

specialized agencies to continue to give high priority in their public information programmes to disseminating information concerning women and, in particular, the Forward-looking Strategies and, in the light of the recommendations contained in the Strategies, further requests the Secretary-General to provide in the regular budget for the continuation of the existing weekly radio programmes on women, with adequate provision for distributing them in different languages;

26. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session on measures taken to implement the present resolution;

27. *Decides* to consider these questions further at its forty-first session under an item entitled "Forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000".

*116th plenary meeting
13 December 1985*

40/109. 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 subsequent resolutions, in which the Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to consider what measures might be necessary to implement the Declaration,

Recalling also 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 1983,¹⁰³ on the current dimensions of the problems of intolerance and of discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief,

Taking note of the progress report thereon submitted by the Special Rapporteur to the Sub-Commission at its thirty-eighth session,¹⁰⁴

Concerned that the Special Rapporteur has not yet received sufficiently relevant or detailed information to discharge her tasks effectively,

Recalling the Seminar on the Encouragement of Understanding, Tolerance and Respect in Matters relating to Freedom of Religion or Belief, held at Geneva from 3 to 14 December 1984,

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 freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is a right guaranteed to all without discrimination;

2. *Urges* States, therefore, in accordance with their respective constitutional systems, to provide, where they have not already done so, adequate constitutional and legal guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief;

3. *Endorses* the request of the Commission on Human Rights to the Secretary-General, contained in its resolution 1985/51 of 14 March 1985,³⁰ to prepare a compendium of the national legislation and regulations of States on the question of freedom of religion or belief, with particular regard to the measures taken to combat intolerance or discrimination in this field;

4. *Encourages* Governments, specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to supply the Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, as requested, with information relevant to the study she is preparing on the current dimensions of the problems of intolerance and of discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, so as to enable her to submit the final report to the Sub-Commission as soon as possible;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Seminar on the Encouragement of Understanding, Tolerance and Respect in Matters relating to Freedom of Religion or Belief;¹⁰⁵

6. *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 and, in this context, to examine where necessary the supervision and training of their civil servants, educators and other public officials to ensure that, in the course of their official duties, they respect different religions and beliefs and do not discriminate against persons professing other religions or beliefs;

7. *Invites* the United Nations University and other academic and research institutions to undertake programmes and studies on the encouragement of understanding, tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief;

8. *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 by United Nations information centres, as well as by other interested bodies;

9. *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;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue its consideration of measures to implement the Declaration and to report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-first session;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled "Elimination of all

¹⁰³ See E/CN.4/1984/3-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1983/43 and Corr.1 and 2, chap. XXI, sect. A.

¹⁰⁴ E/CN.4/Sub.2/1985/28.

¹⁰⁵ See A/40/361, annex.

forms of religious intolerance" and to consider the report of the Commission on Human Rights under that item.

*116th plenary meeting
13 December 1985*

40/110. 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 39/132 of 14 December 1984, 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 forty-first 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 with concern that the Commission on Human Rights will not be in a position to submit its views and recommendations to the General Assembly at its forty-first 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,

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 consideration of the draft body of guidelines, principles and guarantees, so that the Commission can submit its views and recommendations, including a draft body of guidelines, principles and guarantees, to the General Assembly at its forty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council.

*116th plenary meeting
13 December 1985*

40/111. Human rights and use of scientific and technological developments

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the determination of the peoples of the United Nations to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to reaffirm faith in the dignity and worth of the human person, to maintain international peace and security and to develop friendly relations among peoples and international co-operation in promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁶ the International Covenant on

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights⁷ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁷

Recalling also the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States²² and the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,²¹

Recalling further the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security,¹⁰⁶ the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind,¹⁰⁷ the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace,¹⁰⁸ the Declaration on the Prevention of Nuclear Catastrophe¹⁰⁹ and the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace,¹¹⁰ as well as General Assembly resolutions 36/92 I of 9 December 1981, on the non-use of nuclear weapons and prevention of nuclear war, and 37/100 C of 13 December 1982 and 38/73 G of 15 December 1983, on a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind that, in its resolution 38/75 of 15 December 1983, the General Assembly resolutely, unconditionally and for all time condemned nuclear war as being contrary to human conscience and reason, as the most monstrous crime against peoples and as a violation of the foremost human right — the right to life,

Recalling its appeal for the conclusion of an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons with the participation of all the nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling with appreciation Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1982/7 of 19 February 1982,²⁷ 1983/43 of 9 March 1983²⁸ and 1984/28 of 12 March 1984,²⁹

Reaffirming the inherent right to life,

Profoundly concerned that international peace and security continue to be threatened by the arms race in all its aspects, particularly the nuclear arms race, as well as by violations of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and the self-determination of peoples,

Aware that all the horrors of past wars and all other calamities that have befallen people would pale in comparison with what is inherent in the use of nuclear weapons capable of destroying civilization on Earth,

Noting the pressing need for urgent measures towards general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, for the sake of life on Earth,

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, any propaganda for war shall be prohibited by law,

Recalling the historic responsibility of the Governments of all countries of the world to remove the threat of war from the lives of people, to preserve civilization and to ensure that everyone enjoys his inherent right to life,

Recognizing that the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations — established at the conclusion of the Second World War, which had brought untold sorrow to mankind — should serve to promote the right to life,

Convinced that for no people in the world today is there a more important question than that of the preservation of peace and of ensuring the cardinal right of every human being, namely, the right to life,

1. *Reaffirms* that all peoples and all individuals have an inherent right to life and that the safeguarding of this cardinal right is an essential condition for the enjoyment

¹⁰⁶ Resolution 2734 (XXV).

¹⁰⁷ Resolution 3384 (XXX).

¹⁰⁸ Resolution 33/73.

¹⁰⁹ Resolution 36/100.

¹¹⁰ Resolution 39/11 annex.