

respect of all other United Nations instruments on human rights:

4. *Urges* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in co-operation with Governments, to undertake rigorous efforts to spread the teaching of human rights in all educational institutions, particularly primary and secondary schools, as well as in the training of relevant professional groups and requests the Director-General of that organization to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-third session, on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the Declaration, a report on the efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to those ends.

91st plenary meeting  
9 December 1983

### 38/58. Question of Palestine

#### A

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976, 32/40 of 2 December 1977, 33/28 of 7 December 1978, 34/65 A and B of 29 November 1979 and 34/65 C and D of 12 December 1979, ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980, 35/169 of 15 December 1980, 36/120 of 10 December 1981, ES-7/4 of 28 April 1982, ES-7/5 of 26 June 1982, ES-7/9 of 24 September 1982 and 37/86 A of 10 December 1982,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,<sup>100</sup>

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly;

2. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Committee contained in paragraphs 94 to 98 of its report and draws the attention of the Security Council to the fact that action on the Committee's recommendations, as repeatedly endorsed by the General Assembly, at its thirty-first session and subsequently, is long overdue;

3. *Requests* the Committee to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine as well as the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights<sup>101</sup> adopted by the International Conference on the Question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly or the Security Council, as appropriate;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, as well as other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine, to co-operate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

5. *Authorizes* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the implementation of its recommendations, to send delegations or representatives to international conferences where such representation would be considered by it to be appropriate, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session and thereafter;

<sup>100</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 35 (A/38/35).

6. *Decides* to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate, in accordance with the Committee's programme of implementation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

95th plenary meeting  
13 December 1983

#### B

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,<sup>100</sup>

*Noting*, in particular, the information contained in paragraphs 86 to 91 of that report,

*Recalling* its resolutions 32/40 B of 2 December 1977, 33/28 C of 7 December 1978, 34/65 D of 12 December 1979, 35/169 D of 15 December 1980, 36/120 B of 10 December 1981 and 37/86 B of 10 December 1982,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with General Assembly resolution 37/86 B:

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to discharge the tasks detailed in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 32/40 B, paragraph 2 (b) of resolution 34/65 D and paragraph 3 of resolution 36/120 B, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Division for Palestinian Rights with the necessary resources to accomplish its tasks and to expand its work programme, *inter alia*, through:

(a) Closer contacts with the media and wider dissemination of the Division's information material, particularly where information on the question of Palestine is inadequate;

(b) Increased contacts with non-governmental organizations and the convening of symposia and meetings for non-governmental organizations in different regions in order to heighten awareness of the facts relating to the question of Palestine;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued co-operation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division for Palestinian Rights to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

5. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to lend their co-operation to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Division for Palestinian Rights in the performance of their tasks;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by Member States to observe annually on 29 November the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People and

<sup>101</sup> Report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, Geneva, 29 August-7 September 1983 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.L.21), chap. I, sect. B.

the issuance by them of special postage stamps for the occasion.

*95th plenary meeting  
13 December 1983*

### C

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolution 36/120 C of 10 December 1981, in which it decided to convene, under the auspices of the United Nations, an International Conference on the Question of Palestine on the basis of its resolution ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980,

Recalling also its resolution 37/86 C of 10 December 1982 in which it, *inter alia*, reiterated the responsibility of the United Nations to strive for a lasting peace in the Middle East through a just solution of the problem of Palestine,

Having considered the report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine,<sup>102</sup> held at Geneva from 29 August to 7 September 1983,

Convinced that the Conference, in adopting by acclamation the Geneva Declaration on Palestine<sup>103</sup> and the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights,<sup>101</sup> made an important and positive contribution to the attainment of a comprehensive, just and durable peace in the Middle East through a just solution of the problem of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict,

Conscious of the importance of the time factor in achieving a just solution of the problem of Palestine,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine;

2. Endorses the Geneva Declaration on Palestine, adopted by acclamation on 7 September 1983;

3. Welcomes and endorses the call for convening an International Peace Conference on the Middle East in conformity with the following guidelines:

(a) The attainment by the Palestinian people of its legitimate inalienable rights, including the right to return, the right to self-determination and the right to establish its own independent State in Palestine;

(b) The right of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, to participate on an equal footing with other parties in all efforts, deliberations and conferences on the Middle East;

(c) The need to put an end to Israel's occupation of the Arab territories, in accordance with the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and, consequently, the need to secure Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem;

(d) The need to oppose and reject such Israeli policies and practices in the occupied territories, including Jerusalem, and any *de facto* situation created by Israel as are contrary to international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, particularly the establishment of settlements, as these policies and practices constitute major obstacles to the achievement of peace in the Middle East;

(e) The need to reaffirm as null and void all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, including the expropriation of land and property situated thereon, and in particular the so-called "Basic Law"

on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel:

(f) The right of all States in the region to existence within secure and internationally recognized boundaries, with justice and security for all the people, the *sine qua non* of which is the recognition and attainment of the legitimate, inalienable rights of the Palestinian people as stated in subparagraph (a) above;

4. Invites all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, as well as the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and other concerned States, to participate in the International Peace Conference on the Middle East on an equal footing and with equal rights;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Security Council, urgently to undertake preparatory measures to convene the Conference;

6. Invites the Security Council to facilitate the organization of the Conference;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to report on his efforts no later than 15 March 1984;

8. Decides to consider at its thirty-ninth session the report of the Secretary-General on the Conference.

*95th plenary meeting  
13 December 1983*

### D

*The General Assembly,*

Having considered the report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine,<sup>102</sup> held at Geneva from 29 August to 7 September 1983,

Taking note of the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights,<sup>101</sup>

Bearing in mind its resolution 38/145 of 19 December 1983 on assistance to the Palestinian people,

Urges the meeting of specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to be convened in 1984, referred to in General Assembly resolution 38/145, to take into account the recommendations of the five regional preparatory meetings of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine<sup>104</sup> and the United Nations resolutions concerning economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people in developing a co-ordinated programme of economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, and to ensure the implementation of that programme.

