

UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.  
LIMITED  
E/CN.4/L.635  
12 March 1963  
Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Nineteenth Session  
Item 12 of the provisional agenda

Dual Distribution

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

Denmark and the United States of America:  
Proposal for a draft Declaration

The General Assembly,

Desiring to give effect to the principle of the equality of all human beings without distinction as to race, colour, or religion, as stated in the Charter of the United Nations,

Disturbed by the manifestations of racial discrimination still in evidence throughout the world, some of which are imposed by Governments in the form of apartheid, segregation and separation; and likewise by the promotion and dissemination of doctrines of racial superiority and expansionism in certain areas,

Noting that national origin (nationality) and ethnic origin give rise to similar discrimination, which should be denounced as an offence to human dignity;

Recognizing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the great affirmation of the equal dignity and rights of all persons without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, birth or other status,

Considering that the Universal Declaration states further that "All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination";

Convinced that racial discrimination tends to jeopardize international peace and security, friendly relations among peoples and cooperation between nations;

Recalling also the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and principles, adopted by the General Assembly at its fifteenth session, which states that an end must be put to colonialism and all practices of segregation and discrimination associated therewith;

Recalling the many resolutions adopted by the General Assembly urging the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, and particularly resolution 1779 (XVII) which calls on the Governments of all States to take all necessary steps to rescind discriminatory laws which have the effect of creating and perpetuating racial prejudice wherever they still exist, to adopt legislation if necessary for prohibiting such discrimination, and to take such legislative and other appropriate measures to combat such prejudice;

DECLARES the following principles as a guide for legislation and practice in each State:

1. No State shall make any distinction in the treatment of persons on the grounds of race, colour or ethnic origin, nor shall it make any distinction in the right to citizenship on such grounds; special measures taken for the protection of individuals belonging to certain racial groups with the object of ensuring the full enjoyment by such individuals of human rights and fundamental freedoms shall not be maintained after the achievement of that objective, and shall in no circumstances have as a consequence the separation of different racial groups.

2. Particular efforts shall be made to prevent discrimination based on race, colour or ethnic origin, in the fields of political rights, education, religion, employment, occupation, housing and access to places and facilities intended for use by the general public.

3. All States should take the necessary steps to rescind discriminatory laws which have the effect of creating and perpetuating racial prejudice wherever they still exist, and should pass legislation, if necessary, for prohibiting such discrimination and to take such legislative and other appropriate measures to combat such prejudice.

4. Every person, without distinction as to race or ethnic origin, shall have the right to take part in the government of his country and to participate in elections through universal and equal suffrage; and no discrimination on the grounds of race or ethnic origin shall be made in appointments to public office.

5. Every person has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for any discrimination he may suffer on the ground of race, colour or ethnic origin through acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law.

6. All possible steps should be taken by means of education, information and instruction to remove those prejudices which give rise to discrimination on the ground of race, colour or ethnic origin and to promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among nations and racial groups, as well as propagating the purposes of the United Nations and of the Universal Declaration.

7. All States, the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the non-governmental organizations, each within the sphere appropriate to its activities, should do all in their power to assist towards the eradication of all forms of discrimination, and in particular, of all discrimination based on race, colour or ethnic origin.

8. No violence or other illegal action based on race, colour or ethnic origin should be supported or promoted by any person, group or organization and no such action should be permitted by the State.

---