

Bearing in mind that, while an equitable geographical distribution has to a large extent been attained in the membership of other commissions, Africa remains unduly under-represented on the Commission on Human Rights,

Calls upon the Economic and Social Council, in the elections to membership in the Commission on Human Rights, to bear in mind the principle of equitable geographical distribution and, in particular, the necessity of having Africa equitably represented.

1274th plenary meeting,
5 December 1963.

1958 (XVIII). Membership of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme

The General Assembly,

Having considered Economic and Social Council resolution 965 B (XXXVI) of 25 July 1963,

Recalling its resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957, which provided for the establishment of an Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme to consist of representatives of from twenty to twenty-five States Members of the United Nations or members of any of the specialized agencies, to be elected by the Economic and Social Council on the widest possible geographical basis from those States with a demonstrated interest in, and devotion to, the solution of the refugee problem,

Recalling its resolution 1783 (XVII) of 7 December 1962 relating to the continuation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Noting that the Executive Committee has at present a membership of twenty-five,

Bearing in mind the continued interest of Member States in the work of the Office of the High Commissioner and the increase in the membership of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to enlarge the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme to thirty members so as to achieve the widest possible geographical representation;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the five additional members of the Executive Committee during its resumed thirty-sixth session.

1279th plenary meeting,
12 December 1963.

1959 (XVIII). Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees⁸ and having heard his statement,⁹

Taking note of the progress achieved in the international protection of refugees and in the search for permanent solutions to refugee problems through voluntary repatriation, integration in countries of asylum or resettlement in other countries,

⁸ Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/5511/Rev.1) and Supplement No. 11 A (A/5511/Rev.1/Add.1).

⁹ *Ibid.*, Eighteenth Session, Third Committee, 1270th meeting.

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made by the High Commissioner, in his various fields of activity, for groups of refugees for whom he lends his good offices,

Recognizing the importance of an adequate assistance programme for the over-all effectiveness of the work of the High Commissioner,

Commending the non-governmental organizations working for refugees for their untiring activity on behalf of refugees throughout the world,

Noting with appreciation that since the seventeenth session of the General Assembly six more States have adhered to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,¹⁰ bringing to forty-two the number of States parties to the Convention;

1. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to afford international protection to refugees and to pursue his efforts on behalf of the refugees within his mandate and of those to whom he extends his good offices, by giving particular attention to new refugee groups, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the directives of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme;

2. *Invites* States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies to continue to lend their support to the alleviation of refugee problems:

(a) By facilitating the voluntary repatriation, resettlement or local integration of refugees;

(b) By improving the legal status of refugees residing in their territory, particularly in new refugee situations, *inter alia*, by acceding as appropriate to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and by treating new refugee problems in accordance with the principles and the spirit of the Convention;

(c) By providing the High Commissioner with the necessary financial means for the accomplishment of the tasks incumbent upon him and, in particular, by enabling him to reach the financial targets established with the approval of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme.

1279th plenary meeting,
12 December 1963.

1960 (XVIII). Draft International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1843 B and C (XVII) of 19 December 1962,

Having devoted its attention once again to the draft International Covenants on Human Rights and, in particular, to the issues connected with the measures of implementation, which are vital for the adoption and effectiveness of the Covenants,

Having regard to the presence of many new Member States, which have not had an opportunity to express their views on measures of implementation owing, in particular, to the date on which the Commission on Human Rights approved the draft International Covenants on Human Rights,

Considering also the many different views expressed in the debate on measures of implementation,

1. *Reaffirms its belief* that final adoption of the draft International Covenants on Human Rights is urgent

¹⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189 (1954), No. 2545.

and essential for the universal protection and promotion of human rights;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to Member States the text of the articles of the draft International Covenants on Human Rights which were adopted at the tenth to eighteenth sessions of the General Assembly, together with the records of the debates which took place in the Third Committee on measures of implementation of the said drafts, the explanatory paper prepared by the Secretary-General and the observations received from Governments;¹¹

3. *Invites* Member States to consider the text of the articles of the draft International Covenants on Human Rights which have already been adopted by the Third Committee and the measures of implementation and the final clauses relating to the said Covenants elaborated by the Commission on Human Rights, in order that they may be in a position to decide on the measures of implementation and on the final clauses of the Covenants;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, if observations are sent by Member States before the opening of the nineteenth session of the General Assembly, to transmit them to the other Member States as soon as possible;

5. *Decides* to make a special effort to complete, at its nineteenth session, the adoption of the entire text of the draft International Covenants on Human Rights.

*1279th plenary meeting,
12 December 1963.*

1961 (XVIII). Designation of 1968 as International Year for Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Noting that the year 1968 will be the twentieth anniversary of the adoption and proclamation by the General Assembly of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Taking into account the fact that, since the adoption of the Declaration, a substantial measure of progress has been achieved in giving effect to human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recognizing that in spite of such progress the effective realization of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Declaration remains unsatisfactory in some parts of the world,

Believing that the cause of human rights will be well served by an increasing awareness of the extent of the progress made,

Convinced that an appropriate way of celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the proclamation of the Declaration is to devote the year 1968 to intensified national and international efforts and undertakings in the field of human rights, and also to an international review of the achievements in this field,

Confident that the designation of the year 1968 as such a year of international review will encourage all Member States and interested organizations to intensify their efforts in the intervening years, so as to show the maximum possible progress by that time,

1. *Designates* the year 1968 as International Year for Human Rights;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to invite the Commission on Human Rights at its forth-

¹¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 48, documents A/5411 and Add.1 and 2.*

coming sessions, with the assistance of the Secretary-General:

(a) To prepare, for consideration by the General Assembly, a programme of measures and activities representing a lasting contribution to the cause of human rights, to be undertaken by the United Nations, by Member States and by the specialized agencies during the year 1968, in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in furtherance of the objectives of the present resolution;

(b) To prepare, for consideration by the General Assembly, suggestions for a list of goals in the field of human rights to be achieved by the United Nations not later than the end of 1968;

(c) To submit the programme of measures and activities and the suggestions for the list of goals in time for their consideration by the General Assembly at its twentieth session;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies to render all assistance to the Commission on Human Rights in the preparation of the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken during the International Year for Human Rights in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration;

4. *Invites* all Member States to intensify their domestic efforts in the field of human rights with the assistance of their appropriate organizations, in order that a fuller and more effective realization of these rights and freedoms might be achieved and might be reported at the proposed international review of such achievements in 1968 and thereafter.

*1279th plenary meeting,
12 December 1963.*

1965 (XVIII). Measures designed to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1572 (XV) of 18 December 1960 and 1842 (XVII) of 19 December 1962,

Recognizing the need to adopt a declaration on the promotion among youth of the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples,

Considering that praiseworthy efforts have been made by various delegations to prepare a draft which would adequately supplement the text of other declarations and resolutions adopted in the past and constitute an appeal that would arouse intense interest among the youth of the world,

Considering the need for the widest possible participation by Governments and youth organizations with respect to the declaration,

Considering also the lack of time during the eighteenth session, which has made it impossible to complete the definitive version of the said declaration,

Convinced that it must continue its efforts in favour of mutual respect and understanding among the youth of the peoples of the world.

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1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to Member States the draft Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect