

**2859 (XXVI). Youth and dependence-producing drugs**

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolution 2719 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, Economic and Social Council resolution 1578 (L) of 20 May 1971 and World Health Assembly resolution WHA24.57 of 20 May 1971,

Considering that the abuse of narcotics and psychotropic drugs has become an extremely serious problem in many countries with disastrous results for the populations of these countries,

Acknowledging that measures hitherto adopted in the fight against the abuse of drugs have not been sufficiently effective, as some countries have taken positive steps while others have not yet taken adequate and effective measures for the suppression of illicit traffic in dependence-producing drugs,

Acknowledging further that developing countries determined to prevent illicit production of and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs do not succeed in achieving their goal owing to economic and technical difficulties,

Emphasizing that the abuse of dependence-producing drugs presents an especially serious threat to the youth of the world, among whom this disease has been growing at an alarming rate and now threatens the well-being of young people in a great number of countries,

Warning in particular against attempts directed towards the weakening of existing controls over the drug substance cannabis,

Noting that only through the consistent implementation by States of their relevant measures coupled with international co-operation can the dangers of drug abuse be reduced and this social malady effectively countered,

Strongly endorsing the activities of the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other agencies, and their decision to redouble their efforts to control and combat drug abuse throughout the world,

1. Urges all States to give wide support to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and, in particular, to involve youth in activities aimed at controlling drug abuse;

2. Requests all competent bodies of the United Nations dealing with the question of narcotic drugs to provide appropriate and effective assistance to developing countries with a view to enabling them to combat more effectively illicit production of and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs;

3. Appeals to all States to enact effective legislation against drug abuse, providing severe penalties for those engaged in illicit drug-trafficking;

4. Urges that steps be taken by Governments to inform in particular youth about the dangers of drug abuse, and to promote the establishment of comprehensive community-based drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities, especially for young drug users;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the specialized agencies concerned, to submit a report to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-third session on how the United Nations system can increase its effectiveness in the fight against drug abuse with special reference to the problems of youth in this respect.

*2027th plenary meeting,  
20 December 1971.*

**2860 (XXVI). Celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

*The General Assembly,*

Noting that Human Rights Day in 1973 will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption and proclamation by the General Assembly of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Convinced of the historic significance and enduring value of the Universal Declaration as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations,

Recalling that the United Nations provided for special observances of the tenth, fifteenth and twentieth anniversaries of the Universal Declaration, including the observance of the twentieth anniversary, in 1968, as the International Year for Human Rights,

Desiring to mark, in 1973, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration in a manner which would fit the occasion and serve the cause of human rights,

1. Decides to consider at its twenty-seventh session the question of the preparation of an appropriate programme to observe the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to present, for consideration by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session, such suggestions as he may consider appropriate concerning suitable activities which could be undertaken in celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration.

*2027th plenary meeting,  
20 December 1971.*

**2861 (XXVI). Town twinning as a means of international co-operation**

*The General Assembly,*

Considering that:

(a) It is a function of the United Nations to serve as the nodal point of the efforts of all peoples to achieve peace and international co-operation,

(b) It is necessary therefore to establish active co-operation between the Secretariat and collaborating local and regional bodies whose objectives are the same as those of the Organization,

Convinced that:

(a) Town twinning is an exceptionally valuable means of co-operation in that, between countries, it brings into contact not only local leaders but also whole populations,

(b) If carried out between towns in industrialized countries and those in developing countries, twinning affords, in addition to the intellectual and spiritual enrichment of those parties to it, technical and material support for growing towns which is sometimes considerable and can be brought to bear directly without administrative expenditure and without detriment to the sense of equality existing between the partners,

(c) The international co-operation of local bodies can play an important role in bringing peoples together,

Recalling:

(a) Economic and Social Council resolution 1028 (XXXVII) of 13 August 1964, in which the Council considered town twinning as one of the means of co-

operation that should be encouraged by the international Organization,

(b) General Assembly resolution 2058 (XX) of 16 December 1965, in which the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council, in collaboration with the appropriate non-governmental organizations in consultative status, to prepare a programme of measures through which the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization might take concrete steps to encourage further the achievement of the largest possible number of twinned towns,

(c) Economic and Social Council resolution 1217 (XLII) of 1 June 1967, in which the Council considered that there are non-governmental organizations in consultative status which can assist in promoting town twinning as a means of co-operation and recommended that the United Nations Development Programme bear in mind the experience of those non-governmental organizations when arranging for the implementation of such projects,

*Noting that:*

(a) Member States support the principle of international co-operation between local bodies, and that the twinning already undertaken throughout the world has had positive results,

(b) The United Towns Organization, a non-governmental organization in consultative status, in category I, with the Economic and Social Council and in consultative status, in category A, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, has acquired unquestionable competence in the field of twinning co-operation, was expressly described by the

Fifteenth General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in its resolution 9.11 of 15 November 1968 on peace, as an instrumentality which mobilizes public support in communes for understanding and international co-operation, and has been recognized by a number of States as serving the public interest,

(c) The resources available to the United Towns Organization for the implementation of such twinning are not commensurate with the corresponding needs,

1. *Considers* that world co-operation between municipalities is a natural complement to co-operation between States and intergovernmental organizations;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General:

(a) To study, in liaison with the United Towns Organization and those non-governmental organizations whose orientation is essentially communal and municipal with the same universalist character and having the same objectives, the means by which the United Nations and its specialized agencies can contribute effectively to the development of international co-operation between municipalities;

(b) To study any suggestions for world co-operation between municipalities;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-fourth session on the results of the measures taken by him, pursuant to the present resolution, to revitalize methods of co-operation and to facilitate the participation of local and regional bodies in development.

*2027th plenary meeting,  
20 December 1971.*