

#### 40/127. United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

*The General Assembly.*

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>6</sup> which states that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Again recalling the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>71</sup>

Recalling also its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,

Recalling further its resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, in which it noted with deep concern that acts of torture took place in various countries, recognized the need to provide assistance to the victims of torture in a purely humanitarian spirit and established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

Convinced that the struggle to eliminate torture includes the provision of assistance in a humanitarian spirit to the victims and members of their families,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>160</sup>

1. Expresses its gratitude and appreciation to those Governments, organizations and individuals that have already contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;

2. Calls upon all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for initial as well as further contributions to the Fund;

3. Expresses its appreciation to the Board of Trustees of the Fund for the work it has carried out;

4. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the support given to the Board of Trustees of the Fund;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials, to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its efforts to make the Fund and its humanitarian work better known and in its appeal for contributions.

116th plenary meeting  
13 December 1985

#### 40/128. Status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

*The General Assembly.*

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>6</sup> and article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>7</sup> both of which provide that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Recalling also the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 3452 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

Recalling further its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratifi-

cation and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and called upon all Governments to consider signing and ratifying the Convention as a matter of priority,

Mindful of the relevance, for the eradication of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials<sup>161</sup> and of the Principles of Medical Ethics,<sup>162</sup>

Convinced of the desirability of early finalization and subsequent adoption of the draft Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment,<sup>163</sup>

Seriously concerned about the alarming number of reported cases of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment taking place in various parts of the world,

Determined to promote the full implementation of the prohibition, under international and national law, of the practice of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Welcoming the decision of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1985/33 of 13 March 1985, to appoint a special rapporteur to examine questions relevant to torture,<sup>30</sup>

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;<sup>164</sup>

2. Expresses its satisfaction at the number of States that have signed the Convention since it was opened for signature, ratification and accession on 4 February 1985;

3. Requests all States that have not yet done so to sign and to ratify the Convention as a matter of priority;

4. Invites all States, upon ratification of or accession to the Convention, to consider the possibility of making the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 of the Convention;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-second session and to the General Assembly at its forty-first session a report on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

6. Decides to consider the report of the Secretary-General provided for in paragraph 5 above at its forty-first session under the item entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

116th plenary meeting  
13 December 1985

#### 40/129. Strategy and policies for drug control

*The General Assembly.*

Recalling its resolution 32/124 of 16 December 1977, in which it requested the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to study the possibility of launching a meaningful programme of international drug abuse control strategy and policies,

Recalling also its resolution 36/168 of 16 December 1981, by which it adopted the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy and the basic five-year programme of action<sup>149</sup> proposed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

<sup>160</sup> A/40/876.

<sup>161</sup> Resolution 34/169, annex

<sup>162</sup> Resolution 37/194, annex

<sup>163</sup> A/34/146, annex.

<sup>164</sup> A/40/604.

in its resolution 1 (XXIX) of 11 February 1981,<sup>165</sup> as well as its resolution 38/98 of 16 December 1983, in which it decided that, beginning with its eighth special session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, meeting in plenary during its sessions and in the presence of all interested observers, would constitute the task force envisaged in General Assembly resolution 36/168 to review, monitor and co-ordinate the implementation of the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy and the basic five-year programme of action.

*Taking note* of resolution 2 (XXXI) of 20 February 1985 of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs<sup>143</sup> and Economic and Social Council decision 1985/130 of 28 May 1985,

*Approves* the programme of action for 1986, the fifth year of the United Nations basic five-year programme of the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy, reviewed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-first session.<sup>166</sup>

*116th plenary meeting  
13 December 1985*

**40/130. Measures to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming once more* the permanent validity of the principles and standards embodied in the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>6</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>24</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination<sup>11</sup> and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>75</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the principles and standards established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the importance of the task carried out in connection with migrant workers and their families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations,

*Reiterating* that, in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles and standards, there is a need to make further efforts to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and their families,

*Recalling* its resolution 34/172 of 17 December 1979, by which it decided to establish 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,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 35/198 of 15 December 1980, 36/160 of 16 December 1981, 37/170 of 17 December 1982, 38/86 of 16 December 1983 and 39/102 of 14 December 1984, by which it renewed the mandate of the Working Group on the Drafting of an International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families and requested it to continue its work,

*Having examined* the progress made by the Working Group during its fifth inter-sessional meeting,<sup>167</sup> held from 3 to 14 June 1985, as well as the report of the Working Group during the current session of the General Assem-

bly,<sup>168</sup> during which the Group continued with the second reading of the draft convention,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the reports of the Working Group on the Drafting of an International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families and, in particular, of the progress made by the Working Group on the drafting, in second reading, of the draft convention;

2. *Decides* that, in order to enable it to complete its task as soon as possible, the Working Group shall again hold an inter-sessional meeting of two weeks' duration in New York, immediately after the first regular session of 1986 of the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to transmit to Governments the reports of the Working Group so as to enable the members of the Group to continue the drafting, in second reading, of the draft convention during the inter-sessional meeting to be held in the spring of 1986, as well as to transmit the results obtained at that meeting to the General Assembly for consideration during its forty-first session;

4. *Also invites* the Secretary-General to transmit the above-mentioned documents to the competent organs of the United Nations and to international organizations concerned, for their information, so as to enable them to continue their co-operation with the Working Group;

5. *Decides* that the Working Group shall meet during the forty-first session of the General Assembly, preferably at the beginning of the session, to continue the second reading of the draft international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families.

*116th plenary meeting  
13 December 1985*

**40/131. United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations**

*The General Assembly,*

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/34 of 7 May 1982, by which the Council authorized the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to establish annually a working group on indigenous populations,

*Taking note* of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1984/32 of 12 March 1984,<sup>29</sup>

*Convinced* that the establishment of a voluntary trust fund for indigenous populations would constitute a significant development for the future promotion and protection of the human rights of indigenous populations,

*Decides* to establish a voluntary trust fund in accordance with the following criteria:

(a) The name of the fund shall be the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations;

(b) The purpose of the Fund shall be to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations by providing them with financial assistance, funded by means of voluntary contributions from Governments, non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities;

(c) The only type of activity to be supported by the Fund is that described in subparagraph (b) above;

<sup>165</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 4 (E/1981/24)*, chap. XI, sect. A.

<sup>166</sup> See A/40/773, annex.

<sup>167</sup> See A/C.3/40/1.

<sup>168</sup> A/C.3/40/6.