

(d) To authorize the High Commissioner to make appeals for funds to enable him to solve the refugee problems referred to in sub-paragraph (c) above;

(e) To approve projects for assistance to refugees coming within the scope of sub-paragraph (c) above;

(f) To give directives to the High Commissioner for the use of the emergency fund to be established under the terms of paragraph 7 below;

6. *Authorizes* the High Commissioner, under conditions approved by the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, to make appeals for the funds needed to provide supplemental temporary care and maintenance to, and participate in the financing of permanent solutions for, refugees coming within his mandate and otherwise not provided for;

7. *Further authorizes* the High Commissioner to establish an emergency fund not to exceed \$500,000, to be utilized under general directives of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, and to maintain this fund from the repayments of the principal and interest of loans made by the United Nations Refugee Fund and from voluntary contributions made for this purpose;

8. *Decides* that appropriate financial rules for the use of all funds received by the High Commissioner under the terms of the present resolution shall be established, in consultation with the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, and in accordance with the Statute of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Financial Regulations of the United Nations;

9. *Requests* the UNREF Executive Committee to exercise in 1958 such functions incumbent upon the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme in conformity with paragraph 5 above as it deems necessary, with a view to assuring the continuity of international assistance to refugees falling within the scope of paragraph 5 (c) above;

10. *Requests* the High Commissioner to include in his annual report a statement on the measures which he has taken under the terms of the present resolution.

*723rd plenary meeting,
26 November 1957.*

1167 (XII). Chinese refugees in Hong Kong

The General Assembly,

Having considered the problem of the Chinese refugees in Hong Kong, in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugee Fund at its fourth session,⁶

Acknowledging the heavy burden placed upon the Government of Hong Kong in dealing with this problem, and the efforts made to alleviate it,

Recognizing however that the problem is such as to be of concern to the international community,

Taking into account the need for emergency and long-term assistance,

1. *Appeals* to States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and to non-governmental organizations to give all possible assistance with a view to alleviating the distress of the Chinese refugees in Hong Kong;

⁶ *Ibid.*, Twelfth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/3585/Rev.1), annex I, para. 107.

2. *Authorizes* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to use his good offices to encourage arrangements for contributions.

*723rd plenary meeting,
26 November 1957.*

1188 (XII). Recommendations concerning international respect for the right of peoples and nations to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling that one of the purposes and principles of the United Nations is to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

Recalling further its resolution 545 (VI) of 5 February 1952 in which it decided to include in the International Covenants on Human Rights an article which should provide: "All peoples shall have the right of self-determination",

Reaffirming the principles embodied in the above-mentioned resolution that all States, including those having responsibility for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories, should promote the realization of that right, in conformity with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Considering that disregard for the right to self-determination not only undermines the basis of friendly relations among nations as defined in the Charter of the United Nations but also creates conditions which may prevent further realization of the right itself,

Believing that such a situation is contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

1. *Reaffirms* that it is of international importance that, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations:

(a) Member States shall, in their relations with one another, give due respect to the right of self-determination;

(b) Member States having responsibility for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories shall promote the realization and facilitate the exercise of this right by the peoples of such Territories;

2. *Decides* to consider further at its thirteenth session the item "Recommendations concerning international respect for the right of peoples and nations to self-determination", including the proposals contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 586 D (XX) of 29 July 1955.

*727th plenary meeting,
11 December 1957.*

1189 (XII). Freedom of information

A

The General Assembly,

Considering the need to bring the text of the draft Convention on Freedom of Information⁷ to the attention of the increased membership of the United Nations,

Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To circulate to Member States the text of the preamble and nineteen articles of the draft Convention

⁷ *Ibid.*, Seventh Session, Annexes, agenda item 29, document A/AC.42/7 and Corr.1, annex.

on Freedom of Information prepared in 1951 by the General Assembly's *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Draft Convention on Freedom of Information, together with a brief history of the development of this project, and to invite them to submit their views and suggestions on the text and on the action which the General Assembly should take thereon;

(b) To invite Member States to provide a statement of the legal provisions relating to freedom of information in their countries;

(c) To report on this consultation to the General Assembly at its thirteenth session to enable the Assembly to give such priority as it may determine to the appropriate consideration of the draft Convention on Freedom of Information.

*727th plenary meeting,
11 December 1957.*

B

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the media of information have a more important role than ever before in strengthening friendly relations between peoples and that a free flow of accurate and undistorted news and information is a powerful factor in maintaining international peace and understanding,

Noting that the Commission on Human Rights, at its thirteenth session, appointed a committee of five of its members for the purpose of reviewing the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies on freedom of information and reporting, with recommendations, to the Commission at its fourteenth session,

Believing that there is need to ensure that problems of freedom of information shall remain under constant review by the appropriate organs of the United Nations,

Requests the Economic and Social Council:

(a) To invite the Commission on Human Rights to consider, at its fourteenth session, procedures by which

such constant review may be ensured, *inter alia*, by including problems of freedom of information in the agenda of its future sessions and examining means of providing for the continuing study of such problems;

(b) Further to invite the Commission, when examining the report of its committee appointed to review the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies on freedom of information, to give special consideration to the problem of developing media of information in under-developed countries;

(c) To transmit to the General Assembly at its thirteenth session the report of the Commission on these matters, together with the Council's recommendation thereon.

*727th plenary meeting,
11 December 1957.*

C

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the desirability of studying all possible means of increasing the free flow of accurate and undistorted news and information within countries and across national frontiers,

Noting the developing programme of advisory services in the field of human rights authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 926 (X) of 14 December 1955,

Considering that the holding of seminars on freedom of information could contribute to the solution of problems in this field,

Urges Member States to consider the possibility of organizing, in co-operation with the Secretary-General, seminars on freedom of information under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights.

*727th plenary meeting,
11 December 1957.*

* * *

Other decisions taken by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Third Committee

Draft International Covenants on Human Rights (item 33)

The General Assembly, at its 727th plenary meeting on 11 December 1957, decided to continue the consideration of agenda item 33 at its thirteenth session.