

remarkably successful.

Our long range objective, Mr. Chairman, remains some form of compulsory petition procedure. That is what we believe in, and that is what we will strive to secure, if only, as a start, on a regional basis. That is our long range goal.

We realize of course that this will not be achieved over night. Indeed, many of our good friends from Africa and from Latin America have told us that we had better not count on living long enough to see it achieved, at least on anything like a universal basis, and that we had better settle for something less ambitious if we would retain contact with reality. The point has been made that at a time when the *Ambudsman* is barely ~~giving~~^{gaining} recognition on the national level it may not be realistic to expect him to be extrapolated to the international level. We appreciate this, of course, and so, sir, in formulating our position on the implementation measures in the draft convention before us, we have tried to steer a middle course--a course that avoids on the one hand, the proven conservatism and stand-patism of mere reporting and conciliation, and, on the other hand, the (perhaps) optimistic fantasy of compulsory reporting. This middle course, in our opinion, leads to the system of optional petitions, a variety of which is represented by Article 13 of the draft put forward by Ghana, Mauritania and the Philippines. This article is not by a long shot everything that we would want, but it represents the results of patient and difficult negotiations, for which we are all grateful, and it is a compromise which we are prepared