amendment of Uruguay to operative paragraph 1 (see para. 608 above) was adopted by 59 votes to none, with 30 abstentions. The words "and non-governmental organizations", in paragraph 1, on which a separate vote had been requested by the representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, were adopted by 56 votes to 15, with 19 abstentions. Operative paragraph 1 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 61 votes to none, with 27 abstentions.

611. The amendment of Uruguay to operative paragraph 2 (see para. 608 above) was adopted by 56 votes to 1, with 33 abstentions. Operative paragraph 2 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 64 votes to none, with 25 abstentions.

612. The nine-Power draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 73 votes to none, with 17 abstentions (see para. 627 below, draft resolution B).

#### **Draft resolution on the establishment of national human rights commissions**

613. Regarding his proposal for an additional article in the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights dealing with the establishment of national commissions on human rights (see paras. 557-559 above), the representative of Jamaica submitted a draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1408) on the subject, reading as follows:

*"The General Assembly,*

*"Considering that a proposal for the establishment of national commissions on human rights or the designation of other appropriate institutions, to perform certain functions pertaining to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/C.3/L.1407), was submitted to the Third Committee,*

*"Considering that this proposal requires further and more extensive study on the part of various Governments,*

*"1. Decides that this proposal should be placed on the provisional agenda of the twenty-second session of the General Assembly;*

*"2. Requests the Secretary-General to invite Member States to submit their comments on the proposal, in order that it may consider at its twenty-second regular session the proposal together with these comments."*

614. As later revised and sponsored jointly by Jamaica, Nigeria and Pakistan, the draft resolution (A/C.3/1408/Rev.1) contained a new operative part reading as follows:

*"1. Requests the Economic and Social Council to transmit this proposal to the Commission on Human Rights for its consideration and recommendations;*

*"2. Requests the Secretary-General to invite Member States to submit their comments on the proposal, in order that the Commission on Human Rights may take these comments into account when considering the proposals;*

*"3. Decides that the proposal should be placed on the provisional agenda of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly."*

615. In the light of the discussion, the sponsors agreed to withdraw operative paragraph 3.

616. The Committee considered this item at its 1452nd, 1453rd, 1455th and 1456th meetings.

617. The representative of the United Arab Republic submitted oral amendments to the revised text (see paras. 613-614 above) calling for the following:

(a) The replacement, in the first preambular paragraph, of the words "*Considering that a proposal*" by "*Considering the advisability of the proposals*";

(b) The insertion in that paragraph, after "pertaining to", of the words "the observance of";

(c) The insertion in that paragraph, after "International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights", of the words "and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights";

(d) The deletion from that paragraph of the reference to document A/C.3/L.1407 and of the words following it;

(e) The deletion of the second preambular paragraph;

(f) The redrafting of operative paragraph 1 to read:

*"Invites the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission on Human Rights to examine the question in all its aspects and to report, through the Council, to the General Assembly";*

(g) The replacement in operative paragraph 2 of the word "proposal" by "question".

618. These amendments were accepted by the sponsors at the 1455th meeting.

#### *Issues discussed*

619. Representatives opposed to the three-Power draft resolution (see paras. 613-618 above) felt that its purpose was to introduce into the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights a new implementation procedure. Thus the adoption of the proposal would in fact amount to amending the Covenant, in a manner not consistent with the article relating to amendments in the final clauses (article 54 [51], see para. 567 above) before the Covenant had even entered into force.

620. Other representatives, speaking in favour of the three-Power draft resolution, stressed that its purpose was merely to ensure consideration of the question of national human rights agencies, by the competent United Nations organs, at an appropriate time. There was no question at this stage of introducing an amendment to the Covenant, as the draft resolution called only for a study by the Commission on Human Rights and Governments would be invited to submit comments for the Commission's guidance.