*95th plenary meeting  
13 December 1983*

### E

*The General Assembly,*

Having considered the report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine,<sup>102</sup> held at Geneva from 29 August to 7 September 1983,

Convinced that the world-wide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of non-governmental organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-

<sup>102</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.L.21.

<sup>103</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>104</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II, paras. 10 and 11.

determination and to the establishment of an independent sovereign Palestinian State.

*Requests* that the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in full co-operation and co-ordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, should:

- (a) Disseminate all information on the activities of the United Nations system relating to Palestine;
- (b) Expand publications and audio-visual coverage of the facts and developments pertaining to the question of Palestine;
- (c) Publish newsletters and articles in its relevant publications on Israeli violations of the human rights of the Arab inhabitants of the occupied territories, and organize fact-finding missions to the area for journalists;
- (d) Organize regional encounters for journalists;
- (e) Disseminate appropriate information on the results of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine.

*95th plenary meeting  
13 December 1983*

### 38/59. Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

#### A

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 37/66 of 3 December 1982 regarding the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea,

*Noting* that the Conference was concluded at Montego Bay, Jamaica, on 10 December 1982, that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea<sup>105</sup> was opened for signature and that one hundred and nineteen signatures were affixed to it on that date,

*Taking further note* of the increasing and overwhelming support for the Convention, as evidenced, *inter alia*, by the one hundred and thirty-two signatures and nine ratifications by States and by the United Nations Council for Namibia, on behalf of Namibia, as at 31 October 1983,

*Concerned* at any attempt to undermine the Convention and its related resolutions,<sup>106</sup>

*Recognizing* that, as stated in the third preambular paragraph of the Convention, the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole,

*Convinced* that it is important to safeguard the unified character of the Convention and its related resolutions and to refrain from any action to apply their provisions selectively, in a manner inconsistent with their objectives and purposes,

*Noting* the increasing needs of countries, especially developing countries, for information, advice and assistance in their developmental process for the full realization of the benefits of the comprehensive legal régime established by the Convention, as also recognized by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1983/48 of 28 July 1983,

*Recalling* that the Convention provides that the seat of the International Sea-Bed Authority shall be in Jamaica and the seat of the International Tribunal for the Law of

the Sea shall be at Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany,

*Recalling also* that in paragraph 12 of Conference resolution I of 30 April 1982,<sup>106</sup> establishing the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, it is expressly provided that the Commission shall meet at the seat of the Authority if facilities are available and as often as necessary for the expeditious exercise of its functions.

*Noting also* that the Preparatory Commission held its first session at Kingston, at which it elected its Bureau, concluded the elaboration of its organizational framework by allocating functions between the Plenary and Special Commissions and requested the secretariat to prepare background information and working papers in respect of the work allocated to these organs, and decided, *inter alia*, to hold its next regular session at Kingston from 19 March to 13 April 1984 and a session for its working groups during the summer of 1984, in New York or Geneva, as it may decide,<sup>107</sup>

*Recalling* its approval of the assumption by the Secretary-General of the responsibilities entrusted to him under the Convention and its related resolutions and the approval of the stationing of an adequate number of secretariat staff in Jamaica for the purpose of servicing the Preparatory Commission, as required by its functions and programme of work,

*Taking note also* of the major programme on marine affairs, set forth in chapter 25 of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989,<sup>108</sup>

*Recalling* the extensive functions entrusted to the Preparatory Commission, including the administration of the scheme governing preparatory investments in pioneer activities relating to polymetallic nodules,

*Recalling* its approval of the financing of the expenses of the Preparatory Commission from the regular budget of the United Nations,

*Taking special note* of the report of the Secretary-General<sup>109</sup> prepared in response to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 37/66.

1. *Recalls* the historic significance of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea as an important contribution to the maintenance of peace, justice and progress for all peoples of the world;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the large number of signatures affixed to the Convention as well as at the number of ratifications deposited with the Secretary-General during the year following the opening of the Convention for signature;

3. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention at the earliest possible date to allow the effective entry into force of the new legal régime for the uses of the sea and its resources;

4. *Calls upon* all States to safeguard the unified character of the Convention and its related resolutions;

5. *Appeals* to all States to refrain from taking any action directed at undermining the Convention or defeating its objectives and purposes;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to accord due consideration to the activities outlined in his report, special emphasis being placed on the work of the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea:

<sup>105</sup> *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.2), document A/CONF.62/122.

<sup>106</sup> *Ibid.*, document A/CONF.62/121, annex I.

<sup>107</sup> See A/38/570 and Corr.1, sect. IV.

<sup>108</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6A (A/37/6 Add.1), annex II.*

<sup>109</sup> A/38/570 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1-Corr.1.