

For this purpose, it is necessary to work for the establishment of a just and fair international order. The establishment of a new international economic order would be an important means of combating the causes which generate racism and racial discrimination.

63. National, regional and international action to combat and eliminate the causes of the policies and practices of racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* should include measures aimed at improving the conditions of life of peoples and individuals in the economic, political, social and cultural spheres in order that the great inequalities now existing in the fields of employment, nutrition, health, housing and education, among others, may disappear. International development co-operation has an important role to play in securing the resources required by the developing countries to realize these objectives.

64. The Conference urges Governments, with the co-operation of the relevant international organizations, to consider adopting measures to guarantee, through special conventions or other provisions, asylum and transit facilities to those who desert from the armed forces of the racist régime in southern Africa on grounds of conscience or who are forced to leave because of their opposition to *apartheid*.

65. The Conference proclaims that the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination is a matter of high priority to the United Nations and the international community. It proclaims that racism and racial discrimination in all their manifestations are crimes against the conscience and dignity of mankind and must be eradicated by effective and concerted international action. The Conference pays tribute to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for its activities during the Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and recommends that, within the framework of its Second Medium-term Plan (1984-1989), that organization should continue:

(a) Its work (studies and research) on the factors of influence in the maintenance, transmission and alteration of prejudices and on the causes and effects of the various forms of racism and racial and ethnic discrimination;

(b) Its efforts to ensure that all groups which suffer from discrimination in the fields of education, science, culture and information shall enjoy equal opportunities with others and that the members of such groups shall have full representation and shall be able to exercise their rights in those fields;

(c) Its programme on the appreciation of differing cultures and the promotion and recognition of the equality of cultures and peoples;

(d) Its research and studies on *apartheid*, and the widest possible dissemination of the results of its work.

66. In spite of the efforts of the international community at the national, regional and international levels during the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* continue unabated and have shown no sign of diminishing. With a view to reaffirming its unalterable determination to mobilize maximum international pressure to attain the objectives of the Decade, the Conference strongly recommends that the General Assembly declare a Second Decade to Combat Racial Discrimination at the end of the current Decade in December 1983.

38/15. Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3057 (XXVIII) of 2 November 1973, by which it designated the ten-year period beginning on 10 December 1973 as the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Further recalling its resolution 37/41 of 3 December 1982, by which it decided to convene the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination at Geneva from 1 to 12 August 1983,

*Taking note with appreciation of the Report of the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination*¹⁹ as well as the report of the Secretary-General on the Conference,²⁰

¹⁹ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.XIV.4 and corrigendum.

²⁰ A/38/426.

²¹ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Recalling its resolution 38/14 of 22 November 1983, by which the General Assembly proclaimed the ten-year period beginning on 10 December 1983 the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the serious and constructive work undertaken at the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

2. *Pays tribute* to the Secretary-General of the Conference for his efforts to promote the aims and objectives of the Conference;

3. *Expresses its firm determination* to continue in the future to attach the highest importance to combating racism and racial discrimination in all their forms;

4. *Appeals* to all Governments, United Nations organs, the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as the concerned non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, to participate in the observance of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination by intensifying and extending their efforts towards ensuring the rapid eradication of racism and racial discrimination;

5. *Decides* to consider at its thirty-ninth session concrete action to be undertaken during the Second Decade.

*66th plenary meeting
22 November 1983*

38/16. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,²¹ as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation, which are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of an increasing number of sovereign peoples and nations,

Further expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their conditions,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, adopted by the Commission on

Human Rights at its thirty-sixth,²² thirty-seventh,²³ thirty-eighth²⁴ and thirty-ninth²⁵ sessions,

Reiterating its resolutions 35/35 B of 14 November 1980, 36/10 of 28 October 1981 and 37/42 of 3 December 1982,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,²⁶

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention and occupation of foreign countries and territories, and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, particularly the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of these acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of the millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted by the aforementioned acts and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this issue to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session under the item entitled "Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights".

66th plenary meeting
22 November 1983

38/17. Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its faith in the importance of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Reaffirming the importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, national sovereignty and territorial integrity and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples as imperatives for the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Reaffirming the obligation of all Member States to comply with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions of the United Nations regarding the exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial and foreign domination,

Recalling its resolutions 2649 (XXV) of 30 November 1970, 2955 (XXVII) of 12 December 1972, 3070 (XXVIII) of 30 November 1973, 3246 (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, 3382 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 33/24 of 29 November 1978, 34/44 of 23 November 1979, 35/35 of 14 November 1980, 36/9 of 28 October 1981 and 37/43 of 3 December 1982, and Security Council resolutions 418 (1977) of 4 November 1977 and 421 (1977) of 9 December 1977,

Recalling also its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2708 (XXV) of 14 December 1970, 33/44 of 13 December 1978, 35/119 of 11 December 1980, 36/68 of 1 December 1981 and 37/35 of 23 November 1982 concerning the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling further its resolutions 3103 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973 and 3314 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974, as well as Security Council resolutions 405 (1977) of 14 April 1977, 419 (1977) of 24 November 1977, 496 (1981) of 15 December 1981 and 507 (1982) of 28 May 1982, in which the United Nations condemned the recruiting and the use of mercenaries, in particular against developing countries and national liberation movements,

Recalling further its resolutions on the question of Namibia, in particular resolution ES-8/2 of 14 September 1981, and Security Council resolution 532 (1983) of 31 May 1983,

Welcoming the holding of the International Conference in Support of the Struggle of the Namibian People for Independence in Paris from 25 to 29 April 1983,²⁷

Welcoming also the holding of the International Conference on the Alliance between South Africa and Israel at Vienna from 11 to 13 July 1983,²⁸

Recalling resolutions AHG/Res.105 on Namibia, AHG/Res.111 on the policy of destabilization of the racist régime of South Africa and AHG/Res.112 on South Africa, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its nineteenth ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 6 to 12 June 1983,²⁹

Recalling further its resolution 37/1 of 1 October 1982 concerning its appeal for clemency on behalf of the freedom fighters of South Africa and Security Council resolution 533 (1983) of 7 June 1983 concerning the sentencing to death by South Africa of the three patriots of the African National Congress of South Africa,

Reaffirming that the system of *apartheid* imposed on the South African people constitutes a violation of the fundamental rights of that people, a crime against humanity and a constant threat to international peace and security,

Gravely concerned at the continuation of the illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa and the continued violations of the human rights of the people in the territory and of the other peoples still under colonial domination and alien subjugation,

²² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 3* (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

²³ *Ibid.*, 1981, *Supplement No. 5* (E/1981/25 and Corr.1), chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, 1982, *Supplement No. 2* (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, 1983, *Supplement No. 3* (E/1983/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVII, sect. A.

²⁶ A/38/447 and Add.1 and 2.

²⁷ See A/CONF.120/13.

²⁸ See A/AC.115/L.595.

²⁹ See A/38/312, annex.