

# UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



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Twenty-fourth session Agenda items 62 and 92

> EDUCATION OF YOUTH IN THE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

THE PROBLEMS AND NEEDS OF YOUTH AND ITS PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Lude k HANDL (Czechoslovakia)

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 1758th plenary meeting, on 20 September 1969, the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee agenda item 62, entitled "Education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms: report of the Secretary-General" and agenda item 92, entitled "The problems and needs of youth and its participation in national development".

2. Item 62 was placed on the agenda of the twenty-fourth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2447 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, on education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Item 92, a new item before the Assembly, was placed on its agenda in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1407 (XLVI) of 5 June 1969, on long-term policies and programmes for youth in national development.

3. The Third Committee at its 1649th meeting decided to discuss these two items jointly in a single general debate, followed by the consideration of draft resolutions. The Committee discussed the items at its 1650th to 1661st meetings, held between 29 September and 8 October 1969.

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4. The Committee had before it:

(a) A report of the Secretary-General on action taken in implementation of General Assembly resolution 2447 (XXIII) on the education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms (A/7662), including information on that subject communicated by the Governments of twenty-eight Member States  $\frac{1}{}$  in accordance with resolution 2446 (XXIII);

(b) A preliminary report of the Secretary-General on long-term policies and programmes for youth in national development (A/C.3/613);

(c) Chapter IX, section I, chapter VIII, section C, and chapter XI, section I, of the report of the Economic and Social Council,  $\frac{2}{}$  which dealt with the two items in question;

(d) A note by the Secretary-General on item 92 (A/7680/Rev.1).

<sup>1/</sup> Information subsequently received from five additional Governments is contained in document A/7662/Add.1.

<sup>2/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/7603).

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#### II. DRAFT RESOLUTION AND AMENDMENTS

5. At the 1658th meeting, a draft resolution relating to both agenda items was introduced by Cyprus on behalf of Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Ghana, Greece, India, Japan, Iaos, Pakistan, Romania, Sweden and Yugoslavia (A/C.3/L.1660), which were subsequently joined by Costa Rica; a revised version of the draft was introduced by Cyprus on behalf of the co-sponsors mentioned above, as well as Chile, Iran and Nicaragua, which were subsequently joined by Austria and Ecuador (A/C.3/L.1660/Rev.1, Rev.1/Corr.1 and Rev.1/Add.1).

6. Amendments were submitted by Algeria (A/C.3/L.1661) to part A of the draft resolution; a revised version was later sponsored by Algeria, Congo (Brazzaville), Guinea, Mali and Zambia (A/C.3/L.1661/Rev.1) and sub-amendments to the latter were submitted by Spain (A/C.3/L.1665) and, orally, by Iraq.

7. Other amendments were submitted by the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/C.3/L.1662) to part B; the Sudan (A/C.3/L.1663) to the preamble and part A; and Italy (A/C.3/L.1664) to parts A and B. Oral amendments were submitted by the Byelorussian SSR to part B; Jamaica to part B; the Netherlands to part B; the United Arab Republic to part A; and Venezuela to part B; and informal proposals were made by several other delegations.

8. The draft resolution sponsored by Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Ghana, Greece, India, Japan, Laos, Pakistan, Romania, Sweden and Yugoslavia (A/C.3/L.1660) read as follows:

## "The General Assembly,

"Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples proclaimed by the General Assembly on 7 December 1965, as well as, inter alia, General Assembly resolution 2447 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 on the education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the Economic and Social Council resolution 1407 (XLVI) on 'Long-term Policies and Programmes for Youth in National Development',

"<u>Recognizing</u> the great contribution that the concern and action of youth for world peace, justice, progress and human rights can make to the realization of the goals embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and welcoming their views on these subjects, "<u>Recognizing further</u> the importance of co-ordinating the activities and programmes relating to youth among the United Nations organs and the specialized agencies concerned,

