THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (EAFORD)

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SUBCOMMISSION ON PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Fifty - second session (31 July - 18 August 2000)

Item 4: The realization of economic, social and cultural rights

Madam Chairman,

We all know that the utter poverty suffered in some regions of the earth is not due to the region's lack of resources. More often than not, it is due to the local population's lack of knowledge about the means and ways to benefit from their region's resources be it of nutritional or other viable value. What we clearly observe today on the world map are wide regions, which have been deprived of the natural resources to build vibrant economies due to the deficiency, rigidity, or scarcity of the soil. Yet some of these regions still have managed with their skillful knowledge and planning to create the world's richest economies in lieu of and despite all these obstacles.

Therefore, it is clear that ignorance and the lack of skillful knowledge and planning are the main factors, which have led to poverty and hunger. The famine we are witnessing in some regions of the Third World has led to backwardness. In turn, all of this transformed into massive illiteracy and an inability to be educated and/or to provide proper education. It is a dreadful and vicious cycle of correlated negative effects on humanity at large, including advanced regions.

Madam Chairman,

These inequitable circumstances created racism and racial discrimination. The critical analysis of these widespread episodes of dire affliction point in the direction that there is no discrimination based solely on the ethnic, religious or racial elements. Racism in its essence is based on people whose favorable circumstances helped contribute to their advancement, and others whose unfavorable circumstances exposed them to backwardness. The former group exercised its sense of superiority onto the other and exploited to its advantage the negative circumstances at the expense of the agony, backwardness and starvation of the other. These realities gave birth to the viruses of hatred and malice leading to terrorism and violence. At times it even led to wars for which everyone pays a price, the advanced and the less advanced.

Madam Chairman,

Racism and racial discrimination and the exercise of superiority of one group over the other are the basis of so much misery and tragedy in our human society. Therefore, it is our duty, especially the duty of non-governmental organizations, which truly represent the people of the world, to jointly search for solutions to resolve this problem. It is our opinion that education is the most attainable solution and best answer in the present. It can be done through opening new doors to hundreds of thousands of schools in the Third World and arming these schools with qualified teachers. But how can we go about reaching this goal??

Madam Chairman,

The western world owes huge debts to the Third World that should be paid. America should pay thousands of billions of dollars to Africa as compensation for the lives of millions who were transported as slaves to the two American continents by the western enslavement machinery during three centuries. After all, it was on the shoulders of those Africans that America built its agriculture movement and to a large extent its industrial revolution and progress. Europe must also pay thousands of billions of dollars to Africa, Latin America, and a large region of Asia since it was European colonization that destroyed local economies in these regions. It did so through sacrificing wide-scale local agricultural systems and replacing them with single product marketing strategies, which transformed local economies into dependent consumers to serve Europe's best interests. In turn, local economies lost their independence and self-sufficiency. National industrial labor was no longer able to

meet the required standards for self-reliance.

The Third World strongly objects to and disapproves of those artificial and trivial media and propagandaoriented donations, which are offered nowadays to mask hundreds of years of oppression. America and Europe must pay back the true value of compensation owed to the Third World. Repayment is imperative if we really and truly aspire to achieve international and humanistic harmony to prevent feelings of hatred and malice and to safeguard this planet from violence and the tragedies of wars.

Madam Chairman,

We believe non-governmental organizations, especially European and American ones, must constantly and strongly call on advanced nations to seriously fulfill their obligations towards the Third World. We believe one of the best ways to guarantee positive results is by building hundreds of thousands of schools in developing regions, and encouraging millions of immigrants originally from these regions who reside in Europe and America by providing them with generous rewards to take charge of education's leadership in the proposed schooling institutions. Since African and Asian immigrants in Europe and America lived many years in these advanced nations, they are the most qualified and prepared group of people to carryout this positive mission for everyone's ultimate good.

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