

tribute generously to the Trust Fund and, to this end, requests the Secretary-General to continue to undertake appropriate contacts and initiatives to encourage contributions;

24. *Takes note* of the reports on the activities of the Second Decade,<sup>18</sup> and reiterates its request to the Economic and Social Council, throughout the Decade, to submit annually to the General Assembly a report containing, *inter alia*:

(a) An enumeration of the activities undertaken or contemplated to achieve the objectives of the Second Decade, including the activities of Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international and regional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations;

(b) A review and appraisal of those activities;

(c) Its suggestions and recommendations;

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

26. *Decides* to keep the item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination" on its agenda throughout the Second Decade and to consider it as a matter of the highest priority at its forty-fifth session.

*78th plenary meeting  
8 December 1989*

#### **44/53. Popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the full realization of all human rights**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 34/152 of 17 December 1979, 37/55 of 3 December 1982, 38/24 of 22 November 1983 and 40/99 of 13 December 1985,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/31 of 27 May 1983 and decision 1984/131 of 24 May 1984 and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1989/14 of 2 March 1989,<sup>26</sup>

*Reaffirming* that popular participation in all its various forms constitutes an important factor in socio-economic development and in the full realization of all human rights and the dignity of the human person,

1. *Invites* Governments, the concerned specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and the relevant non-governmental organizations that have not yet done so to transmit to the Secretary-General their comments on the study on popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the full realization of all human rights;<sup>27</sup>

2. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to consider at its forty-sixth and, if desired by the Commission, at its forty-seventh, forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions, the question of popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in the full realization of all human rights, and to inform the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council, of the results of that consideration;

3. *Decides* to continue the consideration of this question at its forty-eighth session, in the context of the item

relating to the world social situation, under the sub-item entitled "Popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the full realization of all human rights".

*78th plenary meeting  
8 December 1989*

#### **44/54. Social welfare, development and science and technology**

*The General Assembly,*

*Noting* that scientific and technological progress is an important factor in the social and economic development of society,

*Reaffirming* the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, which was proclaimed by the General Assembly by its resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, in which States were called upon to share equitably scientific and technological advances, to intensify international co-operation in the field and to use science and technology for the benefit of the social development of society,

*Reaffirming also* the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind, which was proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3384 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, in which all States were called upon to promote international co-operation to ensure that the results of scientific and technological developments were used in the interests of strengthening international peace and security, freedom and independence, and also for the purpose of the economic and social development of peoples and the realization of human rights and freedoms in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

*Considering* that implementation of those Declarations will contribute to the social and economic development of peoples and international co-operation in the interests of scientific and technological progress, as well as to the strengthening of peace,

*Emphasizing* that international co-operation among States for the promotion of scientific and technological progress is in the interest of the social and economic development of all peoples,

*Convinced* that, in a time of rapid scientific and technological progress, the resources of mankind and the work of scientists make an important contribution to the peaceful economic and social development of nations and to the improvement of the living standards of all peoples,

*Aware* that technical co-operation, including the possibility of transfer of technology, is one of the ways of achieving better social progress in developing countries,

1. *Calls upon* all States to encourage co-operation to ensure scientific and technological progress for the welfare and social and economic development of their peoples, as well as of all human beings, and to contribute to the promotion of economic development and the elimination of grave social problems in the world;

2. *Stresses* the necessity of making scientific and technological progress a major aspect of the process of fully implementing fundamental civil and political, economic, social and cultural human rights, as laid down in the International Covenants on Human Rights;<sup>5</sup>

3. *Calls upon* all Governments to make every effort to use scientific and technological achievements for the promotion of peaceful social and economic development and to prevent their misuse to the disadvantage of human beings;

<sup>26</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20), chap. II.*

<sup>27</sup> E/CN.4/1985/10 and Add.1 and 2.

4. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development, in its discussion of the world social situation, to pay increasing attention to the effects of science and technology on the processes of social welfare and development;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when elaborating the next report on the world social situation, to take due account of the effects of science and technology on processes of social welfare and development on the basis of information available from Governments and from organizations of the United Nations system;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General or interested Governments to consider convening in the near future, within existing resources, a seminar of experts on the effects of science and technology on social welfare and development.

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#### 44/55. Achievement of social justice

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 42/49 of 30 November 1987 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/46 of 27 May 1988, and taking note of Council resolution 1989/71 of 24 May 1989,

*Bearing in mind* that, in accordance with the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,<sup>28</sup> social progress and development shall be founded on respect for the dignity and value of the human person and shall ensure the promotion of human rights and social justice,

*Convinced* that more extensive international and regional co-operation is important for promoting social progress at the national level,

*Mindful* of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future,<sup>29</sup>

*Persuaded* of the importance of taking measures to ensure co-ordination within the United Nations system in order to develop a comprehensive approach to developmental social welfare, including better integrated and mutually supportive economic and social development policies, aimed at the achievement of social justice,

1. *Considers* that the common purpose of the international community must be to forge from varied economic, social and political conditions a global environment of sustained development, full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and social justice and peace;

2. *Recognizes* that social justice is one of the most important goals of social progress;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of co-operation among countries in promoting a climate conducive to the achievement by individual countries of the goals of development and social justice and progress;

4. *Considers* that such co-operation should continue to be a major focus of activities of the United Nations, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, in elaborating their national policy in the field of social development, to take into consideration the importance of achieving social justice for all;

6. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General, in preparing studies and reports on social problems and, in particular, the report on the world social situation, should examine questions concerning the achievement of social justice and ways in which it could be realized;

7. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development, at its next regular session, to continue to consider the question of achieving social justice.

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#### 44/56. World social situation

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 1392 (XIV) of 20 November 1959, 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, 40/98 and 40/100 of 13 December 1985, 42/49 of 30 November 1987 and 43/113 of 8 December 1988 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/39, 1987/40, 1987/46 and 1987/52 of 28 May 1987, and taking note of Council resolution 1989/72 of 24 May 1989 and Council decision 1989/113 of 28 July 1989,

*Bearing in mind* the objective of improving the well-being of the world's population on the basis of the full participation of all members of society in the process of development and the fair distribution to them of the benefits therefrom, and recognizing that the pace of development in the developing countries should be accelerated substantially in order to enable them to achieve this objective, especially to meet the basic needs for food, housing, education, employment and health care,

*Concerned* about the worsening economic situation in the developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries, as evidenced by, *inter alia*, a significant decline in living conditions, the persistence and increase of widespread poverty in a large number of countries and the decrease of the main social and economic indicators of those countries,

*Conscious* that each country has the sovereign right freely to adopt the economic and social system that it deems the most appropriate and that each Government has the primary role of ensuring the social progress and well-being of the people,

*Convinced* of the urgent need to eradicate policies and practices that hinder social progress, including racism and racial discrimination, in particular *apartheid*,

*Convinced also* of the crucial need to eradicate dangerous trends and habits that debilitate individuals and incapacitate society, in particular drug abuse and illicit trafficking,

*Bearing in mind* the importance of the 1989 *Report on the World Social Situation*<sup>30</sup> for increasing awareness of the advances made towards the goals of social progress and better standards of living, established in the Charter of the United Nations, and of the obstacles to further progress,

*Believing* that there is a need for greater efforts by the United Nations system to study and disseminate data on the existing world social situation, in particular in the developing countries,

*Bearing in mind* the important contribution of the 1989 *Report on the World Social Situation* to the preparation of

<sup>28</sup> Resolution 2542 (XXIV).

<sup>29</sup> E/CONF.80/10, chap. III.

<sup>30</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E 89.IV.1.