"Noting the ideas relating to youth expressed by the Secretary-General in the introduction to his annual report,

"Noting further the impact that the unprecedented development of science and technology has on the needs and aspirations of youth,

"Taking note of the reports contained in documents A/7662 and A/C.3/613,

"Desirous of devising new methods through which the enthusiasm and the energy of the young might be more effectively directed towards the spiritual and material advancement of all peoples,

"1. Reaffirms the provisions of its resolution 2447 (XXIII);

"2. Notes with appreciation the report contained in document A/7662;

"3. Appeals to youth to solemnly affirm its full faith in international law and principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter which aim at the realization of world peace, human rights and fundamental freedoms;

"4. <u>Recommends</u> that full advantage be taken in 1970 in connexion with the activities relating to the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations and the observance of the International Education Year to give effect to the purposes of this resolution;

"5. <u>Recommends further</u> that appropriate use be made of resources of the United Nations Programme of Advisory Services in the Field of Human Rights for the achievement of the purposes of this resolution, and that in this respect a regional seminar on youth be organized if possible in 1971.

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"1. Endorses resolution 1407 (XLVI) of the Economic and Social Council and notes with appreciation the report contained in document A/C.3/613;

"2. <u>Recommends</u> that Governments formulate national youth policies in order to ensure a more co-ordinated approach to meeting the needs and aspirations of youth;

"3. Further recommends to Governments that during the Second Development Decade youth be given appropriate opportunity to participate in the preparation and implementation of national development plans and in programmes of international co-operation;

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"4. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies engaged in various studies and programmes on the problems and needs of youth and its participation in national development to identify separately the problems and the needs of youth in the developed and developing countries;

"5. <u>Urges</u> the early completion of the studies undertaken by the Secretary-General and by the specialized agencies concerned;

"6. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General, in connexion with the study being prepared in accordance with resolution 1407 (XLVI) of the Economic and Social Council, to further consider ways and means through which the United Nations could best serve the objectives of the present resolution and, in particular, measures to be taken to establish channels of contact with youth and to report thereon to the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly."

9. The amendment submitted by Algeria read as follows (A/C.3/L.1661):

"1. Add the following paragraph between paragraphs 2 and 3 of part A:

<sup>1</sup>3. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies to take necessary measures to:

'(a) <u>Undertake</u> with all appropriate means the education of the youth of countries still under colonial and foreign occupation in order to accelerate the exercise of the right of self-determination of their respective lands;

(b) Ensure that education in the countries referred to in the above sub-paragraph shall be undertaken with full respect of national, religious and linguistic traditions of the indigenous population, and that its nature shall not be altered for political purposes.

"2. Renumber the paragraphs accordingly."

10. The amendment submitted by the <u>Democratic Republic of the Congo</u> (A/C.3/L.1662) was to replace part B, paragraph 6, by the following paragraph:

"6. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General, in connexion with the study being prepared in accordance with resolution 1407 (XINI) of the Economic and Social Council, to further consider ways and means through which the United Nations could best serve the objectives of the present resolution and in particular, to consider the possibility of granting non-governmental organization status to youth assemblies with a view to achieving a better knowledge of the aspirations of youth and a better orientation of United Nations activities, and to report thereon to the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly."

11. The amendment submitted by the <u>Sudan</u> (A/C.3/L.1663) was (1) to delete the second preambular paragraph, starting "Recognizing the great ..." and replace it by a paragraph reading:

"<u>Recognizing</u> the important role of youth in the promotion of world peace, justice, social progress, human rights, and in the realization of the goals embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;"

and (2) to add in part A, paragraph 1, after the words "resolution 2447 (XXIII)" the words: "on education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular, by continuously exposing the evils of colonialism, apartheid, racism, neo-colonialism".

