

4. *Takes note* of the report² of the United Nations Good Offices Commission, and in particular its conclusion that "in view of the response of the Government of the Union of South Africa, it has been unable to carry out its task to arrange and assist in negotiations between the Governments concerned";

5. *Expresses its regret* that the Government of the Union of South Africa:

(a) Has refused to make use of the Commission's good offices or to utilize any of the alternative procedures for the settlement of the problem recommended by the four previous resolutions of the General Assembly;

(b) Has continued to implement the provisions of the Group Areas Act in spite of the provisions of three previous resolutions;

(c) Is proceeding with further legislation contrary to the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including the Immigrants Regulation Amendment Bill which seeks to prohibit the entry into South Africa of wives and children of South African nationals of Indian origin;

6. *Considers* that these actions of the Government of the Union of South Africa are not in keeping with its obligations and responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Decides* to continue the United Nations Good Offices Commission and urges the Government of the Union of South Africa to co-operate with that Commission;

8. *Requests* the Commission to report to the General Assembly at its next regular session the extent of progress achieved, together with its own views on the problem and any proposals which, in its opinion, may lead to a peaceful settlement of it;

9. *Again calls upon* the Government of the Union of South Africa to refrain from implementing the provisions of the Group Areas Act;

10. *Decides* to include this item in the provisional agenda of the ninth session of the General Assembly.

*457th plenary meeting,
11 November 1953.*

720 (VIII). Report of the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, 393 (V) of 2 December 1950, 513 (VI) of 26 January 1952 and 614 (VII) of 6 November 1952,

Having examined the report³ of the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the special report⁴ of the Director and the Advisory Commission of that Agency,

Noting that programme agreements envisaging the commitment of approximately \$120 million have been signed by UNRWA with the governments of several Near Eastern countries, pursuant to the plan endorsed

² See document A/2473.

³ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 12.*

⁴ See document A/2470/Add. 1.

by the General Assembly in resolution 513 (VI), but that expectations as regards the execution of the projects programme have not been realized,

Noting also that the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of grave concern,

1. *Decides*, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III), or to the provisions of paragraph 4 of resolution 393 (V), that the mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East shall be extended until 30 June 1955, and that its programme shall be again subject to review at the ninth session of the General Assembly;

2. *Authorizes* the Agency to adopt a budget for relief amounting to \$24.8 million for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1954, subject to such adjustments as may be attributable to refugee employment on projects, or as may be necessary to maintain adequate standards, and to adopt a provisional budget for relief of \$18 million for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1955;

3. *Considers* that the projects fund previously authorized by the General Assembly in paragraph 2 of resolution 513 (VI) should be maintained at \$200 million until 30 June 1955, and urges UNRWA and the governments of the Near Eastern countries concerned to continue to seek acceptable projects to enable the fund to be utilized for the purposes for which it is intended;

4. *Requests* the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds to seek the funds required to meet the current needs of the relief programmes and to invite governments to take into account the need for the additional pledges which will be required to meet the total programme now established at \$292.8 million.

*458th plenary meeting,
27 November 1953.*

B

The General Assembly,

Having noted that the present membership of the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, established pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, is composed of representatives of Egypt, France, Jordan, Syria, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America,

Noting further that it is in the general interest that other contributing countries join the Advisory Commission,

Authorizes the Advisory Commission to increase its membership by not more than two additional members.

*458th plenary meeting,
27 November 1953.*

721 (VIII). The question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Union of South Africa

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report⁵ of the United Nations Commission on the Racial Situation in the Union

⁵ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 16, document A/2505.*

of South Africa established by resolution 616 A (VII) of 5 December 1952,

Noting with concern that the Commission, in its study of the racial policies of the Government of the Union of South Africa, has concluded that these policies and their consequences are contrary to the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Noting that the Commission had also concluded that:

(a) "It is highly unlikely, and indeed improbable, that the policy of *apartheid* will ever be willingly accepted by the masses subjected to discrimination", and

(b) That the continuance of this policy would make peaceful solutions increasingly difficult and endanger friendly relations among nations,

Noting further that the Commission considers it desirable that the United Nations should request the Government of the Union of South Africa to reconsider the components of its policy towards various ethnic groups,

Considering that, in the Commission's own opinion, the time available was too short for a thorough study of all the aspects of the problems assigned to it,

Considering also the Commission's view that one of the difficulties encountered by it was the lack of co-operation from the Government of the Union of South Africa and, in particular, its refusal to permit the Commission to enter its territory,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 103 (I) of 19 November 1946, 377 A (V), section E, of 3 November 1950 and 616 B (VII) of 5 December 1952, particularly the passages in those resolutions which state respectively that "it is in the higher interests of humanity to put an immediate end to religious and so-called racial persecution and discrimination"; that "enduring peace will not be secured solely by collective security arrangements against breaches of international peace and acts of aggression, but that a genuine and lasting peace depends also upon the observance of all the Principles and Purposes established in the Charter of the United Nations, upon the implementation of the resolutions of the Security Council, the General Assembly and other principal organs of the United Na-

tions intended to achieve the maintenance of international peace and security, and especially upon respect for an observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and on the establishment and maintenance of conditions of economic and social well-being in all countries"; and that "in a multi-racial society harmony and respect for human rights and freedoms and the peaceful development of a unified community are best assured when patterns of legislation and practice are directed towards ensuring the equality before the law of all persons regardless of race, creed or colour, and when economic, social, cultural and political participation of all racial groups is on a basis of equality";

2. *Expresses appreciation* of the work of the United Nations Commission on the Racial Situation in the Union of South Africa;

3. *Decides* that should any of the members of the Commission be unable to continue their membership, the member or members concerned shall, if the General Assembly is not sitting, be replaced by a person or persons appointed by the present President of the General Assembly in consultation with the Secretary-General;

4. *Requests* the Commission:

(a) To continue its study of the development of the racial situation in the Union of South Africa:

(i) With reference to the various implications of the situation for the populations affected;

(ii) In relation to the provisions of the Charter and, in particular, to Article 14;

(b) To suggest measures which would help to alleviate the situation and promote a peaceful settlement;

5. *Invites* the Government of the Union of South Africa to extend its full co-operation to the Commission;

6. *Requests* the Commission to report to the General Assembly at its ninth session.

469th plenary meeting,
8 December 1953.