

the special problems of refugee and displaced women and children resulting from their vulnerable position, which in many cases exposes them to a variety of difficult situations affecting their physical and legal protection as well as their psychological and material well-being,

*Noting with satisfaction and encouraging* the continuing and increasing co-operation between the Office of the High Commissioner and other bodies of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

*Desirous* of ensuring the speedy implementation of the recommendations and pledges made at the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, held at Geneva from 9 to 11 July 1984,<sup>131</sup>

1. *Commends* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his staff for the dedicated and efficient manner in which they discharge their responsibilities;

2. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental nature of the High Commissioner's function to provide international protection and the need for Governments to continue to co-operate fully with his Office in order to facilitate the effective exercise of this function, in particular by acceding to and implementing the relevant international and regional refugee instruments and by scrupulously observing the principles of asylum and *non-refoulement*;

3. *Condemns* all violations of the rights and safety of refugees and asylum-seekers, in particular those perpetrated by military or armed attacks against refugee camps and settlements and other forms of brutality and by the failure to rescue asylum-seekers in distress at sea;

4. *Welcomes* the fact that arrangements introduced by the High Commissioner have increased significantly the rescue of asylum-seekers in distress at sea and that preventive measures have resulted in a decline in the number of refugee boats attacked by pirates;

5. *Urges* all States, in co-operation with the Office of the High Commissioner and other competent international bodies, to take all measures necessary to ensure the safety of refugees and asylum-seekers;

6. *Also urges* all States to support the High Commissioner in his efforts to achieve durable solutions to the problem of refugees and displaced persons of concern to his Office, primarily through voluntary repatriation or return, including assistance to returnees, as appropriate, or, wherever appropriate, through integration into countries of asylum or resettlement in third countries;

7. *Endorses* the conclusions on voluntary repatriation adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner at its thirty-sixth session<sup>129</sup> and urges States to extend their full co-operation to the High Commissioner to that effect;

8. *Expresses its warm appreciation* for the work done by the High Commissioner to put into practice the concept of development-oriented assistance to refugees and returnees, as initiated at the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, and urges him to continue that process, wherever appropriate, in co-operation with the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and other organizations, and, further, urges Governments to support these efforts;

9. *Commends* the High Commissioner's programmes for refugee and displaced women, especially those undertaken to secure their protection and to help them to become self-sufficient through educational, vocational and income-generating projects;

10. *Expresses deep appreciation* for the valuable material and humanitarian response of receiving countries, in particular those developing countries that, despite limited resources, continue to admit, on a permanent or temporary basis, large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers, and, reaffirming the principle of international solidarity and burden-sharing, urges the international community to assist receiving countries in order to enable them to cope with the additional burden created by the presence of those refugees and asylum-seekers;

11. *Commends* all States that facilitate the attainment of durable solutions and contribute generously to the High Commissioner's programmes;

12. *Expresses deep appreciation* for the valuable co-operation between the Office of the High Commissioner and intergovernmental and non-governmental agencies;

13. *Calls upon* all States to promote durable solutions and to contribute generously to the High Commissioner's humanitarian programmes in order to assist refugees, returnees and displaced persons of concern to the High Commissioner in a spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing.

*116th plenary meeting  
13 December 1985*

#### **40/119. Expression of appreciation to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

*The General Assembly,*

*Noting with deep regret* that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will shortly be relinquishing his duties,

*Recognizing* the significant progress achieved under his guidance in promoting humanitarian solutions to the problems of refugees and displaced persons in various parts of the world,

*Considering* his unrelenting efforts to alleviate human suffering through the special humanitarian tasks entrusted to him in addition to the original functions of his Office,

1. *Expresses its sincere appreciation and thanks* to Mr. Poul Hartling for the effective and dedicated manner in which he has performed his functions as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

2. *Extends its good wishes* to him for success in his future undertakings.

*116th plenary meeting  
13 December 1985*

#### **40/120. Preparation of a draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 33/168 of 20 December 1978, 35/195 of 15 December 1980, 36/132 of 14 December 1981, 36/168 of 16 December 1981, 37/168 of 17 December 1982, 37/198 of 18 December 1982, 38/93 and 38/122 of 16 December 1983, 39/141 and 39/143 of 14 December 1984 and other relevant provisions,

*Recalling also* the Declaration on the Control of Drug Trafficking and Drug Abuse of 14 December 1984,<sup>132</sup> in which it is stated, *inter alia*, that the eradication of trafficking in narcotic drugs is the collective responsibility of all States and that States shall utilize the legal instruments against the illicit production of and demand for, abuse of

<sup>131</sup> See A/39/402 and Add.1 and 2.