12. At the 1660th meeting, <u>Canada</u>, <u>Chile</u>, <u>Costa Rica</u>, <u>Cyprus</u>, <u>Denmark</u>, <u>Ghana</u>, <u>Greece</u>, <u>India</u>, <u>Iran</u>, <u>Japan</u>, <u>Laos</u>, <u>Nicaragua</u>, <u>Pakistan</u>, <u>Romania</u>, <u>Sweden</u> and <u>Yugoslavia</u>, subsequently joined by <u>Austria</u> and <u>Ecuador</u>, submitted a revised draft resolution which took into account some of the amendments submitted and informal suggestions made during the discussion. This revised draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1660/Rev.1, Rev.1/Corr.1 and Rev.1/Add.1) read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling, inter alia, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Declaration on the Promotion Among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding Between Peoples,

"Recognizing the important role and contribution of youth in the promotion of world peace, justice, social and economic progress and human rights, and in the realization of the goals embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, and welcoming their views on these subjects,

"Recognizing further the importance of co-ordinating the activities and programmes relating to youth among the United Nations organs and the specialized agencies concerned,

"Noting the ideas relating to youth expressed by the Secretary-General in the Introduction to his Annual Report,

"Noting further the impact that the unprecedented development of science and technology has on the needs and aspirations of youth,

"Taking into account the responsibility of the family in the education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

"<u>Desirous</u> of divising new methods through which the enthusiasm and the energy of the young might be more effectively directed towards the spiritual and material advancement of all peoples,

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"1. <u>Reaffirms</u> the provisions of its resolution 2447 (XXIII) on the education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

"2. <u>Takes note</u> with appreciation of the report contained in document A/7662 containing the replies of Governments concerning education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and invites Governments which have not yet done so to reply thereon before the next General Assembly;

"3. <u>Appeals</u> to youth to solemnly affirm its faith in international law and the principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter which aim at the realization of world peace, friendly relations and co-operation among States, human rights and fundamental freedoms;

"4. <u>Invites</u> the attention of Governments to their responsibility for maintaining a policy consistent with the principles of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and of the effective struggle for peace, justice and the elimination of colonialism and <u>apartheid</u>, thus safeguarding inter alia, the faith of youth in these values;

"5. <u>Recommends</u> to the Secretary-General that appropriate use be made of resources of the United Nations Programme of Advisory Services in the Field of Human Rights for the achievement of the purposes of this resolution and that in this respect regional seminars on youth be organized as early as possible;

"6. <u>Recommends</u> to Governments, the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies concerned to ensure a greater involvement of youth in the activities relating to the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations and the Observance of the International Year for Education.

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"1. Endorses resolution 1407 (XLVI) of the Economic and Social Council relating to 'Long-term Policies and Programmes for Youth in National Development' and notes with appreciation the report contained in document A/C.3/613;

"2. <u>Recommends</u> that Governments formulate national youth policies in order to ensure a more co-ordinated approach to meeting the needs and aspirations of youth;

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"3. <u>Further recommends</u> to Governments that during the Second Development Decade youth and youth organizations be given appropriate opportunity to participate in the preparation and implementation of national development plans and in programmes of international co-operation;

"4. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies engaged in various studies and programmes on the problems and needs of youth and its participation in national development to identify separately the problems and the needs of youth in the developed and developing countries and suggest possible solutions accordingly;

"5. Invites the attention of Governments, the United Nations organs and the specialized agencies concerned to the need of ensuring to youth equality of opportunity both in the access to education at all levels and to employment;

"6. Urges the early completion of the studies on youth being undertaken by the Secretary-General, in particular, the study being prepared in accordance with resolution 1407 (XLVI) of the Economic and Social Council and those included in the work programmes of the specialized agencies concerned;

"7. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General in connexion with the study referred to in paragraph 6 above, to further consider ways and means through which the United Nations could best serve the objectives of the present resolution and, in particular, measures to be taken to establish channels of communication with youth and international youth organizations and to report thereon as early as possible to the General Assembly."

