

4. *Notes with interest* that aging is being considered as a priority theme of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade and the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to assist the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in elaborating for the consideration of the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session a detailed global programme of activities for 1992 on the basis of the draft programme endorsed by the Economic and Social Council, which would simultaneously serve as a guide for parallel national and regional programmes;

6. *Also calls upon* Member States that have special expertise or an interest in aging to consider giving direct staff or extrabudgetary support to the Centre in its preparatory activities for 1992;

7. *Decides* that the priorities identified and recommendations made in the second review and appraisal of the implementation of the Plan of Action should be included as an annex in future publications of the Plan of Action;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the feasibility of preparing a system-wide medium-term plan on aging in order to ensure that all concerned organizations of the United Nations system address the question of aging in a coherent and effective manner, bearing in mind that the Centre is the duly mandated focal point in all matters related to aging;

9. *Invites* the Statistical Office of the Secretariat to increase the availability and use of national statistics on aging for the formulation and implementation of national policies and programmes and to consider the possibility of dedicating the 1992 *Demographic Yearbook* to the question of aging;

10. *Invites* the major international non-governmental organizations and donor countries to join the United Nations system in establishing a technical co-operation network that would design and support the implementation of a series of straightforward self-help projects by the elderly in order to bridge the gap between major funding entities and local self-help initiatives, as well as the gap between globally espoused standards and the real living conditions of the elderly;

11. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to pay particular attention to the specific problems faced by elderly women and to the discrimination suffered by these women because of their gender and age;

12. *Urges* all the relevant agencies of the United Nations system dealing with refugees to pay special attention to the plight of all elderly refugees;

13. *Urges* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to co-operate with the Centre in the preparation of a report on the status and highlights of the global aging of populations for distribution to the media and the general public in 1992;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations Population Fund to consider seconding a demographer to the Centre to assist in producing demographic profiles of the global, regional and selected national aging populations;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations Postal Administration to produce in 1992 commemorative United Nations stamps to mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Plan of Action;

16. *Recommends* that in view of the rapid expansion of activities and infrastructure for aging, the participants in the United Nations programme on aging give careful attention to its mandate with a view to avoiding duplication

of the activities of other programmes and continuing in the 1990s the unified approach to implementing the Plan of Action that has been a distinguishing mark of the programme to date;

17. *Takes note with appreciation* of the progress report submitted by the Secretary-General on the training programmes and activities of the International Institute on Aging⁵⁶ in Malta, welcomes the unique contribution of the Institute to the implementation of the Plan of Action and requests the Secretary-General, in reporting on the question of aging to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, to inform the Assembly of the activities, plans and programmes of the Institute;

18. *Notes with appreciation* the establishment, with the assistance of the United Nations Office at Vienna, of an African Society of Gerontology at Dakar;

19. *Notes with satisfaction* the offer of the Governments of Yugoslavia and Argentina to establish institutes on aging at Belgrade and Buenos Aires, respectively;

20. *Also notes with satisfaction* the convening of the meeting of eminent persons to develop an international fund-raising strategy for policies and programmes on population aging, at United Nations Headquarters on 18 and 19 September 1989,⁵⁷ takes note of the adoption at that meeting of a declaration on the desirability and urgency of establishing an independent international foundation on aging under the patronage of the United Nations that would encourage the public and private sectors as well as non-governmental organizations to support the work of the United Nations system in the field of aging, and in this regard invites Member States, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to support this initiative;

21. *Further notes with satisfaction* the success achieved at the XIVth International Congress of Gerontology, held at Acapulco, Mexico, from 18 to 23 June 1989;⁵⁸

22. *Strongly appeals* to Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund for Aging, bearing in mind that the Fund is particularly well placed to act as a catalyst for resource mobilization;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Question of aging".

78th plenary meeting
8 December 1989

44/68. Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and resolution 43/95 of 8 December 1988 on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,¹¹ as well as its other relevant resolutions on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,⁵⁹

⁵⁶ A/44/420, chap. V, sect. D.

⁵⁷ See A/44/420/Add.1.