#### *Adoption of the draft resolution*

621. At its 1456th meeting, on 10 December 1966, the Committee voted on the revised three-Power draft resolution, as further revised (A/C.3/L.1408/Rev.2) to include the amendments which the sponsors had accepted (see paras. 617-618 above). The text voted upon read as follows:

*"The General Assembly,*

*"Considering the advisability of the proposals for the establishment of national commissions on human rights or the designation of other appropriate institutions to perform certain functions pertaining to the observance of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,*

*"1. Invites the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission on Human Rights to ex-*

amine the question in all its aspects and to report, through the Council, to the General Assembly;

"2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Member States to submit their comments on the question, in order that the Commission on Human Rights may take these comments into account when considering the proposals."

622. The words "and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights", in the preamble, on which a separate roll-call vote had been requested by the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, were adopted by 74 votes to none, with 4 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* Japan, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

623. The preamble as a whole was adopted by 53 votes to 10, with 15 abstentions.

624. Operative paragraph 1 was adopted by 55 votes to 12, with 15 abstentions.

625. Operative paragraph 2, on which a separate roll-call vote had been requested by the representative of Nigeria, was adopted by 43 votes to 13, with 29 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Hon-

duras, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Against:* Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Guinea, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yugoslavia.

*Abstaining:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Cameroon, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Ethiopia, France, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Portugal, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia.

626. The revised three-Power draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 50 votes to 11, with 23 abstentions (see para. 627 below, draft resolution C).

### *Recommendations of the Third Committee*

627. The Third Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

A

[Text adopted by the General Assembly without change. See "Action taken by the General Assembly" below.]

B

[Text adopted by the General Assembly without change. See "Action taken by the General Assembly" below.]

C

[Text adopted by the General Assembly without change. See "Action taken by the General Assembly" below.]

## DOCUMENT A/6591

**Financial implications of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol thereto recommended for adoption by the Third Committee in document A/6546**

### Report of the Fifth Committee

[Original text: English]  
[14 December 1966]

1. At its 1167th meeting, on 14 December 1966, the Fifth Committee considered a note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1102) on the financial implications of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol thereto, approved by the Third Committee (A/6546, para. 627). The Committee also had before it the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/6585).

2. Concurring with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on this matter, the Committee decided to inform the General Assembly that, at this time, no financial implications were foreseen in so far as the budget estimates for 1967 were concerned. The Committee decided, however, to recommend that the General Assembly should authorize the Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, to meet any necessary expenditures which

might occur in 1967 under the terms of the General Assembly resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1967. The Committee decided to inform the Assembly that requirements for 1968 would be taken into account in the initial budget estimates for that year.

3. The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly should take note of the observations expressed by the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee relating to the payment of emoluments to members of the proposed human rights committee referred to in article 35 of the draft Covenant.

### ACTION TAKEN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

At its 1496th plenary meeting, on 16 December 1966, the General Assembly adopted draft resolutions A, B and C submitted by the Third Committee (A/6546, para. 627) after having adopted the texts of the three international instruments annexed to draft resolution A. The voting was as follows:

(a) The draft International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was adopted by a vote of 105 to none;

(b) The draft International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights was adopted by a vote of 106 to none;

(c) The draft Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights was adopted by a vote of 66 to 2, with 38 abstentions;

(d) Draft resolution A was adopted by a vote of 104 to none;

(e) Draft resolution B was adopted by a vote of 102 to none, with 3 abstentions;

(f) Draft resolution C was adopted by a vote of 76 to 18, with 13 abstentions.

For the final texts, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Supplement No. 16*, resolutions 2200 A (XXI), 2200 B (XXI) and 2200 C (XXI).

### CHECK LIST OF DOCUMENTS

NOTE. This check list includes the documents mentioned during the consideration of item 62 which are not reproduced in the present fascicle.