### Amendments to part A of the revised draft resolution

13. The amendments of the Sudan (A/C.3/L.1663) to the second preambular paragraph and part A, paragraph 1, of the original draft resolution were withdrawn at the 1660th meeting.

14. The amendment of <u>Italy</u> (A/C.3/L.1664, point 1), introduced at the 1660th meeting, was to insert in paragraph 1, between the words "resolution" and "2447 (XXIII)" the words "2445 (XXIII) and resolution".

15. The revised amendment introduced by <u>Algeria</u> at the 1660th meeting (A/C.3/L.1661/Rev.1) and later co-sponsored by the <u>Congo (Brazzaville</u>), <u>Guinea</u>, <u>Mali</u> and <u>Zambia</u> (A/C.3/L.1661/Rev.1/Add.1) read as follows:

"1. Amend operative paragraph 3 of part A to read as follows:

<sup>1</sup>3. <u>Affirms</u> that it is important to undertake all necessary measures in order to:

'(a) Promote by all appropriate means the education of youth in the countries and territories still under colonial and foreign occupation with a view to expediting the exercise of their right of self-determination, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

'(b) Ensure that education in the countries and territories referred to in the foregoing sub-paragraph is undertaken in complete respect for the national, religious and language traditions of the indigenous population and that its nature is not altered to serve political purposes;'.

"2. Renumber the following paragraphs accordingly."

16. The sub-amendment of Spain (A/C.3/L.1665) to the five-Power amendment (A/C.3/L.1661/Rev.1), introduced at the 1660th meeting, was to replace in sub-paragraph (a) the words "exercise of their right of self-determination" by the words "process of their decolonization". It was withdrawn at the 1661st meeting. 17. The oral sub-amendment of Iraq, submitted at the 1661st meeting, was to delete in sub-paragraph (a) of the five-Power amendment the words "exercise of their right of self-determination in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations" and to substitute for them the words "process of . decolonization, liberation and self-determination in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions". This was accepted by the five co-sponsors. 18. The oral amendment of the United Arab Republic to paragraph 4, of the revised draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1661/Rev.1, Rev.1/Corr.1 and Rev.1/Add.1), presented at the 1660th meeting, was to insert after the word "colonialism" the word "racism" and after "apartheid" the words "and all similar policies". This was taken into account by the sponsors of the revised draft resolution in their future revisions, announced at the 1661st meeting.

19. In respect of paragraph 5, <u>Cyprus</u>, on behalf of the co-sponsors, stated at the 1661st meeting that despite a request to change the words "regional seminars" to "international seminars" they had decided to retain "regional seminars"; the provisions of General Assembly resclution 2447 (XXIII) which had requested the Secretary-General to organize "seminars with the participation of persons specially qualified in subjects of particular concern to youth, including youth leaders" would not be affected by this new text and under their terms the Secretary-General would still be encouraged to organize, if possible, seminars on an international basis.

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## Amendments to part B of the revised draft resolution

20. The <u>Venezuelan</u> oral amendment, introduced at the 1660th meeting, was to reverse paragraphs 2 and 3 of part B so that they would read as follows:

"2. <u>Particularly recommends</u> to Governments that, taking into account the Second Development Decade, youth and youth organizations be given appropriate opportunity to participate in the preparation and implementation of national development plans and in programmes of international co-operation;

"3. <u>Recommends</u> that Governments, in formulating national development policies, ensure a more co-ordinated approach to meeting the needs and aspirations of youth;".

This amendment was partly taken into acount by the sponsors of the revised draft resolution in further revisions announced at the 1661st meeting. 21. The oral amendment of the <u>Byelorussian SSR</u> to paragraph 4 of part B, introduced at the 1660th meeting, was to delete the words "in the developed and developing countries" and replace them by the words "according to different countries and groups of countries". This amendment was not pressed to a vote. 22. The oral amendment of <u>Jamaica</u>, to paragraph 5 of part B, introduced at the 1660th meeting, was to add at the end of the paragraph the words "as well as to the need of ensuring increased opportunities in both fields". This amendment was taken into account by the sponsors of the revised draft resolution in further revisions announced at the 1661st meeting.

