

Recognizing the need to view refugee-related development projects within local and national development plans,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the implementation of resolution 39/108;<sup>177</sup>

2. *Commends* the measures that the Government of the Sudan is taking to provide material and humanitarian assistance to refugees in spite of the drought and the serious economic situation it faces;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner, donor countries and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their efforts to assist the refugees in the Sudan;

4. *Expresses grave concern* at the shrinking resources available for refugee programmes in the Sudan and the serious consequences of this situation on the country's ability to continue to act as host and provide assistance to the increasing numbers of refugees;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the massive and increasing presence of the refugees, shrinking financial resources, drought and the serious economic situation in the country, to send, in co-operation and co-ordination with the High Commissioner and relevant specialized agencies, a high-level inter-agency mission to assess the needs and the magnitude of assistance required by the programmes for refugees in the Sudan, as well as the impact of the refugees on the economy and vital public services, with a view to preparing a comprehensive programme of assistance to be submitted to the international community;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to mobilize the necessary financial and material assistance for the full implementation of the projects submitted by the Government of the Sudan to the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa,<sup>172</sup> held at Geneva from 9 to 11 July 1984;

7. *Appeals* to Member States, the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international financial institutions to provide the Government of the Sudan with the necessary resources for the implementation of development assistance projects in regions affected by the presence of refugees;

8. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue co-ordination with the appropriate specialized agencies in order to consolidate and ensure the continuation of essential services to the refugees in their settlements;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution.

*116th plenary meeting  
13 December 1985*

#### **40/136. Emergency assistance to returnees and displaced persons in Chad**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 39/106 of 14 December 1984,

*Taking note* of the report made by the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator on 26 November 1985 on the situation of returnees in Chad,<sup>178</sup>

<sup>177</sup> A/40/589.

<sup>178</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Third Committee, 54th meeting, paras. 6-10.*

*Deeply concerned* by the persistence of the drought, which is compounding the already precarious food and health situation in Chad,

*Conscious* that the large number of voluntary returnees and displaced persons as a result of the war and the drought in Chad poses a serious problem of integrating them into society,

*Considering* that, in addition to being a land-locked country and one of the least developed countries, Chad is placed in a particularly difficult situation by reason of the war and the drought,

*Bearing in mind* the many appeals made by the Government of Chad, in particular that made on 9 October 1985 to the General Assembly,<sup>179</sup> and by humanitarian organizations regarding the gravity of the food and health situation in Chad,

*Recalling* the urgent appeal made by the General Assembly during its thirty-ninth session for international emergency assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad afflicted by natural disasters,

1. *Endorses* the appeals made by the Government of Chad and by humanitarian organizations concerning emergency assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad;

2. *Reiterates its appeal* to all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support by generous contributions the efforts being made by the Government of Chad to assist and resettle the voluntary returnees and displaced persons;

3. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the action undertaken by the various bodies of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies with a view to mobilizing emergency humanitarian assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad;

4. *Again requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator to mobilize emergency humanitarian assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*116th plenary meeting  
13 December 1985*

#### **40/137. Question of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Afghanistan**

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>6</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights<sup>24</sup> and the humanitarian rules set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,<sup>180</sup>

*Aware* of its responsibility to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and resolved to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur,

*Emphasizing* the obligation of all Governments to respect and protect human rights and to fulfil the responsibilities they have assumed under various international instruments,

<sup>179</sup> *Ibid.*, *Plenary Meetings*, 29th meeting, paras. 1-28.

<sup>180</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 1984/55 of 15 March 1984,<sup>29</sup> in which the Commission expressed its concern and anxiety at the continuing presence of foreign forces in Afghanistan, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/37 of 24 May 1984, in which the Council requested the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights to appoint a special rapporteur to examine the situation of human rights in Afghanistan,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1985/38 of 13 March 1985,<sup>30</sup> in which the Commission expressed its profound concern at the grave and massive human rights violations in Afghanistan and urged the authorities in that country to put a stop to those violations, in particular the military repression being conducted against the civilian population of Afghanistan,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 1985/147 of 30 May 1985, by which the Council approved the decision of the Commission on Human Rights to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur and to request him to report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session and to the Commission at its forty-second session on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, including the human and material losses resulting from the bombardments of the civilian population,

Taking note of resolution 1985/35 of 30 August 1985 of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,<sup>181</sup> in which the Sub-Commission requested the Commission on Human Rights to ask the Special Rapporteur to look, in particular, into the fate of women and children as a consequence of the conflict in Afghanistan,

Having carefully examined the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the question of human rights in Afghanistan,<sup>182</sup> which reveals continuing grave and massive violations of fundamental human rights in that country,

Recognizing that a situation of armed conflict continues to exist in Afghanistan, leaving large numbers of victims without protection or assistance,

Deploring the continuing refusal of the Afghan authorities to co-operate with the Special Rapporteur,

1. Commends the Special Rapporteur for his report on the question of human rights in Afghanistan;

2. Expresses its profound concern that, as revealed in the findings of the Special Rapporteur, disregard for human rights is more widespread, the conflict continues to engender human rights violations on a large scale and, as a result, not only the lives of individuals but the existence of whole groups of persons and tribes are endangered;

3. Expresses its deep concern that the Afghan authorities, with heavy support from foreign troops, are acting with great severity against their opponents and suspected opponents without any respect for the international human rights obligations which they have assumed;

4. Also expresses its deep concern at the severe consequences for the civilian population of indiscriminate bombardments and military operations aimed primarily at the villages and the agricultural structure;

5. Shares the conviction of the Special Rapporteur that the prolongation of the conflict increases the seriousness of the gross and systematic violations of human rights already existing in the country;

6. Expresses its profound distress and alarm, in particular, at the widespread violations of the right to life, liberty and security of person, including the commonplace practice of torture and summary executions of the opponents

of the régime, as well as at increasing evidence of a policy of religious intolerance;

7. Notes with great concern that such widespread violations of human rights, that have already caused millions of people to flee their homes and country, are still giving rise to large flows of refugees and displaced persons;

8. Calls upon the parties to the conflict to apply fully the principles and rules of international humanitarian law and to admit international humanitarian organizations, in particular the International Committee of the Red Cross, and to facilitate their operations for the alleviation of the suffering of the people in Afghanistan;

9. Urges the authorities in Afghanistan to co-operate with the Commission on Human Rights and its Special Rapporteur, in particular by allowing him to visit Afghanistan;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur;

11. Decides to keep under consideration, during its forty-first session, the question of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Afghanistan, in order to examine this question anew in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

116th plenary meeting  
13 December 1985

#### 40/138. Assistance to student refugees in southern Africa

*The General Assembly.*

Recalling its resolution 39/109 of 14 December 1984, in which it, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to continue to organize and implement an effective programme of educational and other appropriate assistance for student refugees from Namibia and South Africa who have been granted asylum in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia,

Having considered the report of the High Commissioner on the assistance programme to student refugees from South Africa and Namibia,<sup>183</sup>

Noting with appreciation that some of the projects recommended in the report on assistance to student refugees in southern Africa have been successfully completed,

Noting with concern that the discriminatory and repressive policies which continue to be applied in South Africa and Namibia cause a continued and increasing influx of student refugees into Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia,

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

Appreciating the efforts of the host countries to deal with their student refugee populations, with the assistance of the international community,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Governments of Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia for granting asylum and making 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;

<sup>181</sup> See E/CN.4/1986/5-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1985/57, chap. XX, sect. A.

<sup>182</sup> A/40/843, annex.

<sup>183</sup> A/40/590.