

General to consider ways and means of strengthening collection procedures and making them more effective;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as a matter of priority, to consider administrative and budgetary measures to alleviate the current financial difficulties of the treaty bodies and thus guarantee their regular functioning and to report on these measures to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-eighth session;

9. *Emphasizes* that any administrative and budgetary measures shall be provided without prejudice to the duty of States parties under United Nations human rights instruments to meet all their current and outstanding financial obligations pursuant to such instruments;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a further report examining the financial, legal and other implications of providing full funding for the operation of all human rights treaty bodies;

11. *Invites* the States parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination² and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment¹⁹ to consider, as a matter of priority, all possible measures for meeting the costs of implementing these treaties on a viable, guaranteed basis, including the amendment of the funding provisions of these treaties;

12. *Endorses* the recommendation, made in October 1990, of the third meeting of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies, that the General Assembly should take appropriate measures to ensure the financing of each of the committees from the United Nations regular budget;¹²⁷

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps in order to finance the biennial meetings of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies from resources available from the regular budget of the United Nations;

14. *Decides* to give priority consideration at its forty-seventh session to the conclusions and recommendations of the meetings of persons chairing human rights treaty bodies, in the light of the deliberations of the Commission on Human Rights, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

*75th plenary meeting
17 December 1991*

46/112. Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, by which it adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

Recalling also its resolutions 45/104 of 14 December 1990 and 45/217 of 21 December 1990, and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/74 of 7 March 1990,³⁷ and taking note of Commission resolution 1991/52 of 6 March 1991,³⁸

Reaffirming that the rights of children require special protection and call for continuous improvement of the situation of children all over the world, as well as for their development and education in conditions of peace and security,

Profoundly concerned that the situation of children in

many parts of the world remains critical as a result of inadequate social and economic conditions, natural disasters, armed conflicts, exploitation, illiteracy, hunger and disability, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

Mindful of the important role of the United Nations Children's Fund and of the United Nations in promoting the well-being of children and their development,

Convinced that the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as a standard-setting accomplishment of the United Nations in the field of human rights, makes a positive contribution to protecting the rights of children and ensuring their well-being,

Bearing in mind the successful conclusion of the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990, in particular the adoption of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children,⁵⁶ while emphasizing the need for implementation of the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s,⁵⁶ and stressing the necessity to ensure follow-up to the Summit at the national and international levels,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention,¹²⁸

Bearing in mind that the Committee on the Rights of the Child held its first session from 30 September to 18 October 1991,

Encouraged by the fact that an unprecedented number of States have to date become signatories and parties to the Convention, thereby demonstrating the widespread commitment that exists to strive for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;¹²⁸

2. *Recalls with deep satisfaction* the entry into force of the Convention on 2 September 1990 as a major step in international efforts to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the number of States that have signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention since it was opened for signature, ratification and accession on 26 January 1990;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so to sign, ratify or accede to the Convention as a matter of priority;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all facilities and assistance necessary for the dissemination of information on the Convention and its implementation, with a view to promoting further ratification of or accession to the Convention;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention;

7. *Recognizes* the important role of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in overseeing the effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of appropriate staff and facilities so that the functions of the Committee may be carried out effectively;

9. *Supports* the organization of the future work of the Committee on the basis of two sessions annually, each for

a duration of two or three weeks, and the establishment of a pre-sessional working group for a preliminary review of reports from States parties;

10. *Decides* to take appropriate action at its forty-seventh session on the recommendations of the Committee in its biennial report to be submitted to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, pursuant to article 44, paragraph 5, of the Convention;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to convene a brief meeting of the States parties to the Convention, preferably during the forty-seventh session, to determine the duration of the future meetings of the Committee, prior to the consideration of the question by the Assembly;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider favourably the possibility of enabling a working group of the whole of the Committee to meet in 1992, as recommended by the Committee;¹²⁹

13. *Invites* United Nations bodies and organizations, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to intensify their efforts with a view to disseminating information on and promoting understanding of the Convention;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a report on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

15. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its forty-seventh session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

75th plenary meeting
17 December 1991

46/113. International covenants on human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/135 of 14 December 1990 and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/16 of 22 February 1991,³⁸

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights²⁶ constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaties in the field of human rights and, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁸ form the core of the International Bill of Human Rights,

Considering that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Covenants on 16 December 1991 provides an appropriate occasion to focus on the fundamental importance and special status of these basic human rights instruments of the United Nations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General¹³⁰ on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Noting the entry into force on 11 July 1991 of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty,¹³¹

Noting, in this regard, that a number of States Members of the United Nations have yet to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights²⁶ and the International Covenant

on Civil and Political Rights,²⁶ and reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other rights,

Recognizing the important role of the Human Rights Committee in the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto,¹³²

Also recognizing the important role of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Welcoming the submission to the General Assembly of the annual report of the Human Rights Committee¹³³ and the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fifth session,¹³⁴

Considering that the effective functioning of treaty bodies established in accordance with the relevant provisions of international instruments on human rights plays a fundamental role and hence represents an important continuing concern of the United Nations,

Noting with satisfaction the ongoing efforts of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to improve their methods of work,

Noting with concern the critical situation with regard to overdue reports from States parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Human Rights Committee on its fortieth, forty-first and forty-second sessions;¹³³

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fifth session,¹³⁴ including its suggestions and recommendations;

3. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the serious and constructive manner in which both Committees are carrying out their function;

4. *Urges* States parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights to pay active attention to the protection and promotion of civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights, taking into consideration their indivisible and interrelated character and the fact that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other rights;

5. *Urges* those States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights that have been requested by the Human Rights Committee to provide additional information to comply with that request;

6. *Also urges* States parties to fulfil their reporting obligations under the International Covenants on Human Rights;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* that the majority of States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and an increasing number of States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights have been represented by experts in the presentation of their reports, thereby assisting the respective monitoring bodies in their work, and hopes that all States parties to both Covenants will arrange such representation in the future;