23. At the 1660th meeting the representative of the <u>Democratic Republic of</u> <u>the Congo</u> withdrew his amendment (A/C.3/L.1662) (see paragraph 10 above), on the understanding that the words "international youth organizations" in paragraph 7 of the revised draft resolution related to all such organizations which were truly representative, whether or not they had consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

24. The <u>Italian</u> amendment to part B (A'/C.3/L.1664, point 2) was to add after paragraph 7 a new paragraph 8, reading as follows:

"8. <u>Requests</u> the Economic and Social Council to ask the Commission for Social Development to consider at its twenty-first session, and the Commission on Human Rights at its twenty-sixth session, the report of the

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Third Committee to the Plenary of the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and on the problems of youth and its participation in national development, and to study and make recommendations in their respective fields, on the various ways and means proposed in the Committee for strengthening and enlarging international action on youth problems."

This amendment was withdrawn at the 1661st meeting.

25. The oral amendment of the <u>Netherlands</u>, introduced at the 1660th meeting, was to add at the end of part B a new paragraph, reading as follows:

"Further requests the Secretary-General to devote a special publication to this resolution which should contain the full text of the resolution accompanied by concise and clear explanatory notes, in order to give youth all over the world the opportunity for study and comments."

This amendment was withdrawn at the 1660th meeting in the light of a statement made by the representative of the Secretary-General.

#### III. DEBATE

## (a) Education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms

26. Most representatives drew attention to the existence of unrest among youth, unrest which was international and sometimes revolutionary in character, and wondered whether the United Nations could contribute to finding solutions to it by making a sustained effort to understand the problems of special concern to the young generation and find out the causes of legitimate dissatisfaction among them.

F7 It was asserted by several speakers that the justified pride in achievement with which mankind marvelled at scientific and technological progress, sometimes failed to take into account that these achievements had not been matched by progress in ensuring respect for the accepted norms of human rights. They pointed out that the contemporary world was also a world of the atom bomb, wars of aggression, refugee camps, proverty, discrimination and racism Human rights had for many remained a largely theoretical realm, and the virtues of generosity, sacrifice and altruism were often reflected more in words than in deeds.
F8. Some representatives drew the attention of the Committee to the case of under-privileged youth in big industrial cities who lacked confidence in a better future. For the young people concerned, the only hope lay in greatly improved opportunities in education and employment.

29. It was pointed out by many representatives that, irrespective of certain extreme attitudes, young people, whether in the developed or in the developing countries, had opted on the whole for a positive political orientation. 30. In that connexion, certain representatives contended that the problems in the industrialized countries and in the developing countries could not be viewed as one, since in the former case the resentment manifested by youth was mostly directed against the materialism of a consumer society, while in the latter case the cause of discontent often stemmed from remnants of colonialism and discrimination.

31. There was general agreement regarding the important role of education if human rights and fundamental freedoms were to be respected. Many speakers attached prime importance to educational reform. It was particularly stressed

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that children should be taught the concept of human rights in primary and secondary schools. Universities and other institutions of higher learning, in particular, should help to increase knowledge of and respect for, human rights through research, teaching and discussion. Some delegations referred favourably to the ideas relating to youth expressed by the Secretary-General in the introduction to his annual report.

32. Some representatives noted that the approach to the question of the education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms should be diversified, for the needs of socialist countries were unlike those of the capitalist countries. In all cases, however, young people must be educated in a spirit of peace, mutual understanding and opposition to any propaganda tending to promote racism or racial or religious intolerance.

33. With regard to the educational process, some speakers stressed the importance of the family as the natural and fundamental group unit of society. 34. Many speakers voiced their concern for the lack of communication between the United Nations and the world's youth, and it was widely felt that ways should be sought to establish greater contact between the Organization and genuine representatives of the younger generation.