<sup>132</sup> Resolution 39/142, annex.

and illicit traffic in drugs and adopt additional measures to counter new manifestations of this crime,

*Bearing in mind* the Quito Declaration against Traffic in Narcotic Drugs of 11 August 1984,<sup>133</sup> the New York Declaration against Drug Trafficking and the Illicit Use of Drugs of 1 October 1984<sup>134</sup> and the Lima Declaration of 29 July 1985,<sup>135</sup> in which profound alarm was expressed at the seriousness of the problem,

*Noting* the report entitled "Options for individual and collective action to intensify the fight against drug abuse" that emerged from the Bonn Summit held from 2 to 4 May 1985,

*Noting also* the joint statement on the international problem of drug abuse and drug trafficking issued on 9 July 1985 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, which praised the ongoing efforts of the international community in preparing the draft of a new convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

*Taking into account* the fact that, at the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Countries held at Luanda from 4 to 7 September 1985, the Ministers expressed deep concern over the growing problem of drug abuse and illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and renewed their support for the efforts being undertaken by the international community to combat it,<sup>136</sup>

*Taking into account also* the paragraphs on drug abuse and illicit trafficking in drugs in the communiqué adopted at the meeting of Heads of Governments of Commonwealth States held at Nassau from 16 to 22 October 1985, in which the hope was expressed that action would be expedited on the related proposed new convention,<sup>137</sup>

*Recalling with appreciation* the thorough consideration given to drug abuse and trafficking issues by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, in particular its resolution 2, in which the Congress recommended that the preparation of a new international instrument against illicit drug traffic should be considered as an absolute priority,<sup>138</sup> and the Milan Plan of Action, especially paragraph 5 (g) thereof,<sup>60</sup>

*Deeply concerned* by the constant upward trend in illicit traffic and drug abuse verified and reported by an increasing number of Member States, which poses serious dangers for individual human rights and for the economic, cultural and political structures of society,

*Reaffirming its conviction* that the magnitude and complexity reached in illicit drug trafficking and its grave consequences emphasize the urgent need to carry out the mandate given by the General Assembly, in its resolution 39/141, to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, through the Economic and Social Council, to initiate, as a matter of priority, the preparation of a draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs which considers the various aspects of the problem as a whole, in particular those not envisaged in existing international instruments,

*Welcoming* the statement made by the Secretary-General before the Economic and Social Council on 24 May 1985,<sup>139</sup> in which he proposed the convening in 1987 of a world conference at the ministerial level to deal with all aspects of drug abuse, and his note on drug abuse control of 22 October 1985,<sup>140</sup>

*Recognizing* the valuable contribution made by existing international legal instruments in their specialized areas, including the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,<sup>141</sup> and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>142</sup>

*Expressing deep satisfaction* with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 1 (XXXI) of 20 February 1985,<sup>143</sup> approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1985/130 of 28 May 1985,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to Member States for their response to the request made by the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 1 of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 1 (XXXI) and urges those Member States that have not yet done so to comply with the request forthwith;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his effective response to the request set forth in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 1 (XXXI) and for the preparation of his comprehensive report,<sup>144</sup> which will contribute to the preparation of a draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 39/141;

3. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/141 and resolution 1 (XXXI) of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, to instruct the Commission to decide, following consideration at its ninth special session of the report of the Secretary-General, on the elements that could be included in the convention and to request the Secretary-General to prepare a draft on the basis of those elements, and to submit a progress report, including completed elements of the draft, to the Commission for consideration at its thirty-second session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, to be held in 1987,<sup>145</sup> a report on progress made towards completing a new convention against drug trafficking;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of resolution 2 adopted by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/32 of 29 November 1985, in which the Congress recommended that absolute priority should be accorded to the preparation of a new international instrument against illicit drug traffic, as well as the importance of paragraph 5 (g) of the Milan Plan of Action;

6. *Recommends* that the new convention should take into account the interests of all countries in order that it may be an effective, operative instrument in the struggle against illicit drug trafficking;

7. *Requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to report to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1986 on the results achieved in this respect during its ninth special session;

8. *Urges once again* all States that have not yet done so to adhere to and ratify the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single

<sup>133</sup> A/39/407, annex.

<sup>134</sup> A/39/551 and Corr.1 and 2, annex.

<sup>135</sup> A/40/544, annex.

<sup>136</sup> See A/40/854-S/17610 and Corr.1, annex II, sect. XXVIII.

<sup>137</sup> See A/40/817, annex, para. 67.

<sup>138</sup> See *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. E.

<sup>139</sup> A/C.3/40/8, annex.

<sup>140</sup> A/C.3/40/8.

<sup>141</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152, p. 106.

<sup>142</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956, p. 176.

<sup>143</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1985, Supplement No. 3 (E/1985/23 and Corr.1)*, chap. IX, sect. A.

