

of Racial Discrimination¹¹⁸ and of the International Covenants on Human Rights,¹¹⁹

Bearing in mind the international instruments elaborated by the International Labour Organisation, notably the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975,¹²⁰ and the Recommendation concerning Migrant Workers, 1975,¹²¹ adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,

Taking account of the provisions relating to the question of migrant workers of the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,¹²²

Recalling that the family is the natural and fundamental element of society and has a right to protection by society and by the State and that, in this context, the families of migrant workers are entitled to the same protection as the migrant workers themselves,

Recognizing, therefore, the need to devote all necessary attention to the families, in particular the children, of migrant workers in all spheres, notably those of housing, health and education,

Reaffirming that the relationship between worker and employer is in itself a source of rights and obligations and that consequently a violation, or even a limitation, of those rights of migrant workers may be tantamount to a violation of the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Continuing to express its deep concern at the fact that, despite the general effort made by the States Members of the United Nations, the regional intergovernmental organizations and the various agencies of the United Nations, migrant workers still are not exercising their rights in the sphere of work as defined by the relevant international instruments,

Affirming that close co-operation between the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission for Social Development, the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization will contribute to the search for solutions aimed at improving the situation of migrant workers and their families,

Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/13 of 9 May 1979,

Recalling its resolution 33/163 of 20 December 1978,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General of 18 October 1979 and the addendum thereto;¹²³

2. *Welcomes* the large number of replies submitted by Member States and the international organizations concerned favouring the elaboration of an international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families;

3. *Decides* to create at its thirty-fifth session a working group open to all Member States to elaborate an international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in application of the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/13, to give the working group all necessary

¹¹⁸ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

¹¹⁹ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

¹²⁰ International Labour Office, *Official Bulletin*, vol. LVIII, 1975, series A, No. 1, Convention No. 143.

¹²¹ *Ibid.*, No. 1, Recommendation No. 151.

¹²² *Report of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 14-25 August 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.XIV.2), chap. II.

¹²³ A/34/535 and Add.1.

support, with a view to facilitating the elaboration of the international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families;

5. *Invites* the international organizations concerned to participate in the work of the working group and to co-operate with a view to the elaboration of such a convention.

106th plenary meeting
17 December 1979

34/173. Exchange of information on banned hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceutical products

The General Assembly,

Aware that the exportation of banned hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceutical products could have serious and adverse effects on the health of peoples in the importing countries,

Recognizing the urgent need to take concrete measures to prevent adverse effects on health on a world-wide basis and, to that end, mindful of the importance of objective information about banned hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceutical products,

1. *Urges* Member States to exchange information on hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceutical products that have been banned in their territories and to discourage, in consultation with importing countries, the exportation of such products to other countries;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations agencies and bodies concerned, especially the World Health Organization, to assist Governments in exchanging information and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, about the experience of Member States and the United Nations agencies and bodies concerned.

106th plenary meeting
17 December 1979

34/174. Assistance to student refugees from Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 31/126 of 16 December 1976, 32/119 of 16 December 1977 and 33/164 of 20 December 1978, in which it, *inter alia*, reaffirmed that humanitarian assistance by the international community to all those persecuted under repressive and discriminatory legislation in South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia is appropriate and essential,

Deeply concerned by the discriminatory education policies and repressive measures being applied by the Government of South Africa against black students in that country,

Noting Security Council resolution 417 (1977) of 31 October 1977 in which the Council, *inter alia*, demanded the abolishment of the "Bantu education" system and all other measures of *apartheid* and racial discrimination,

Noting with concern the continued influx into Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia of student refugees from South Africa as well as from Namibia and Zimbabwe and the urgent need to provide facilities for their care, health and education,

Conscious of the burden placed on the limited financial, material and administrative resources of the host countries by the influx of those student refugees,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General¹²⁴ containing the findings of the review missions sent by him to Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia in May 1979 to examine the status of the programmes of assistance to South African student refugees,

Recognizing the urgent need to establish an assistance programme for student refugees from Namibia and Zimbabwe,

Disturbed by the adverse effects which the application of *apartheid*, particularly the bantustan policy, is having on settled communities living in South Africa in areas bordering Lesotho and Swaziland, and by the consequent flight of large numbers of families, including children of school age, into Lesotho and Swaziland,

1. *Endorses* the assessment and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General and commends him and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on their efforts to mobilize resources and organize the programme of assistance to South African student refugees in the host countries;

2. *Decides* to enlarge the assistance programme for South African student refugees living in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia to include the care, health, education and other needs of student refugees from Namibia and Zimbabwe;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, to make every effort to mobilize assistance to facilitate the resettlement of refugee families from the border areas of South Africa and to provide adequately for the well-being of the children concerned;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* that the Governments of Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia continue to grant asylum and make educational and other facilities available to the student refugees in spite of the pressure which the continuing influx of those refugees exerts on facilities in their countries;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by Member States, the United Nations system and inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations to assist the host countries;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to organize and implement an effective programme of educational and other appropriate assistance for student refugees from southern Africa who have found asylum in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia;

7. *Urges* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute generously to the assistance programmes for those students, both through financial support and by offering further opportunities for their education and vocational training, as well as by financial and material contributions for their care and maintenance;

8. *Calls upon* all agencies and programmes of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa and the World Food Programme, to co-operate

with the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the implementation of humanitarian programmes of assistance for the student refugees from Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa who have found asylum in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to keep the matter under review and to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1980, of the current status of the programmes, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

106th plenary meeting
17 December 1979

34/175. Effective action against mass and flagrant violations of human rights

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the importance given in the Charter of the United Nations to promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recognizing that, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹²⁵ the ideal of free human beings enjoying civil and political freedom and freedom from fear and want can be achieved only if conditions are created whereby everybody may enjoy his civil and political rights as well as his economic, social and cultural rights,

Conscious of the responsibility of the United Nations, expressed *inter alia* in General Assembly resolution 32/130 of 16 December 1977, in dealing with situations of mass and flagrant violations of human rights,

Believing that disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind,

Recalling the statements made at the current session of the General Assembly by representatives of countries which have recently experienced mass and flagrant violations of human rights,

1. *Expresses satisfaction* that during the current year several situations of mass and flagrant violations of human rights have ceased, though many serious situations remain to be resolved;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the assistance being offered by the Secretary-General and by various United Nations bodies to countries which have recently experienced situations of mass and flagrant violations of human rights;

3. *Reaffirms* that mass and flagrant violations of human rights are of special concern to the United Nations;

4. *Urges* the appropriate United Nations bodies, within their mandates, particularly the Commission on Human Rights, to take timely and effective action in existing and future cases of mass and flagrant violations of human rights;

5. *Stresses* the important role that the Secretary-General can play in situations of mass and flagrant violations of human rights.

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¹²⁴ A/34/345.

¹²⁵ Resolution 217 A (III).