35. While most representatives recognized that the task of educating young people in the spirit of human rights and fundamental freedoms was an obligation of the State, it was also stressed that the mere fact that the problem was the subject of serious research and discussions in the United Nations and in the specialized agencies evidenced its international character. It was generally felt, however, inadvisable to formulate too precise a course of action for youth until communication and consultation channels had been established, since to confront young people with decisions taken in their absence was likely to alienate them.

36. Many representatives warned against the dangers of adopting a paternalistic attitude towards young people and expressed the hope that the United Nations would speak to youth in its own language. Any programme for youth should proceed from consultations with those in daily contact with young people: youth leaders, teachers and social workers. If communication was to be reciprocal and the dialogue genuine, young people must be heard and helped to formulate their criticism.

37. In this connexion, many speakers agreed that the United Nations must not plunge into enterprises which were inadequately prepared or which were based on an over-simplified view of the issues involved.

38. Several representatives thought that at the present time there was no need for any further declaration on youth, stressing that the immediate need was for deeds and specific proposals.

39. Some members of the Committee commended the idea of organizing a United Nations youth assembly within the framework of the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations; they urged that, if that assembly was held, the relevant items under discussion in the Third Committee should be put on the assembly's agenda and the reactions of young people should be taken into account. 40. It was generally believed that one of the most appropriate and practical means to achieve the establishment of a dialogue between the United Nations and young people would be the organization of seminars under the advisory services programme for human rights at which representatives of youth organizations could participate.

41. In essence, most representatives agreed that young people could be catalysts for change precisely because of their refusal to accept the established order and because of their desire for innovation. The Committee recognized also the great contribution that youth everywhere, with its enthusiasm and energy and its concern for peace and justice, could make to the realization of the ideals and purposes of the United Nations.

## (b) <u>The problems and needs of youth and its participation in</u> <u>national development</u>

42. In discussing the problems and needs of youth and their participation in national development, several representatives pointed out that youth was not a homogeneous entity and that their problems were not separate from those of society in general. Many representatives indicated differences between the situation of youth in the developing world and in the industrialized countries. They also analyzed the goals and the methods of youth protest and action; and they emphasized the difficulties of, and the need for, creating a vocabulary of dialogue between the generations. Noting that young people should not be at the

periphery of action, certain speakers urged measures to strengthen youth participation in political life, including lowering the age of voting and facilitating the access of young persons to public office, assuring the right to freedom of association and demonstration and the right to belong to world-wide youth organizations. Several representatives also analysed the nature of youth's discontent with present-day education and advocated structures for youth participation in the making of policy on the aims, content and methods of secondary, university and out-of-school education.

43. Many members of the Committee urged that priority at the national level be assigned to the right to work and the problems of unemployed youth and that more attention be given to young people in the World Employment Programme. They cited problems of health, social equality and the harmful aspects of the current "youth culture". Many speakers also urged special attention to the needs of young persons involved in war against their will, those living in societies where <u>apartheid</u> was a way of life, and those still living under colonial domination or foreign occupation. Several representatives reiterated the importance of the analytical study in depth of the situation of youth called for in Economic and Social Council resolution 1407 (XLVI) and urged that such study reflect an inter-disciplinary approach, the ideas of young people and their organizations, and the contribution of different socio-economic systems to the solution of problems.