<sup>144</sup> E/CN.7/1986/2 and Corr.1 and Add.1-3.

<sup>145</sup> See resolution 40/122.

Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*116th plenary meeting  
13 December 1985*

#### 40/121. International campaign against traffic in drugs

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 35/195 of 15 December 1980, 36/168 of 16 December 1981, 37/168 of 17 December 1982, 37/198 of 18 December 1982 and 38/98 and 38/122 of 16 December 1983, as well as its resolutions 36/132 of 14 December 1981, 38/93 of 16 December 1983, 39/141 and 39/143 of 14 December 1984 and other relevant provisions,

*Recalling also* its resolution 39/142 of 14 December 1984, by which it adopted the Declaration on the Control of Drug Trafficking and Drug Abuse, which describes drug trafficking and drug abuse as an international criminal activity whose total elimination demands urgent attention and maximum priority,

*Taking note* of the reiterated concern expressed by the Secretary-General in his report on the work of the Organization,<sup>146</sup> in which he recognizes that the drug problem can no longer be regarded as a merely social, and largely domestic, concern and proposes that an effective range of strategies be developed to meet the challenge,

*Taking note once again* of the provisions of the Quito Declaration against Traffic in Narcotic Drugs of 11 August 1984,<sup>133</sup> the New York Declaration against Drug Trafficking and the Illicit Use of Drugs of 1 October 1984,<sup>134</sup> in which drug trafficking is considered to be a crime against humanity, and the Lima Declaration of 29 July 1985,<sup>135</sup> which draws attention to the need for integrated, effective and urgent regional and international action supported by the resources necessary for successfully overcoming the problem,

*Commending* the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotics Control Board, as well as the positive action of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control in allocating funds to integrated rural development programmes, including substitution of illegal crops in the most severely affected areas, and their efforts to achieve greater law enforcement,

*Considering* that, despite the efforts made, the situation continues to deteriorate and the international community is confronted with transnational criminal organizations whose activities, including terrorist practices, constitute a threat to the well-being of peoples, the stability of democratic institutions and the sovereignty of States,

*Acknowledging once more* that the eradication of this scourge calls for integrated action which will simultaneously tackle the problems of reduction and control of illicit demand, production, distribution and marketing, and that action designed to eliminate illicit drug cultivation and trafficking should be accompanied, when necessary, by economic and social development programmes, including crop substitution, in the affected areas,

*Endorsing* the statement made by the Secretary-General before the Economic and Social Council on 24 May 1985,<sup>139</sup> referred to in Council decision 1985/131 of 28 May 1985, on the need for a new United Nations offensive

against drug trafficking and drug abuse, and his proposal to convene a world conference at the ministerial level in 1987,

*Aware* of the decision of the Secretary-General to convene an interregional meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies in 1986, in accordance with paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 39/143,

*Conscious* of the contribution that this interregional meeting could make to bilateral and multilateral efforts, including proposals that might be taken into account in the preparation of a draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and at the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking to be held in 1987,<sup>145</sup>

*Acknowledging* the important role that Member States and relevant bodies of the United Nations system must play in order to ensure that the interregional meeting produces significant results in the continuing fight against illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse,

*Acknowledging once more* that law enforcement officials represent an important line of defence against organized crime, the illegal arms trade and other forms of criminal activity associated with illicit traffic in drugs that threaten the stability and security of many States,

*Reiterating* the importance of ratifying or acceding to international treaties on the control of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;<sup>147</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* that maximum priority must be given to the fight against the illicit production of, demand for and traffic in drugs and related international criminal activities, such as the illegal arms trade and terrorist practices, which also have an adverse effect not only on the well-being of peoples but also on the stability of institutions, as well as posing a threat to the sovereignty of States;

3. *Acknowledges* the work of bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the drug-control bodies, in assisting efforts and initiatives designed to increase international co-operation, and recommends that this work be intensified;

4. *Encourages* Member States and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to provide technical assistance to the developing countries most affected by the illicit production of, traffic in and use of drugs and psychotropic substances, in order to combat the problem;

5. *Expresses* its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his proposal to convene in 1987, at the ministerial level, an International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking to deal with all aspects of drug abuse;

6. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the decision of the Secretary-General to hold an interregional meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies at Vienna from 28 July to 1 August 1986, in accordance with paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 39/143;

7. *Recommends* to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs that it advise the interregional meeting to examine in depth the most important aspects of the problem, especially those that would enhance ongoing bilateral and multilateral efforts, in particular the preparation of a draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the proposed International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, to be convened by the Secretary-General at the ministerial level, and to recommend action on, *inter alia*:

(a) Extradition;

<sup>146</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/40/1)*.

<sup>147</sup> A/40/771 and A/40/772.