

15. *Reaffirms once again* that, in order to facilitate the full enjoyment of all human rights without diminishing personal dignity, it is necessary to promote the rights to education, work, health and proper nourishment through the adoption of measures at the national level, including those that provide for the right of workers to participate in management, as well as the adoption of measures at the international level, including the establishment of the new international economic order;

16. *Decides* that the approach to future work within the United Nations system on human rights matters should also take into account the content of the Declaration on the Right to Development and the need for the implementation thereof;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session 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".

*78th plenary meeting  
8 December 1989*

#### 44/64. National institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions concerning national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, notably its resolution 41/129 of 4 December 1986 and Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1987/40 of 10 March 1987,<sup>44</sup> and 1988/72 of 10 March 1988,<sup>45</sup> and taking note of Commission resolution 1989/52 of 7 March 1989,<sup>2</sup>

*Emphasizing* the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>4</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights<sup>5</sup> 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 institutions at the national level 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,

*Noting* the diverse approaches adopted throughout the world for the protection and promotion of human rights at the national level, and recognizing the value of such approaches,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;<sup>46</sup>

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 those elements in national development plans;

4. *Welcomes* the increase in the number of national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights in various countries around the world;

5. *Encourages* initiatives on the part of Governments and regional, international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations intended to strengthen existing national institutions and to establish such institutions where they do not exist;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to co-operate with regional and national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights;

7. *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;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of experts, if necessary, and incorporating materials submitted by Governments, a report containing conceptual models of national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, to be submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-seventh session;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to respond favourably to requests from Member States for assistance in the establishment and strengthening of national institutions as part of the programme of advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights;

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

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

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

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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<sup>44</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 5* and corrigenda (E/1987/18 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>45</sup> *Ibid.*, 1988, *Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1988/12 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>46</sup> A/44/525. For the updated report, see E/CN.4/1989/47 and Add.1.