44. In considering youth action in development, many members of the Committee pointed out that with youth as activists in development, national goals were more readily attainable but caution should be taken to ensure that youth would be treated as full human beings and not merely as producers. It was pointed out by some speakers that in helping to meet the needs of developing areas, the youth of the industrialized countries found a constructive purpose. The point was made by a few speakers that the developing countries should exercise caution in accepting volunteer help from industrialized countries, since such help might have political implications. It was widely agreed, however, that in addition to their contribution in professional life and occupations, youth could assist development in a variety of ways. Many speakers noted with

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satisfaction the intention of the United Nations to convene a conference on the participation of youth in the Second Development Decade. Several representatives also welcomed Economic and Social Council resolution 1444 (XLVII) calling for a study of the feasibility of setting up an international corps of volunteers. 45. There was general agreement that if nations were not to be deprived of the contribution of their qualified youth, they should formulate cross-sectoral youth policies to meet the needs of youth and assure their participation in development. Youth policies belonged within national plans, and there should be not only long-term planning but short-term emergency measures as well. Planning machinery should include provision for inter-ministerial co-operation and for youth participation. Priority in the years just ahead should be given to education and employment.

46. The Committee considered the importance of youth questions within the United Nations system, and it was agreed that this subject should be periodically reviewed in the Third Committee. It was suggested that the United Nations and its specialized agencies should carry on a continuing dialogue with young people themselves. Creating such a dialogue required initiative, for young people were not, in general, waiting for the message of the United Nations. It was pointed out that the present channels for dialogue were not sufficient and that more opportunities for communication with youth were needed.

47. Members of the Committee generally agreed that there should be more youth participation in the activities of the United Nations, even if that involved a revision of present practices and procedures and the development of new ones. The importance of including youth in delegations to United Nations meetings was stressed, and the appointment of more young staff members was advocated. It was felt that there should be closer co-operation with the international youth and student organizations whether or not they had consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

48. The Committee reiterated the need for concerted international action on youth affairs and noted the report on programmes for international action relating to youth submitted on 28 May 1969 to the Economic and Social Council (E/4686).

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#### IV. VOTING

49. At the 1661st meeting, the Committee voted on the revised draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1660/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1 and Rev.1/Add.1), further revised by the sponsors as indicated below, and on the remaining amendments thereto. The voting was as follows:

## (a) Preamble

The preamble was adopted by 71 votes to none, the sponsors having explained that the reference in the fourth preambular paragraph to the "ideas relating to youth expressed by the Secretary-General in the introduction to his annual report" was meant to apply to all such references in that document.

## (b) Part A

(i) The Italian amendment to paragraph 1 (see paragraph 14 above) was adopted by 36 votes to none, with 43 abstentions.

(ii) Paragraph 1 as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 71 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

(iii) Paragraph 2 was adopted by 98 votes to none.

(iv) The amendment submitted by Algeria, Congo (Brazzaville), Guinea, Mali and Zambia to part A (A/C.3/L.1661/Rev.1), as orally revised at the 1661st meeting, (see also paragraphs 15 and 17 above), was adopted by a roll-call of 89 votes to 1, with 9 abstentions, and became the new paragraph 3. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Congo (Brazzaville), Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Groat Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

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#### Against: Portugal.

Abstaining: Bolivia, Brazil, Central African Republic, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Israel, Ivory Coast, Nicaragua, Peru.

(v) New paragraphs 4, 5, 6 and 7 (formerly paragraphs 3 to 6). The sponsors revised what had become new paragraph 5 by deleting the words "colonialism and <u>apartheid</u>" and substituting for them the words "colonialism, racism, <u>apartheid</u> and similar policies". The new paragraphs 4 to 7, as revised, were adopted by 89 votes to none.

## (c) Part B

The sponsors revised the beginning of paragraph 2 of part B to read: "<u>Recommends</u> that Governments, in formulating national youth policies ensure..."; paragraph 3 by adding the word "especially" before "during"; and paragraph 5 by deleting the words "equality of opportunity" and substituting for them "equal and increased opportunities". Part B, thus revised, was adopted by 87 votes to none.

