

terests of international peace, for the benefit of mankind and for promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion;

6. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights in its future activities to stress the need to ensure the cardinal right of everyone to life, liberty and security of person, and to live in peace;

7. *Decides* to consider this matter further at its thirty-eighth session under the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments".

*111th plenary meeting
18 December 1982*

B

The General Assembly,

Noting that scientific and technological progress is one of the important factors in the development of human society,

Noting once again the great importance of the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 3384 (XXX) of 10 November 1975,

Considering that implementation of the said Declaration will contribute to the strengthening of international peace and the security of peoples and to their economic and social development, as well as to international co-operation in the field of human rights,

Seriously concerned that the results of scientific and technological progress could be used for the arms race to the detriment of international peace and security and social progress, human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the dignity of the human person,

Recognizing that the establishment of the new international economic order calls in particular for an important contribution to be made by science and technology to economic and social progress,

Bearing in mind that the exchange and transfer of scientific and technological knowledge is one of the important ways to accelerate the social and economic development of the developing countries,

Noting with satisfaction the report of the Secretary-General on human rights and scientific and technological developments,¹⁴¹

1. *Stresses* the importance of the implementation by all States of the provisions and principles contained in the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind in order to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Calls upon* all States to make every effort to use the achievements of science and technology in order to promote peaceful social, economic and cultural development and progress;

3. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take into account in their programmes and activities the provisions of the Declaration;

4. *Invites* those Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet done so to submit their information pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/130 A of 11 December 1980;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to give special attention, in its consideration of the item entitled

"Human rights and scientific and technological developments", to the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Declaration;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments".

*111th plenary meeting
18 December 1982*

37/190. Question of a convention on the rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/166 of 20 December 1978, 34/4 of 18 October 1979, 35/131 of 11 December 1980 and 36/57 of 25 November 1981,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolutions 20 (XXXIV) of 8 March 1978,¹⁴² 19 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979,¹⁴³ 36 (XXXVI) of 12 March 1980,¹⁴⁴ 26 (XXXVII) of 10 March 1981¹⁴⁵ and 1982/39 of 11 March 1982¹⁴⁶ as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/18 of 5 May 1978, 1978/40 of 1 August 1978 and 1982/37 of 7 May 1982 and Council decisions 1980/138 of 2 May 1980 and 1981/144 of 8 May 1981,

Conscious of the importance of its task to contribute to the improvement of the situation of children in the world and to ensure their development and education in conditions of peace,

Bearing in mind the need to pursue effective action with a view to generating an international record of accomplishment such as that of the International Year of the Child,

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

Aware of the importance of an international convention on the rights of the child for more effective protection of children's rights,

Noting with appreciation that further progress has been made in the elaboration of a draft convention on the rights of the child prior to¹⁴⁷ and during¹⁴⁸ the thirty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights,

1. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/37, by which the Council authorized a meeting of an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights for a period of one week prior to the thirty-ninth session of the Commission in order to facilitate completion of the work on a draft convention on the rights of the child;

2. *Invites* all Member States to offer their effective contribution to the elaboration of a draft convention;

3. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to give the highest priority at its thirty-ninth session to the question of completing a draft convention;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the working group in order to ensure its smooth and efficient work;

¹⁴² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 4 (E/1978/34)*, chap. XXVI, sect. A.

¹⁴³ *Ibid.*, 1979, *Supplement No. 6 (E/1979/36)*, chap. XXIV, sect. A.

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, 1980, *Supplement No. 3 (E/1980/13 and Corr. 1)*, chap. XXVI, sect. A.

¹⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, 1981, *Supplement No. 5 (E/1981/25 and Corr. 1)*, chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

¹⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, 1982, *Supplement No. 2 (E/1982/12 and Corr. 1)*, chap. XXVI, sect. A.

¹⁴⁷ See E/1982/12/Add.1, sect. C.

¹⁴⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 2 (E/1982/12 and Corr. 1)*, chap. XI.

¹⁴¹ A/37/330 and Add.1.

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "Question of a convention on the rights of the child".

*111th plenary meeting
18 December 1982*

37/191. International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/51 of 14 December 1978, 34/45 of 23 November 1979, 35/132 of 11 December 1980 and 36/58 of 25 November 1981,

Having noted the report of the Secretary-General¹⁴⁹ on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,¹³⁶ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights¹³⁶ and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹³⁶

Noting with appreciation that, following its appeal, more Member States have acceded to the International Covenants on Human Rights,¹³⁶

Bearing in mind the important responsibilities of the Economic and Social Council in relation to the International Covenants on Human 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 Protocol thereto,

Taking into account the useful work of the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/30 of 2 May 1980 on the development of public information activities in the field of human rights and the report of the Secretary-General on publicity for the work of the Human Rights Committee,¹⁵⁰

1. *Notes with appreciation* the report of the Human Rights Committee on its fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth sessions,¹⁵¹ and expresses satisfaction at the serious and constructive manner in which the Committee is continuing to perform its functions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights that have extended their co-operation to the Human Rights Committee in submitting their reports under article 40 of the Covenant and urges States parties that have not yet done so to submit their reports to the Committee as speedily as possible;

3. *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;

4. *Commends* those States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights that have submitted their reports under article 16 of the Covenant and urges States that have not yet done so to submit their reports as soon as possible;

5. *Takes note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/33 of 6 May 1982 concerning the review of the composition, organization and administrative arrangements

of the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of States parties sending experts to present their reports under the International Covenants on Human Rights;

7. *Again invites* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as well as to consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

8. *Invites* the States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to consider making the declaration provided for in article 41 of the Covenant;

9. *Appreciates* that the Human Rights Committee continues to strive for uniform standards in the implementation of the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and of the Optional Protocol thereto;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and, where applicable, the Optional Protocol thereto;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to keep the Human Rights Committee informed of the activities of the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and also to transmit the annual reports of the Human Rights Committee to those bodies;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session a report on the 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;

13. *Takes note with appreciation* of the request of the Human Rights Committee that its official records be made available annually in bound volumes—one volume to contain the summary records of public meetings of the Committee and a second volume to contain other public documents of the Committee, including reports of States parties under article 40 of the Covenant—and requests the Secretary-General to consider making, within existing resources, the arrangements which he deems most suitable and economical for publishing those annual volumes;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take all possible steps to ensure that the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat is able effectively to assist the Human Rights Committee and the Economic and Social Council in the implementation of their respective functions under the International Covenants on Human Rights, taking into account General Assembly resolutions 3534 (XXX) of 17 December 1975 and 31/93 of 14 December 1976.

*111th plenary meeting
18 December 1982*

37/192. Capital punishment

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 35/437 of 15 December 1980 and its resolution 36/59 of 25 November 1981 concerning the idea of elaborating a draft of a second optional protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹³⁶ aiming at the abolition of the death penalty,

¹⁴⁹ A/37/406.

¹⁵⁰ A/37/490.

¹⁵¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/37/40).*