

right shall be protected by law and that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life,

Recalling also its resolution 34/175 of 17 December 1979, in which it reaffirmed that mass and flagrant violations of human rights are of special concern to the United Nations and urged the Commission on Human Rights to take timely and effective action in existing and future cases of mass and flagrant violations of human rights,

Recalling further its resolution 36/22 of 9 November 1981, in which it condemned the practice of summary or arbitrary executions, and its resolutions 37/182 of 17 December 1982 and 38/96 of 16 December 1983,

Deeply alarmed at the occurrence on a large scale of summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions,

Recalling resolution 1982/13 of 7 September 1982 of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,⁹² in which the Sub-Commission recommended that effective measures should be adopted to prevent the occurrence of summary or arbitrary executions,

Taking note of the work done by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control in the area of summary or arbitrary executions, including the elaboration of minimum legal guarantees and safeguards to prevent recourse to such extra-legal executions,⁹³ to be considered by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held from 26 August to 6 September 1985,

Convinced of the need for appropriate action to combat and eventually eliminate the practice of summary or arbitrary executions, which represents a flagrant violation of the most fundamental human right, the right to life,

1. *Strongly deplores* the large number of summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions, which continue to take place in various parts of the world;

2. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/35 of 7 May 1982, in which the Council decided to appoint for one year a special rapporteur to examine the questions related to summary or arbitrary executions, and 1983/36 of 26 May 1983, in which it decided to continue the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for another year;

3. *Also welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/35 of 24 May 1984, in which the Council decided to continue the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, Mr. S. A. Wako, for a further year and requested the Commission on Human Rights to consider the question of summary or arbitrary executions as a matter of high priority at its forty-first session;

4. *Appeals* to all Governments to co-operate with and assist the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights in the preparation of his report;

5. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur, in carrying out his mandate, to respond effectively to information that comes before him, in particular when a summary or arbitrary execution is imminent or threatened;

6. *Considers* that the Special Rapporteur, in carrying out his mandate, should continue to seek and receive information from Governments, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur so that he may effectively carry out his mandate;

8. *Again requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use his best endeavours in cases where the minimum standard of legal safeguards provided for in articles 6, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights⁹¹ appear not to be respected;

9. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-first session, on the basis of the report of the Special Rapporteur to be prepared in conformity with Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/35, 1983/36 and 1984/35, to make recommendations concerning appropriate action to combat and eventually eliminate the practice of summary or arbitrary executions.

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39/111. Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 33/173 of 20 December 1978, entitled "Disappeared persons", and its resolution 38/94 of 16 December 1983 on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances,

Deeply concerned about the persistence, in certain cases, of the practice of enforced or involuntary disappearances,

Expressing its profound emotion at the anguish and sorrow of the families concerned, who should know the fate of their relatives,

Convinced of the importance of implementing the provisions of General Assembly resolution 33/173 and of the other United Nations resolutions on the question of enforced and involuntary disappearances, with a view to finding solutions for cases of disappearances and helping to eliminate such practices,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 1984/23 of 6 March 1984,⁹⁴ in which the Commission decided to extend for one year the term of the mandate of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, and Economic and Social Council decision 1984/135 of 24 May 1984, in which the Council approved the Commission's decision,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances for the humanitarian work it has done and to those Governments that have co-operated with it;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Human Rights to extend for one year the term of the mandate of the Working Group, as laid down in Commission resolution 1984/23;

3. *Also welcomes* the provisions made by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1984/23 to enable the Working Group to fulfil its mandate with even greater efficiency;

4. *Appeals* to all Governments to provide the Working Group and the Commission on Human Rights with the full co-operation warranted by their strictly humanitarian objectives and their working methods based on discretion;

5. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to study this question as a matter of priority and to take any step it may deem necessary to the pursuit of

⁹² See E/CN.4/1983/4-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1982/43 and Corr.1, chap. XXI, sect. A.

⁹³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1984, Supplement No. 6 (E/1984/16)*, chap. VII.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 4 (E/1984/14 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

the task of the Working Group when it considers the report to be submitted by the Group at its forty-first session;

6. *Renews its request* to the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Working Group with all necessary assistance.

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39/112. Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of the prevention of crime and criminal justice under General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950, in particular by convening the quinquennial congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders,

Recalling its resolution 36/21 of 9 November 1981, in which it requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures for the fullest implementation of the Caracas Declaration⁹⁵ and for the appropriate preparation of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/29 of 4 May 1982, in which the Council approved the provisional agenda for the Seventh Congress, and 1984/45 of 25 May 1984 on the continuation of preparations for the Congress, as well as Council resolution 1984/51 of 25 May 1984 on technical co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 1984/154 of 25 May 1984, in which it accepted the invitation of the Government of Italy to hold the Seventh Congress at Milan from 26 August to 6 September 1985,

Acknowledging that criminality, particularly violent and organized crime, constitutes a serious threat to the development and security of nations,

Recognizing that constraints of an economic and technical nature impede many countries in their fight against crime,

Reiterating the necessity for the international community to make concerted and systematic efforts to strengthen technical and scientific co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice and to formulate fair, humane and effective policies directed towards crime control in the context of different political and cultural systems, economic and social development and social values and changes,

Convinced of the important role played by the previous congresses in promoting understanding, awareness and co-operation and in achieving further progress in this field,

Stressing the need to improve further regional, inter-regional and international co-operation and co-ordination in order to intensify the struggle against crime,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Italy for its offer to act as host to the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;

2. *Reaffirms its hope* that the Seventh Congress will make an important and useful contribution to the solution

of problems related to crime prevention and criminal justice;

3. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/29 and 1984/45 and, in particular, the recommendation that the Seventh Congress finalize new guiding principles on crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development;

4. *Welcomes also* the recommendations made by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1984/51 on improved modalities of technical co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice;

5. *Takes note* of the preparatory work carried out by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, as the preparatory body for the Seventh Congress, at its eighth session and by the regional and interregional preparatory meetings convened in co-operation with the regional commissions, interregional and regional crime prevention institutes and interested Governments;⁹⁶

6. *Calls upon* Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, to participate in the Seventh Congress and to intensify and expand their technical and scientific preparations for it;

7. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1985 to approve the provisional rules of procedure of the Seventh Congress;

8. *Requests* the Seventh Congress, under item 3 of its provisional agenda, to give urgent attention to the strengthening of technical co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in pursuance of the recommendations of the regional preparatory meetings and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control;

9. *Invites* the Seventh Congress to pay particular attention to the question of illicit drug trafficking;

10. *Appeals* to Member States to consider contributing to the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence, in order to enable the Fund to undertake activities of assistance to countries requesting it, and to allocate an appropriate portion of their resources to programmes for the reduction of crime and the improvement of criminal justice;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the substantive and organizational work of the Seventh Congress is fully adequate for its successful outcome;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fortieth session, in accordance with past practice, a report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Sixth Congress, to be prepared for the Seventh Congress in pursuance of paragraph 4 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/29;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fortieth session his views and recommendations on the implementation of the conclusions of the Seventh Congress;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session an item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice: report of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders".

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⁹⁵ Resolution 35/171, annex.

⁹⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1984, Supplement No. 6 (E/1984/16)*, chap. III.