⁵⁸ See A/44/420, chap. V, sect. B.

⁵⁹ Resolution 38/14.

Reiterating the importance of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which is the most widely accepted human rights instrument adopted under the auspices of the United Nations,

Aware of the importance of the contributions of the Committee to the efforts of the United Nations to combat racism and all other forms of discrimination based on race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin,

Welcoming the report of the Committee on the work of its thirty-seventh session,⁶⁰

Reiterating once again the need to intensify the struggle for the elimination of racism and racial discrimination throughout the world, especially the elimination of the system of *apartheid* in South Africa and Namibia,

Emphasizing the obligation of all States parties to the Convention to take legislative, judicial and other measures in order to secure full implementation of the provisions of the Convention,

Recalling the urgent appeals made by the Secretary-General, the General Assembly, the eleventh and twelfth meetings of States parties to the Convention and the Committee itself to the States parties to honour their financial obligations under the Convention,

Gravely concerned that, despite those appeals and other efforts, the meeting schedule of the Committee has been interrupted and the proper functioning of the Committee continues to deteriorate,

Expressing its appreciation for the efforts of the members of the Committee to explore ways and means to overcome the Committee's current financial crisis,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the question of financing the expenses of the members of the Committee,⁶¹

1. *Expresses its profound concern* at the fact that a number of States parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination have still not fulfilled their financial obligations, which led to the cancellation of the February/March 1989 session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

2. *Expresses once again its concern* that such a situation led to a further delay in the discharge of the substantive obligations of the Committee under the Convention;

3. *Commends* the Committee for its work with regard to the implementation of the Convention and the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Committee on the work of its thirty-seventh session;

5. *Calls upon* States parties to fulfil their obligations under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention and to submit in due time their periodic reports on measures taken to implement the Convention;

6. *Endorses* the decision of the Committee⁶² to hold one of its regular sessions in New York, if resources are available, in commemoration of its twentieth year of activities under the Convention, to coincide with the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, 21 March 1990;

7. *Strongly appeals* to all States parties, especially those in arrears, to fulfil their financial obligations under article 8, paragraph 6, of the Convention and to pay their outstanding contributions and, if possible, their contributions for 1990 before 1 February 1990, so as to enable the Committee to meet regularly;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General to do everything possible to ensure that funds are available to meet all the costs of the meetings of the Committee in 1990, including the expenses of its members;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite those States parties which are in arrears to pay the amounts in arrears, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

10. *Invites* the Secretary-General to report to the States parties at their thirteenth meeting on all legal and administrative measures that the States parties and the General Assembly could take to guarantee the regular functioning of the Committee;

11. *Invites* States parties at their thirteenth meeting to decide on administrative and legal measures to improve the financial situation of the Committee;

12. *Decides* to consider at its forty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Elimination of all forms of racial discrimination", the next report of the Committee, as well as the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee.

78th plenary meeting
8 December 1989

44/69. Status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/103 of 4 December 1986, 42/56 of 30 November 1987 and 43/97 of 8 December 1988,

Mindful that the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*¹² constitutes an important international treaty in the field of human rights and serves to implement the ideals of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁴

Reaffirming its conviction that *apartheid* is a crime against humanity and constitutes a total negation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and a gross violation of human rights, seriously threatening international peace and security,

Strongly condemning the abhorrent policy and system of *apartheid* and the brutal repression it engenders, which continue to aggravate the situation in South Africa,

Emphasizing that the root cause of the conflict in southern Africa is *apartheid* and the racist régime's policy of aggression, State terrorism and destabilization against the front-line and other neighbouring States,

Condemning the continued collaboration of certain States and transnational corporations with the racist régime of South Africa in the political, economic, military and other fields as an encouragement to the intensification of its odious policy of *apartheid*,

Firmly convinced that the legitimate struggle of the oppressed peoples in southern Africa against *apartheid*, racism and colonialism and for the effective implementation of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence demands more than ever all necessary support

⁶⁰ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/44/18).

⁶¹ A/44/593.

⁶² See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/44/18), para. 468.