

Convinced also that social development can be promoted by peaceful coexistence, friendly relations and co-operation among States with different social, economic or political systems,

Reaffirming, in accordance with article 28 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Declaration can be fully realized,

Bearing in mind that in no case may human rights and fundamental freedoms be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations or to the rights and freedoms of others,

Recalling its resolution 34/137 of 14 December 1979, on the role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries, in which it emphasized the importance of an efficient public sector in the development process,

Reaffirming, in accordance with article 6 of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,¹⁴ that social progress and development require the establishment, in conformity with human rights and fundamental freedoms and with the principles of justice and the social function of property, of forms of ownership of land and of the means of production which preclude any kind of exploitation of man, ensure equal rights to property for all and create conditions leading to genuine equality among people,

1. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States to take effective steps with a view to achieving the full realization of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights;

2. *Recognizes* that there exist in Member States many forms of legal property ownership, including private, communal and State forms, each of which should contribute to ensuring the effective development and utilization of human resources through the establishment of sound bases for political, economic and social justice;

3. *Calls upon* States to ensure that their national legislation with regard to all forms of property shall preclude any impairment of the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, without prejudice to their right freely to choose and develop their political, social, economic and cultural systems;

4. *Vigorously condemns* the transnational corporations that maintain or are increasing their collaboration with the racist régime of South Africa, thus encouraging that régime to persist in its inhuman and criminal policy of brutal oppression of the peoples of southern Africa and denial of their human rights and becoming accomplices in the inhuman practices of racial discrimination, colonialism and *apartheid*;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing his report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session, in accordance with resolution 41/132 of 4 December 1986, to take into account Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/18, as well as the present resolution.

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7 December 1987

42/116. National institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling the resolutions concerning national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, in particular its resolution 41/129 of 4 December 1986 and

Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/40 of 10 March 1987,²⁶

Emphasizing the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,² the International Covenants on Human Rights¹³ and other international instruments for promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Affirming that priority should be accorded to the development of appropriate arrangements at the national level to ensure the effective implementation of international human rights standards,

Conscious of the significant role that national institutions can play in protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms and in developing and enhancing public awareness of those rights and freedoms,

Recognizing that the United Nations can play a catalytic role in assisting the development of national institutions by acting as a clearing-house for the exchange of information and experience,

Mindful in this regard of the guidelines on the structure and functioning of national and local institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/46 of 14 December 1978,

Welcoming the holding at Geneva, under the auspices of the United Nations, of the Seminar on the Experience of Different Countries in the Implementation of International Standards of Human Rights, from 20 June to 1 July 1983, and the Seminar on Community Relations Commissions and Their Functions, from 9 to 20 September 1985, and current United Nations initiatives to combat racial discrimination,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹³⁰

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of developing, in accordance with national legislation, effective national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights and of maintaining their independence and integrity;

3. *Encourages* Member States to establish or, where they already exist, to strengthen national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights and to incorporate these elements in national development plans;

4. *Encourages* all Member States to take appropriate steps to promote the exchange of information and experience concerning the establishment and operation of such national institutions;

5. *Welcomes* the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on national institutions¹³¹ and requests him to bring the report up to date, bearing in mind the practical needs of those engaged in the development of national institutions;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to include in his updated report all the information provided by Governments and any additional information Governments may wish to provide, with particular emphasis on the functioning of various models of national institutions in implementing international standards on human rights, as well as a list of existing national institutions with contact points and a bibliography of relevant materials;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the updated report, through the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, for wide distribution as a United Nations handbook on national institutions;

¹³⁰ A/42/395.

¹³¹ E/CN.4/1987/37.

8. *Recognizes* the constructive role that non-governmental organizations can play in relation to national institutions;

9. *Affirms* the role of national institutions as focal points for the dissemination of human rights materials and other public information activities under the auspices of the United Nations;

10. *Encourages* the development of funding and other strategies to facilitate the establishment of national human rights institutions and, in this regard, invites Member States to consider making requests for such assistance through the advisory services programme of the United Nations;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to Member States, upon their request, in the implementation of paragraphs 2 to 4 and 8 to 10 above, according priority to the needs of developing countries;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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42/117. Right to development

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the proclamation by the General Assembly at its forty-first session of the Declaration on the Right to Development,¹²⁹

Recalling the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights relating to the right to development, especially Commission resolution 1987/23 of 10 March 1987,²⁶ approved by the Economic and Social Council,

Reiterating the importance of the right to development for all countries, in particular the developing countries,

Convinced of the importance of the future work of the Commission on Human Rights and its Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development, including practical measures to implement the Declaration,

Having considered the report of the Working Group¹³² and all other relevant documents submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-second session,

Aware of the great interest shown by several Member States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations which desire to contribute to the work of the Working Group,

1. *Expresses the hope* that the replies of Governments, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other governmental and non-governmental organizations, submitted at the request of the Secretary-General based on Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/23 to offer their comments and views on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development, will contain practical proposals and ideas that should contribute substantially to further work on the implementation of the Declaration;

2. *Calls upon* the Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development, at its eleventh session, to study the analytical compilation to be prepared by the Secretary-General of all replies received, if necessary together with the individual replies, and to submit to the

Commission on Human Rights at its forty-fourth session its recommendations and suggestions on which proposals would best contribute to the further enhancement and implementation of the Declaration;

3. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to consider at its forty-fourth session the report, recommendations and suggestions of the Working Group, as well as all other relevant materials, including the analytical compilation, with a view to deciding on practical measures to implement the Declaration, including specific proposals concerning future work;

4. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, on organizational and substantial measures to implement the Declaration at all levels;

5. *Decides* to consider this question at its forty-third session under the item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

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42/118. Development of public information activities in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that activities to improve public knowledge in the field of human rights are essential to the fulfilment of the purposes of the United Nations set out in Article 1, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations and that programmes of teaching, education and information are central to the achievement of lasting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the relevant resolutions on this subject, in particular its resolution 41/130 of 4 December 1986 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/39 of 10 March 1987,²⁶

Recognizing the catalytic effect of United Nations initiatives on national and regional public information activities in the field of human rights,

Recognizing also the valuable role that non-governmental organizations can play in these endeavours,

Believing that the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights² should provide a focus and renewed impetus to the promotional activities of the United Nations system in the field of human rights,

Taking note of the successful United Nations regional training course on the teaching of human rights held at Bangkok from 12 to 23 October 1987,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the development of public information activities in the field of human rights,¹³³ and notes that, despite its repeated appeals, adequate resources and priority for these activities continue to be denied;

2. *Invites* all Member States to make special efforts during 1988 to publicize and to facilitate and encourage publicity for the activities of the United Nations in the field of human rights and to accord priority to the dissemination, in their respective national and local languages, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Interna-

¹³² E/CN.4/1987/10.

¹³³ E/CN.4/1987/16 and Add.1-3.