

E/1990/6/Add.7
15 March 1995

ENGLISH
Original: SPANISH

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
Substantive session of 1995

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC,
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Second periodic reports submitted by States parties under
articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

Addendum
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC*

[28 November 1994]

* The initial report submitted by the Government of the Dominican Republic concerning rights covered by articles 1 to 15 (E/1990/5/Add.4) was considered by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its fifth session (see E/C.12/1990/SR.43-45 and 47).

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Article 15: Right to take part in cultural life

95. The Government of the Dominican Republic considers it to be its inherent duty to encourage the broadest possible dissemination of science and culture and to ensure that everyone enjoys the benefits of scientific and moral progress and their applications. To this end, a new law has recently been promulgated to protect intellectual property rights so that authors may enjoy the moral and material benefits of the product of their intellect, their scientific activity and their literary or artistic creativity.

96. In conformity with the provisions of the Covenant and as part of the principles on which the Dominican Republic is based, there is no limit or de facto legal restriction on freedom to undertake scientific research and creative activity. The State understands the importance and benefits deriving from international exchanges and cooperation in this and every other area and has signed many international and regional agreements to protect and disseminate science and culture.

97. For example, the Dominican Republic is a signatory to the following Conventions: the Convention on the Exchange of Official, Scientific, Literary and Industrial Publications; the Inter-American Convention on the Rights of the Author in Literary, Scientific and Artistic Works; the Convention on Facilities for Artistic Exhibitions; and the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. Any duly constituted natural or legal persons are thus entitled not only to have access to the various forms and expressions of culture and science, but also to disseminate any knowledge, information, opinions and experiments they consider worthwhile, without any restriction or legal limitation by the State.