

**INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION
ON THE ELIMINATION
OF ALL FORMS OF
RACIAL DISCRIMINATION**



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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
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CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 9 OF THE CONVENTION

Third periodic reports of States Parties due in 1976

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC^{1/}

[27 February 1976]

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in reply to his various communications concerning the report on legislative, judicial and administrative measures adopted by the Government of the Central African Republic to give effect to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, has the honour to inform him of the very forceful measures adopted by the Central African Republic to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination.

The Central African Republic, which draws its political strength from the Movement for the Social Evolution of Black Africa (MESAN), its single Great National Party, has based its activities on the philosophy of "ZO KWE ZO" which signifies equality among men, together with the expression "ZO A YEKE ZO" which signifies human dignity and respect for man.

Accordingly, cases of racial discrimination are unknown in the Central African Republic, and in this connexion the following measures inter alia have been adopted:

I. Ordinance No. 66/32 of 20 May 1966 prohibiting all manifestations of racism and tribalism throughout the territory of the Central African Republic:

(1) Article 2 of this Ordinance specifies that "the expression ZO KWE ZO together with ZO A YEKE ZO" is of general application;

^{1/} The initial and second periodic reports of the Central African Republic were due on 14 April 1972 and on 14 April 1974 respectively.

At its 261st meeting (twelfth session), held on 15 August 1975, the Committee requested the Secretary-General to send a seventh reminder to the Government of the Central African Republic, requesting it to submit its initial and second periodic reports, together with its third periodic report (which will be due on 14 April 1976), in one document, by the opening date of the Committee's thirteenth session (see A/10018, para. 71).

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(2) Article 3 of the aforementioned Ordinance states that "any violation of this Ordinance shall be considered to be an act prejudicial to the internal security of the State and shall be prosecuted as such".

II. Decree No. 66/264 of 27 July 1966 defines manifestations of racism or tribalism for the purposes of Ordinance No. 66/32 of 20 May 1966.

(1) Article 1 of this Decree states that the following shall be considered as manifestations of racism or tribalism for the purposes of Ordinance No. 66/32 of 20 May 1966 and shall be prosecuted as such:

The dissemination by any means whatever of propaganda intended to provoke contempt among citizens or inhabitants, or to incite them to violence or hatred against persons of different origin, religion, race or tribe;

The use in public or private of insults containing allegations relating to race or tribe;

The refusal, for racial or tribal reasons, to employ factory, office or other workers who are duly authorized to work in the territory of the Republic, or the dismissal or discharge of such workers, or in general any form of discrimination against them, on grounds of their racial origin or religion;

Any discrimination in regard to access to public places, hotels, places of entertainment, private clubs, etc., based on ethnic, racial or tribal criteria.

(2) Article 2 of Decree No. 66/264 of 27 July 1966 provides that the establishment of associations or groups based on the ethnic or tribal origin of their members shall be prohibited.

(3) Article 3 of this Decree provides that: "Any reference to race, tribe or ethnic group in official documents, private agreements, printed matter, or printed forms for administrative or other purposes shall be prohibited".

As regards penalties, Act No. 61/239 of 15 August 1961 provides in its article 77 (2) that this offence shall be punishable by imprisonment for a term ranging from six months to five years and by a fine varying from CFA francs 50,001 to 3,000,000.

Such are the measures adopted by the Central African Republic to give effect to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.