Document No.	Title or description	Observations and references
A/2929	Annotations on the text of the draft International Covenants on Human Rights (E/2573, annex I)	<i>Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Annexes</i> , agenda item 28 (part II)
A/5411 and Add.1 and 2	Explanatory paper on measures of implementation prepared by the Secretary-General and observations from Governments	<i>Ibid.</i> , Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 48
A/5702 and Add.1	Observations from Governments of Member States: note by the Secretary-General	<i>Ibid.</i> , Twentieth Session Annexes, agenda item 65
A/6342	Note by the Secretary-General	Mimeographed
A/C.3/L.1334	Saudi Arabia: amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	See A/6546, para. 401
A/C.3/L.1350	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 63
A/C.3/L.1352	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 105
A/C.3/L.1353	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Replaced by A/C.3/L.1353/Rev.1
A/C.3/L.1353/Rev.1	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: revised amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Replaced by A/C.3/L.1353/Rev.2
A/C.3/L.1353/Rev.2	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: revised amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	See A/6546, para. 139
A/C.3/L.1353/Rev.3	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: revised amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 564
A/C.3/L.1354	India, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 17, 22, 40, 52, 58, 70, 81, 82, 85, 86 and 89
A/C.3/L.1354/Corr.1	India, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta: amendment to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 72
A/C.3/L.1355	Netherlands: amendments to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 272, 440 and 474

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title or description</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
A/C.3/L.1356 and Corr.1	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: amendments to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Replaced by A/C.3/L.1356/Rev.1
A/C.3/L.1356/Rev.1	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: revised amendments to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	See A/6546, paras. 285, 486 and 503
A/C.3/L.1356/Rev.1/Corr.1	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: revised amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 488
A/C.3/L.1357 and Add.1	Afghanistan, Algeria, Chile, Congo (Brazzaville), Ghana, Guinea, India, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Mauritania, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Sudan, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Yugoslavia: amendment to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 95
A/C.3/L.1358	Italy: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 15, 18, 24, 41, 42 and 71
A/C.3/L.1359	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 106, 133 and 149
A/C.3/L.1360	United States of America: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 13, 20 and 21
A/C.3/L.1361	Greece: amendment to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 16
A/C.3/L.1362	List of amendments to articles on measures of implementation of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	Mimeographed
A/C.3/L.1364	Financial implications of the amendments submitted by Italy in document A/C.3/L.1358: note by the Secretary-General	Ditto
A/C.3/L.1365	Financial implications of the amendments submitted by the United States of America in document A/C.3/L.1360: note by the Secretary-General	Ditto
A/C.3/L.1366 and Add.1-6 and Add.6/Corr.1 and Add.7	Texts of articles on measures of implementation and of the final clauses of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as adopted by the Third Committee	Ditto
A/C.3/L.1367	Dahomey, France, Guinea, Hungary, Mali, Mauritania, Syria, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania and Venezuela: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	See A/6546, para. 107
A/C.3/L.1368 and Add.1	Algeria, Guinea, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Syria and United Republic of Tanzania: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights and to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 134
A/C.3/L.1369	List of amendments to the final clauses of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Mimeographed
A/C.3/L.1370	Guatemala, India, Nigeria and Pakistan: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	See A/6546, para. 168
A/C.3/L.1371	Guatemala, Nigeria and Pakistan: amendment to document A/C.3/L.1367	<i>Ibid.</i> , para 108
A/C.3/L.1372	United States of America: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 109
A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1	India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta: amendments to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 191-194, 214-217, 229, 246, 259, 286, 289-291, 293, 306, 321, 332, 345 and 355
A/C.3/L.1374	United States of America: amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 155
A/C.3/L.1374/Rev.1	United States of America: revised amendments to the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para 156
A/C.3/L.1375	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: amendments to document A/C.3/L.1372	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 111
A/C.3/L.1376	Iran: amendment to document A/C.3/L.1372	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 112
A/C.3/L.1377	Chile: amendment to document A/C.3/L.1372	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 113
A/C.3/L.1378	Chile: amendments to document A/C.3/L.1353/Rev.2	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 141
A/C.3/L.1379	India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta: amendments to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 402
A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1	India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta: revised amendments to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 372, 403, 441, 495, 500, 518, 526, 532, 538, 543, and 548
A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1/Corr.1	India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta: revised amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 408
A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1/Corr.2	India, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, United Arab Republic and Upper Volta: revised amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 450
A/C.3/L.1380	List of amendments to articles on measures of implementation of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Mimeographed

