

no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

*Recalling also* the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, unanimously adopted by its resolution 3452 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, as well as its resolution 31/85 of 13 December 1976,

*Recognizing* the necessity for further international action in the form of a convention for the elimination of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

*Recognizing also* the importance of action by Member States to develop and utilize their national machinery to eliminate torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to reinforce their support of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment by making unilateral declarations against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, along the lines of the text which is annexed to the present resolution, and depositing them with the Secretary-General;

2. *Urges* all Member States to give maximum publicity to their unilateral declarations against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly, in annual reports, of such unilateral declarations against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as may be deposited by Member States.

98th plenary meeting  
8 December 1977

#### ANNEX

##### Model unilateral declaration against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The Government of . . . . . hereby declares its intention:

(a) To comply with the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (General Assembly resolution 3452 (XXX), annex);

(b) To implement, through legislation and other effective measures, the provisions of the said Declaration.

##### 32/65. Torture of political prisoners and detainees in southern Africa

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>30</sup> in particular its article 5,

*Bearing in mind* the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, contained in the annex to its resolution 3452 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

<sup>30</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

*Taking note* of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts on Southern Africa,<sup>31</sup> established pursuant to resolution 2 (XXIII) of the Commission on Human Rights, concerning the deaths of detainees and police brutality in South Africa since the Soweto massacre of 16 June 1976,

*Gravely concerned* about the reports regarding the torture of political prisoners and the deaths of a number of detainees and about the growing wave of acts of repression against individuals, organizations and information media in South Africa,

*Deeply shocked* by the cowardly and dastardly murder in detention of Stephen Biko,

1. *Condemns* the South African régime for its continuing violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

2. *Reiterates* its deep aversion to the practice whereby the South African régime persistently subjects all opponents of *apartheid* to summary banning, detention, imprisonment and sometimes murder;

3. *Strongly condemns* the practice of subjecting political detainees and other victims of *apartheid* in South Africa to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

4. *Strongly condemns*, in particular, the arbitrary arrest, detention and torture which led to the murder of Stephen Biko by agents of the racist minority régime of South Africa;

5. *Demands* that the minority *apartheid* régime of South Africa:

(a) Release all political prisoners without pre-condition;

(b) Lift all banning and house arrest orders imposed on opponents of *apartheid*;

(c) Put an immediate end to the indiscriminate use of violence against peaceful demonstrators against *apartheid* and to the persistent recourse to torture of political detainees;

6. *Expresses its conviction* that the martyrdom of Stephen Biko and all other nationalists murdered in South African prisons and the ideals for which they fought will continue to enrich the faith of the peoples of southern Africa and other parts of the world in their struggle against *apartheid* and for racial equality and the dignity of the human person.

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##### 32/66. Status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

*The General Assembly,*

*Convinced* that the International Covenants on Human Rights<sup>32</sup> constitute the first all-embracing and

<sup>31</sup> A/32/226, annex.

<sup>32</sup> Resolution 2200 (XXI), annex.