

the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 37/14 C of 16 November 1982.

*101st plenary meeting
14 December 1984*

39/131. Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

The General Assembly,

Conscious of the need to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Reaffirming its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, in which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Recalling its resolutions 37/187 of 18 December 1982 and 38/110 of 16 December 1983, in which it requested the Commission on Human Rights to consider what measures might be necessary to implement the Declaration,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/39 of 24 May 1984, in which the Council authorized the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to entrust its Special Rapporteur with the preparation of a study, in accordance with the terms of Sub-Commission resolution 1983/31 of 6 September 1983,¹⁶⁴ on the current dimensions of the problems of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Taking note of the proposed outline for the study¹⁶⁵ presented by the Special Rapporteur to the Sub-Commission at its thirty-seventh session,

Welcoming the fact that the Secretary-General organized at Geneva, from 3 to 14 December 1984, within the framework of the advisory services programme, the Seminar on the Encouragement of Understanding, Tolerance and Respect in Matters relating to Freedom of Religion or Belief,

Recognizing that it is desirable to enhance the promotional and public information activities of the United Nations in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief and that both Governments and non-governmental organizations have an important role to play in this domain,

Aware that intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief continue to exist in many parts of the world,

Believing that further efforts are, therefore, required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief,

1. Reaffirms that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief;

2. Urges all States to give continuing attention to the need for adequate legislation to prohibit discrimination based on religion or belief in the recognition, exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3. Also urges all States to take all appropriate measures to combat intolerance and to encourage understanding, tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief;

4. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to continue its consideration of measures to implement the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief and to

report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fortieth session;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit, to this end, the report of the Seminar on the Encouragement of Understanding, Tolerance and Respect in Matters relating to Freedom of Religion or Belief to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-first session and to the General Assembly at its fortieth session;

6. Invites the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to the dissemination of the text of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, in all official languages of the United Nations, and to take all appropriate measures to make the text available for use both by United Nations information centres and by other interested bodies;

7. Requests the Secretary-General in this context to invite interested non-governmental organizations to consider what further role they could envisage playing regarding the dissemination of the Declaration in national and local languages;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance" and to consider the report of the Commission on Human Rights in the context of that item.

*101st plenary meeting
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39/132. Implications of scientific and technological developments for human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 33/53 of 14 December 1978, in which it requested the Commission on Human Rights to urge the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to undertake, as a matter of priority, a study of the question of the protection of those detained on the grounds of mental ill-health, with a view to formulating guidelines,

Recalling also its resolution 38/111 of 16 December 1983, in which it urged the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission to expedite their consideration of this question, so that the Commission could submit its views and recommendations, including a draft body of guidelines, principles and guarantees, to the General Assembly at its fortieth session, through the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/33 and decision 1984/142 of 24 May 1984,

Noting that the Commission on Human Rights will not be in a position to submit its views and recommendations to the General Assembly at its fortieth session through the Economic and Social Council because the Sub-Commission has still not concluded its consideration of the draft body of guidelines, principles and guarantees,¹⁶⁶

Noting with satisfaction the progress made by the Sub-Commission on this question,

Reaffirming its conviction that detention of persons in mental institutions on account of their political views or on other non-medical grounds is a violation of their human rights,

Again urges the Commission on Human Rights and, through it, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to expedite their

¹⁶⁴ See E/CN.4/1984/3-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1983/43 and Corr.1 and 2, chap. XXI, sect. A.

¹⁶⁵ See E/CN.4/Sub.2/1984/28.

¹⁶⁶ See E/CN.4/1985 3-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1984/43, chap. IX.