Document No.	Title or description	Observations and references
A/C.3/L.1381 and Add.1 and 2	Afghanistan, Algeria, Chile, Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Sudan, Syria, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Yugoslavia: amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	See A/6546, para. 553
A/C.3/L.1382	Financial implications of article 27 of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: note by the Secretary-General	Mimeographed
A/C.3/L.1387	Financial implications of the amendments contained in documents A/C.3/L.1373 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1: note by the Secretary-General	Ditto
A/C.3/L.1388	Congo (Brazzaville): amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	See A/6546, para. 196
A/C.3/L.1389	Jamaica: amendment to document A/C.3/L.1355	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 475
A/C.3/L.1390	United States of America: amendments to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 228, 333 and 356
A/C.3/L.1391	United States of America: amendments to document A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 377, 404 and 443
A/C.3/L.1393	France: amendment to document A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 405
A/C.3/L.1394	France: amendment to document A/C.3/L.1355	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 476
A/C.3/L.1395	France: amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 504
A/C.3/L.1396	Canada, Ceylon, Chile, Denmark, Ghana and New Zealand: amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 505
A/C.3/L.1397	Chile and Ghana: amendments to document A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 406 and 445
A/C.3/L.1397/Corr.1	Chile and Ghana: amendment to document A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 407
A/C.3/L.1398	Financial implications of the revised amendments contained in document A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1: note by the Secretary-General	Mimeographed
A/C.3/L.1399	Canada, Ceylon, Chile, Denmark, France, Ghana and New Zealand: amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	See A/6546, para. 506
A/C.3/L.1399/Rev.1	Canada, Ceylon, Chile, Denmark, France, Ghana and New Zealand: revised amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 507
A/C.3/L.1402	Iran, Lebanon, Nigeria and Pakistan: amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Replaced by A/C.3/L.1402/Rev.1
A/C.3/L.1402/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1	Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ghana, Iran, Jamaica, Lebanon, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines and Uruguay: revised amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Replaced by A/C.3/L.1402/Rev.2
A/C.3/L.1402/Rev.2	Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ghana, Jamaica, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines and Uruguay: revised amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	See A/6546, para. 477
A/C.3/L.1404	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: amendment to document A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 378
A/C.3/L.1405	Chile: amendments to document A/C.3/L.1379/Rev.1	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 446 and 533
A/C.3/L.1407	Jamaica: amendment to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 557
A/C.3/L.1408	Jamaica: draft resolution	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 613
A/C.3/L.1408/Rev.1	Jamaica, Nigeria and Pakistan: revised draft resolution	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 614
A/C.3/L.1408/Rev.2	Jamaica, Nigeria and Pakistan: revised draft resolution	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 621
A/C.3/L.1409 and Add.1	Afghanistan, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Libya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Upper Volta, Uruguay and Venezuela: draft resolution	<i>Ibid.</i> , paras. 598 and 599
A/C.3/L.1410	Afghanistan, Chile, Denmark, Ghana, India, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan and Upper Volta: draft resolution	<i>Ibid.</i> , para. 607
A/C.3/L.1411	Nigeria: proposal for a draft protocol to be annexed to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Replaced by A/C.3/L.1411/Rev.1
A/C.3/L.1411/Rev.1	Canada, Ghana, Jamaica and Nigeria: revised proposal for a draft protocol to be annexed to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Replaced by A/C.3/L.1411/Rev.2
A/C.3/L.1411/Rev.2	Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ghana, Jamaica, Lebanon, Netherlands, Nigeria and Philippines: revised proposal for a draft protocol to be annexed to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	See A/6546, para. 568
A/C.3/L.1414 and Corr.1	Text of the provisions of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as adopted by the Third Committee during the tenth to twenty-first session	Mimeographed
A/C.3/L.1414/Add.1	Text of the provisions of the Optional Protocol to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as adopted by the Third Committee at its 1466th meeting	Ditto
A/C.3/L.1417	Drafting changes suggested by the officers of the Third Committee relating to the text of the provisions of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, of the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and of the Optional Protocol to the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Ditto