### (d) Draft resolution as a whole

The draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 92 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

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#### V. RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

50. The Third Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

## Youth, its education in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, its problems and needs, and its participation in national development

#### The General Assembly,

<u>Recalling</u>, inter alia, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples,

<u>Recognizing</u> the important role and contribution of youth in the promotion of world peace, justice, social and economic progress and human rights, and in the realization of the goals embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, and welcoming the views of youth on these subjects,

<u>Recognizing further</u> the importance of co-ordinating the activities and programmes relating to youth among the United Nations organs and the specialized agencies concerned,

Noting the ideas relating to youth expressed by the Secretary-General in the introduction to his annual report,  $\frac{3}{2}$ 

Noting further the impact of the unprecedented development of science and technology on the needs and aspirations of youth,

Taking into account the responsibility of the family in the education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

<u>Desirous</u> of devising new methods through which the enthusiasm and the energy of the youth might be more effectively directed towards the spiritual and material advancement of all peoples,

## 3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 1A.

1. <u>Reaffirms</u> the provisions of its resolutions 2445 (XXIII) and 2447 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 on the education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. <u>Takes note with appreciation</u> of the report of the Secretary-General on that subject  $\frac{4}{7}$  containing the replies of Governments concerning the education of youth in the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and invites Governments which have not yet done so to reply thereon before the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

3. Affirms that it is important to undertake all necessary measures to:

(a) Promote by all appropriate means the education of youth in the countries and territories still under colonial and foreign occupation with a view to expediting the process of decolonization, liberation and self-determination in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

(b) Ensure that education in the countries and territories referred to in sub-paragraph (a) above is undertaken in complete respect for the national, religious and language traditions of the indigenous population and that its nature is not altered to serve political purposes;

<sup>4</sup>. <u>Appeals</u> to youth to affirm solemnly its faith in international law and in the principles and objectives of the Charter which aim at the realization of world peace, friendly relations and co-operation among States, human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. <u>Invites</u> the attention of Governments to their responsibility for maintaining a policy consistent with the principles of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and of the effective struggle for peace and justice and for the elimination of colonialism, racism, <u>apartheid</u> and similar policies thus safeguarding, inter alia, the faith of youth in these values;

6. <u>Recommends</u> to the Secretary-Ceneral that appropriate use should be made of the resources of the United Nations Programme of Advisory Services in the Field of Human Rights for the achievement of the purposes of the present resolution and that in this respect regional seminars on youth should be organized as early as possible;

4/ A/7662 and Add.1.

/...

7. <u>Recommends</u> to Governments, the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies concerned to ensure a greater involvement of youth in the activities relating to the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations and the observance of the International Education Year.

II

1. <u>Endorses</u> Economic and Sccial Council resolution 1407 (XLVI) of 5 June 1969, relating to long-term policies and programmes for youth in national development and notes with appreciation the Secretary-General's preliminary report on that subject; $\frac{5}{2}$ 

2. <u>Recommends</u> that Governments, in formulating national youth policies, should ensure a more co-ordinated approach to meeting the needs and aspirations of youth;

3. <u>Further recommends</u> to Governments that especially during the Second United Nations Development Decade, youth and youth organizations should be given an appropriate opportunity to participate in the preparation and implementation of national development plans and in programmes of international co-operation;

4. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies engaged in various studies and programmes on the problems and needs of youth and its participation in national development to identify separately the problems and needs of youth in the developed and developing countries and suggest possible solutions accordingly;

5. <u>Invites</u> the attention of Governments, the United Nations organs and the specialized agencies concerned to the need of ensuring to youth equal and increased opportunities both in access to education at all levels and to employment;

6. <u>Urges</u> the early completion of the studies on youth being undertaken by the Secretary-General, in particular the study being prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1407 (XLVI) and those included in the work programmes of the specialized agencies concerned;

<u>5/ A/C.3/613.</u>

7. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General, in connexion with the study referred to in paragraph 6 above, to consider further the ways and means through which the United Nations can best serve the objectives of the present resolution and, in particular, the measures to be taken to establish channels of communication with youth and international youth organizations, and to report therecn to the General Assembly as early as possible.

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