

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: I think so.

The WITNESS:

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DOCUMENT No. 1

HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

UNITED NATIONS DOCUMENTS

(A) The Charter of the United Nations—There are a number of references to the subjects of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in the Charter.

- (a) In the preamble of the Charter, it is stated: "We the peoples of the United Nations determined . . . to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women . . . have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish these aims."
- (b) Article 1, para. 3, states that one of the basic purposes of the United Nations is: "to achieve international co-operation in . . . promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion."
- (c) Article 13 provides that: "The General Assembly shall initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of . . . assisting in the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion."
- (d) Article 55 states: "With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, the United Nations shall promote: . . . universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion."
- (e) Under Article 56, all members of the United Nations "pledge themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55."

That constitutes the text of the actual references in the charter to the subject of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The remainder of the document is a description of steps which have been taken in the United Nations to implement the general obligations which are contained in these clauses of the charter.

By Mr. Hazen:

Q. May I ask the date of the charter?—A. The charter was drawn up at the San Francisco Conference in May, 1945, and was signed on June 26, 1945.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any other questions on the charter?

The WITNESS: I will continue on page 2.

(B) *The Economic and Social Council*

The responsibilities of the United Nations in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as set forth in Articles 55 and 56 are, under Article 60*, vested in the General Assembly, and, under the authority of the General Assembly, in the Economic and Social Council. Article 62, para. 2, states that the Economic and Social Council "may make recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all". Article 68 provides that "the Economic and

*Responsibility for the discharge of the functions of the Organization set forth in this Chapter shall be vested in the General Assembly and, under the authority of the General Assembly, in the Economic and Social Council, which shall have for this purpose the powers set forth in Chapter X.