

Recalling further 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 and called upon all Governments to consider signing and ratifying the Convention as a matter of priority, and its resolutions 40/128 of 13 December 1985, 41/134 of 4 December 1986 and 42/123 of 7 December 1987, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1987/30 of 10 March 1987,⁶¹ 1988/31 and 1988/36 of 8 March 1988,²⁷

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 Officials¹³² and of the Principles of Medical Ethics relevant to the role of health personnel, particularly physicians, in the protection of prisoners and detainees against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,⁷⁹

Convinced of the importance of the finalization of the draft Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment,¹³³

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 1988/32 of 8 March 1988,²⁷ to extend for two years the mandate of the Special Rapporteur to examine questions relevant to torture,

1. Welcomes the first report of the Committee against Torture,¹³⁴

2. 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,¹³⁵

3. Recognizes the importance of making appropriate administrative and financial arrangements to enable the Committee to carry out in an effective and efficient manner the functions entrusted to it under the Convention, and to ensure the long-term viability of the Committee as an essential mechanism for overseeing the effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention;

4. Appreciates the fact that the Committee has given early attention to the development of an effective reporting system on implementation by States parties to the Convention;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of appropriate staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee;

6. Again requests all States to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority;

7. Once again invites all States, upon ratification of or accession to the Convention, or subsequently, to consider the possibility of making the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 thereof;

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

9. Decides to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its forty-fourth session under the item entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

75th plenary meeting
8 December 1988

43/133. United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

The General Assembly,

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,² which states 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,¹³⁶

Recalling with satisfaction the entry into force on 26 June 1987 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,¹³⁷

Recalling 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,¹³⁸

1. Expresses its gratitude and appreciation to the 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. Invites Governments to make contributions to the Fund, if possible on a regular basis, in order to enable the Fund to provide continuous support to projects that depend on recurrent grants;

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

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

6. 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

¹³² Resolution 34/169, annex.

¹³³ A/34/146, annex.

¹³⁴ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 46 (A/43/46).

¹³⁵ A/43/519.

¹³⁶ Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

¹³⁷ Resolution 39/46, annex.

¹³⁸ A/43/779.

Fund and its humanitarian work better known and in its appeal for contributions.

75th plenary meeting
8 December 1988

43/134. Torture and inhuman treatment of children in detention in South Africa and Namibia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/124 of 7 December 1987 and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/11²⁷ of 29 February 1988,

Recalling also the relevant provisions of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,¹³⁶ the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment¹³⁷ and the Declaration on the Rights of the Child,⁸¹

Recalling with satisfaction the holding of the International Conference on Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa at Harare, from 24 to 27 September 1987,

Appalled at evidence that children in South Africa and Namibia continue to be subjected to detention, torture and inhuman treatment,

Gravely concerned about reports of the increasing number of repressive measures targeted against children in South Africa and Namibia,

1. Expresses its profound outrage at evidence of detention, torture and inhuman treatment of children in South Africa and Namibia;
2. Vigorously condemns the apartheid racist régime for increasing detention, torture and inhuman treatment of children in South Africa and Namibia;
3. Demands the immediate and unconditional release of children held in detention in those countries;
4. Demands also the immediate dismantlement of the so-called "rehabilitation camps" and "re-education centres" in South Africa, since they only serve the racist régime's strategy of physically and mentally abusing black South African children;
5. Strongly condemns the racist régime of South Africa for its forced recruitment, torture and inhuman treatment of Namibian children with the objective of turning them into their agents against the Namibian people;
6. Requests all relevant United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to intensify the world-wide campaign aimed at drawing attention to, monitoring and exposing these inhuman practices;
7. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to continue to pay special attention to the question of detention, torture and other inhuman treatment of children in South Africa and Namibia;
8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;
9. Decides to consider this question at its forty-fourth session under the item entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

75th plenary meeting
8 December 1988

43/135. Need to enhance international co-operation in the field of protection and assistance to the family

The General Assembly,

Recalling the resolve of the peoples of the United Nations to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, with a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being, which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations,

Recalling also its resolution 42/49 of 30 November 1987 and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/46 of 27 May 1988 entitled "Achievement of social justice",

Mindful of the importance of the role of the family in society,

Guided by the relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,² the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights²⁰ and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,⁸⁰ according to which the widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family,

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women⁴⁰ and its resolution 42/125 of 7 December 1987 in which it endorsed for action the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future,⁴⁴ which call for social welfare policies to give greater attention to the family,

Recognizing the efforts of States at the local, regional and national levels in carrying out specific programmes concerning the family, in which the United Nations may have an important role to play, and in raising awareness, increasing understanding and promoting policies that improve the position and well-being of the family,

Recalling its resolution 42/134 of 7 December 1987 on the need to enhance international co-operation in the field of the protection of and assistance for the family,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1983/23 of 26 May 1983 and 1985/29 of 29 May 1985,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General¹³⁹ on the possible proclamation of an international year of the family, prepared in pursuance of its resolution 42/134;
2. Takes note of the responses to the Secretary-General's inquiry as to the desirability of proclaiming an international year of the family, summarized in his report;
3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session a report containing the proposed date and a comprehensive outline of a possible programme for an international year of the family, in conformity with Assembly decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 concerning the guidelines for international years and anniversaries;
4. Invites Member States that have not yet done so to make their views known to the Secretary-General concerning ways and means of improving the position and well-being of the family and intensifying efforts as part of an international year of the family;
5. Requests the United Nations agencies and organizations, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, to submit to the Secretary-General

¹³⁹ A/43/570.