

43/140. Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions, in particular resolution 41/153 of 4 December 1986, on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region,

Recognizing that regional arrangements make a major contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights and that non-governmental organizations may have a valuable role to play in this process,

Bearing in mind that intergovernmental arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights have been established in other regions,

Reiterating its appreciation for the report of the Seminar on National, Local and Regional Arrangements for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Asian Region, held at Colombo from 21 June to 2 July 1982,¹⁴⁵ and the comments on the report of the Seminar received from the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and from States members of the Commission,¹⁴⁶

Welcoming the designation of the Social Development Division of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific as a regional human rights focal point,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/73 of 10 March 1988,²⁷

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹⁴⁷
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist and encourage the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to pursue the establishment, within existing resources, of a depository centre for United Nations human rights materials within the Commission at Bangkok, the function of which would include the collection, processing and dissemination of such materials in the Asian and Pacific region;
3. *Renews its invitation* to States members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific that have not yet done so to communicate to the Secretary-General as soon as possible their comments on the report of the Seminar on National, Local and Regional Arrangements for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Asian Region and, in particular, to address themselves to the conclusions and recommendations in the report concerning the development of regional arrangements in Asia and the Pacific;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure a continuing flow of human rights material to the library of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at Bangkok for appropriate dissemination in the region;
5. *Notes* the efforts of United Nations development agencies in the Asian and Pacific region to promote the human rights dimension more actively and systematically in their development activities;
6. *Encourages* United Nations development agencies in the Asian and Pacific region to co-ordinate with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific their efforts to promote the human rights dimension in their activities;

7. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General¹⁴⁸ on the successful training course on human rights teaching held at Bangkok from 12 to 23 October 1987 under the United Nations programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

8. *Draws attention* to the summary of discussions and conclusions in the report, in particular to the need to advance both formal and informal teaching of human rights in the region, with emphasis on the identification of target groups, particularly in rural areas;

9. *Notes* the general consensus among participants in the training course that it would be useful for the better identification of existing measures and the dissemination of materials to establish a resource library that would collect and disseminate laws, documents and other publications throughout the region;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a further report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, incorporating information on progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its forty-fifth session.

*75th plenary meeting
8 December 1988*

43/141. Situation of refugees in the Sudan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/129 of 7 December 1987 and its other previous resolutions on the situation of refugees in the Sudan,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General¹⁴⁹ on the implementation of resolution 42/129 and the action taken by the concerned organizations, and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,⁸⁷

Expressing its appreciation for the efforts made by the Government of the Sudan for the reception of the refugees and the provision of protection, shelter, food, health, education and other humanitarian services to the ever increasing number of refugees who have been crossing the borders into the Sudan since the early 1960s,

Recognizing the heavy burden shouldered by the people and the Government of the Sudan and the sacrifices they are making in acting as host to more than one million refugees, who constitute approximately 7.5 per cent of the total population of the country,

Concerned that the great majority of the refugees have spontaneously settled in various urban and rural communities throughout the country and are thus sharing the already meagre resources and services allocated to the indigenous population,

Expressing grave concern at the devastating and far-reaching effects of the successive calamities, ranging from the 1984 drought to the heavy rains and floods and the locust infestations, that have afflicted the country, thus exacerbating the already deteriorating situation resulting from the presence of this great number of refugees,

Gravely concerned also that the Government of the Sudan, besides dealing with the difficult prevailing economic and social problems, has the additional task of taking care

¹⁴⁵ A/37/422, annex.

¹⁴⁶ See A/39/174-E/1984/38 and Add.1 and E/CN.4/1986/19.

¹⁴⁷ A/43/170-E/1988/25.

¹⁴⁸ E/CN.4/1988/39/Add.1.

¹⁴⁹ A/43/534.

of more than 1.5 million nationals displaced as a result of the 1984 drought, the civil strife in the southern part of the country and the rains and floods of August 1988,

Recognizing the serious task undertaken by the Government of the Sudan to initiate a wide-ranging rehabilitation programme to redress the impact and damages incurred by the natural disasters,

Considering those serious circumstances, which render the Government of the Sudan less prepared than ever to meet its obligations to its own people, and the more serious consequences, which affect the capacity of the Government of the Sudan to receive and grant asylum to additional numbers of refugees,

Expressing its appreciation for the assistance rendered by Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in support of the refugee programme in the Sudan,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of refugees in the Sudan and expresses its appreciation for the appeal made by the Secretary-General to Member States and the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations;
2. *Takes note also* of the report submitted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and in particular of the new trends identified in the area of refugee aid and development;
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 serious and far-reaching consequences of the presence of massive numbers of refugees in the country on the security and stability of the country and the overall negative impact on its basic infrastructure, which arrests the socio-economic development of the whole country;
5. *Also expresses grave concern* at the shrinking resources available for refugee programmes in the Sudan and the serious consequences of this situation for the country's ability to continue to act as host and provide assistance to refugees;
6. *Appeals* to Member States, the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, 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;
7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to mobilize the necessary financial and material assistance for the full implementation of ongoing projects in the areas 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-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution.

75th plenary meeting
8 December 1988

43/142. Humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/137 of 4 December 1986 and 42/126 of 7 December 1987 on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti, as well as all its previous resolutions on this question,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti,¹⁵⁰

Deeply concerned about the plight of the refugees and the constantly increasing inflow of displaced persons which has severely affected the inadequate social services and the infrastructure of the country,

Aware of the heavy economic and social burden placed on the Government of Djibouti and the consequent unfavourable effects on the development of that country, given the delicate nature of its resources,

Appreciating the determined and sustained efforts made by the Government of Djibouti to cope with the growing needs of the refugees and displaced persons, despite its modest economic resources and limited means,

Noting with appreciation the steps taken by the Government of Djibouti, in close co-operation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to implement appropriate and lasting solutions with respect to the refugees in Djibouti,

Appreciating the assistance provided by Member States, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and voluntary agencies to the relief and rehabilitation programmes for the refugees and displaced persons in Djibouti,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti and appreciates the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to keep their situation under constant review;
2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Government of Djibouti, in close co-operation with the High Commissioner, to implement appropriate and lasting solutions with respect to the refugees in Djibouti;
3. *Expresses its appreciation* to Member States, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and voluntary agencies for their assistance to the relief and rehabilitation programmes for the refugees and displaced persons in Djibouti;
4. *Urges* the High Commissioner to intensify his efforts to mobilize, on an emergency basis, the necessary resources to implement lasting solutions with respect to the refugees in Djibouti and the constant inflow of displaced persons;
5. *Calls upon* all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to support the determined and sustained efforts made by the Government of Djibouti to cope with the urgent needs of the refugees and displaced persons and to implement lasting solutions as regards their situation;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the

¹⁵⁰ A/43/592.