

*Desiring* to achieve the rapid and complete elimination of the obstacles to the economic and social progress of peoples, particularly colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, *apartheid*, aggression, occupation and foreign domination and all other forms of inequality and exploitation of peoples,

*Mindful* of the social aspects of the elaboration of the new international development strategy,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>23</sup> prepared on the basis of information provided by Governments, on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of all nations to pursue freely their economic and social development and to exercise full and complete sovereignty over all their natural resources;

2. *Welcomes* the active and growing participation of all members of society in economic and social development programmes;

3. *Reaffirms also* that the elimination of all forms of dependence and oppression such as aggression, foreign occupation, colonialism, *apartheid* and racial discrimination constitutes a prerequisite for world social and economic progress;

4. *Urges* the developed countries to make the structural changes included in the resolutions on the new international economic order aimed at eliminating the inequities and imbalances characterizing international economic relations which are necessary for the progress of the developing countries;

5. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, the Commission for Social Development, the Committee for Development Planning and the regional commissions to pay particular attention to studies and analyses concerning national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bear in mind, in preparing the reports on the world social situation, the close relationship between economic development and social development, and the over-all situation of the developing countries in international economic relations;

7. *Considers* that the new international development strategy should duly stress the need for each country to define within the context of its development plans and priorities an appropriate social development policy taking account of its socio-economic structure and its degree of development;

8. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to consider at its twenty-sixth session the report on the world social situation in the context of the work on the new international development strategy and to transmit its recommendations to the body entrusted with the preparation of that strategy;

9. *Requests* the Committee for Development Planning and the regional commissions, in their contribution to the work of the body entrusted with the preparation of the new international development strategy, to ensure that social development objectives are integrated in the strategy in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

<sup>23</sup> E/1978/19 and Add.1.

## II

*Recalling* resolution 3273 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, in which the General Assembly reaffirmed the right of every State to carry out social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress and the need to continue the study of national experience in that field, and Economic and Social Council resolution 2074 (LXII) of 13 May 1977, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the findings of various specialized agencies and organs of the United Nations system relating to the distribution of national income,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>24</sup> on the equitable distribution of national income,

1. *Affirms* that the social progress of all countries implies, among other things, a just and equitable distribution of income at the national and international levels;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the conclusions of the study requested in Council resolution 1086 (XXXIX) of 30 July 1965.

84th plenary meeting  
14 December 1978

### 33/49. Preservation and further development of cultural values

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 3026 A (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 3148 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973 and 31/39 of 30 November 1976,

*Noting* the resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its nineteenth session, held at Nairobi from 26 October to 30 November 1976, in particular its resolutions 4.12 on preservation and presentation of the cultural heritage of mankind and 4.13 on cultural development,<sup>25</sup>

*Taking into account* the results of the meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Preservation and Further Development of Cultural Values, convened by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at Warsaw from 24 to 28 October 1977,<sup>26</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the preservation and further development of cultural values,<sup>27</sup>

*Noting with satisfaction* that, since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 3148 (XXVIII), the attention of Governments and international organizations, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, has been focused on the importance of the preservation, renewal and continuous creation of cultural values and that cooperation between States has been developing to this end,

<sup>24</sup> E/1978/29.

<sup>25</sup> United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Nineteenth Session*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, pp. 46-53.

<sup>26</sup> See the final report of the Committee of Experts (CC-77/CONF.614/COL.9).

<sup>27</sup> See A/33/157.

*Conscious* of the importance of cultural development which, along with progress in the economic and social fields, should contribute to the improvement of living conditions and the well-being of nations and peoples in the process of establishing a new international economic order, as envisaged in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,<sup>28</sup> adopted during the sixth special session of the General Assembly, in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States<sup>29</sup> and in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,<sup>30</sup>

1. *Welcomes with appreciation* the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in promoting the cause of the preservation and further development of cultural values and in assisting co-operation among States in this respect;

2. *Calls upon* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its activities in the field of the preservation and further development of cultural values and, in particular:

(a) To collect information relevant thereto and carry out interdisciplinary research on the role and place of cultural values in contemporary society;

(b) To encourage the international exchange of information on modern methods used in the preservation and development of cultural values;

(c) To promote and assist international co-operation among States and relevant international organizations aiming at the preservation and further development of cultural values;

(d) To include on a continuing basis the problem of the preservation and further development of cultural values in its medium-term and long-term plans.

*84th plenary meeting  
14 December 1978*

**33/50. Protection, restitution and return of cultural and artistic property as part of the preservation and further development of cultural values**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 3026 A (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 3148 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 3187 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3391 (XXX) of 19 November 1975, 31/40 of 30 November 1976 and 32/18 of 11 November 1977,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,<sup>31</sup>

*Noting with satisfaction* the resolution adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twentieth session, held in Paris from 24 October to 28 November 1978, by which it approved the statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation,

<sup>28</sup> Resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

<sup>29</sup> Resolution 3281 (XXIX).

<sup>30</sup> Resolution 2542 (XXIV).

<sup>31</sup> See A/33/157.

*Taking into account* the results of the meeting of the Committee of Experts held at Dakar in 1978 to study the mandate, means of action and working methods of the above-mentioned Intergovernmental Committee,

*Reaffirming* that the restitution to a country of its *objets d'art*, monuments, museum pieces, manuscripts, documents and any other cultural or artistic treasures constitutes a step forward in the strengthening of international co-operation and the preservation and further development of cultural values,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the work done in connexion with the restitution and return of cultural and artistic property;

2. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation;

3. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its valuable efforts to find suitable solutions for the problems relating to the restitution and return of cultural and artistic property and urges Member States to co-operate with that organization in this field;

4. *Invites* Member States to take all possible steps for the restitution and return of cultural and artistic property, including manuscripts and documents, through, *inter alia*, the establishment of bilateral arrangements;

5. *Invites* all Governments to accede to the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,<sup>32</sup> adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 14 November 1970;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-fifth session an item entitled "Preservation and further development of cultural values, including the protection, restitution and return of cultural and artistic property".

*84th plenary meeting  
14 December 1978*

**33/51. International Covenants on Human Rights**

*The General Assembly,*

*Mindful* that the International Covenants on Human Rights<sup>33</sup> constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaties in the field of human rights and, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>34</sup> form the heart of the International Bill of Human Rights,<sup>35</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 31/86 of 13 December 1976 and 32/66 of 8 December 1977,

*Having noted* the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenant on Eco-

<sup>32</sup> United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Sixteenth Session*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, pp. 135-141.

<sup>33</sup> Resolution 2200 (XXI), annex.

<sup>34</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>35</sup> *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.XIV.2), sect. A.