

10. *Decides* to consider at its forty-second session the question of human rights in the administration of justice.

97th plenary meeting  
4 December 1986

#### 41/150. Fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

*The General Assembly,*

*Considering* that the year 1988 will mark the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>2</sup> which, conceived as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations and having provided the basis for the development of the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>24</sup> has been and rightly continues to be a fundamental source of inspiration for national and international efforts for the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Recalling*, in this respect, its resolution 217 A (III) of 10 December 1948, by which it officially proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and its resolution 36/169 of 16 December 1981, concerning the observance of the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration, as well as its resolution 38/57 of 9 December 1983, relating to the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration,

*Convinced* of the continuing need to promote the universal observance and enjoyment of human rights, which contribute to peaceful and friendly relations among nations,

1. *Decides* to celebrate in 1988 the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

2. *Invites* Member States, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to take appropriate measures, such as those set forth in the annex to the present resolution, and to support appropriate activities aimed at encouraging the promotion of the universal observance and enjoyment of civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider including in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 appropriate activities, such as those indicated in the annex to the present resolution, to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Declaration;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to disseminate appropriate public information, broadcasting and audio-visual material designed to draw attention to, and emphasize the importance of, the Declaration and the role played and the work done by the United Nations to ensure the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Invites* the United Nations Postal Administration to issue commemorative postage stamps on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the Declaration;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-third session an item entitled "Fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights";

7. *Further decides* to devote one plenary meeting during its forty-third session to the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Declaration, which falls on 10 December 1988, and requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary preparations for the programme of that meeting.

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#### ANNEX

##### Recommended measures for the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

1. The following measures are recommended for possible action at the national level:

(a) Formal proclamation of 10 December 1988 as Human Rights Day;

(b) Issuance of special messages on 10 December 1988 by heads of State or Government or other prominent civil personalities;

(c) Special meetings of parliamentary and other public and private institutions on Human Rights Day;

(d) Special consideration by States which have not yet ratified or acceded to the international instruments of the United Nations in the field of human rights to become parties to those instruments;

(e) Establishment or strengthening of national or local institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights and encouragement of teaching programmes on human rights at various educational levels;

(f) Dissemination of the text of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in national languages, including the languages of minorities;

(g) Issuance during 1988 of human rights postage stamps, first-day covers and special cancellations;

(h) Participation by non-governmental organizations in the celebration of the anniversary, and the organization of activities by such organizations;

(i) Organization of activities within the framework and in support of current decades and international years being prepared on human rights issues.

2. It is recommended that the following measures, among others, should be taken by the Secretary-General at the United Nations level:

(a) Issuance by 10 December 1988 of updated versions in all official languages of the United Nations of the publication entitled *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*,<sup>113</sup>

(b) Issuance by 10 December 1988 of updated versions in all official languages of the United Nations of the publication entitled *United Nations Action in the Field of Human Rights*,<sup>147</sup>

(c) Organization of commemorative events, as in past practice, at United Nations Headquarters and at the United Nations Offices at Geneva and Vienna, as well as at Nairobi and at United Nations information centres, on or around 10 December 1988;

(d) Organization in 1988, within the framework of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, of an international seminar on the teaching of human rights;

(e) Adoption of arrangements for the award of human rights prizes, as envisaged in recommendation C of the annex to General Assembly resolution 2217 A (XXI) of 19 December 1966.

#### 41/151. Measures to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming once more* the permanent validity of the principles and standards set forth in the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>2</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>24</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination<sup>3</sup> and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>60</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the principles and standards established within the framework of the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the importance of the task carried out in connection with migrant workers and their

<sup>147</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.XIV.2.

families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations,

*Reiterating* that, in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles and standards, there is a need to make further efforts to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and their families,

*Recalling* its resolution 34/172 of 17 December 1979, by which it decided to establish a working group open to all Member States to elaborate an international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 35/198 of 15 December 1980, 36/160 of 16 December 1981, 37/170 of 17 December 1982, 38/86 of 16 December 1983, 39/102 of 14 December 1984 and 40/130 of 13 December 1985, by which it renewed the mandate of the Working Group on the Drafting of an International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families and requested it to continue its work,

*Having examined* the progress made by the Working Group during its seventh session,<sup>148</sup> held from 24 September to 3 October 1986, during which the Group continued with the second reading of the draft convention,

*Concerned* at the fact that, owing to the current financial situation, the Working Group could not meet between sessions of the General Assembly in 1986, immediately after the first regular session of the Economic and Social Council, following the practice established for the Group by the General Assembly itself,

*Taking note* of the recommendation of the Working Group to the effect that its inter-sessional meeting should not be suspended again, so as to enable it to complete, as soon as possible, the second reading of the remaining articles of the draft convention,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Working Group on the Drafting of an International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families<sup>148</sup> and, in particular, of the progress made by the Working Group on the drafting, in second reading, of the draft convention;

2. *Decides* that, in order to enable it to complete its task as soon as possible, the Working Group shall again hold an inter-sessional meeting of two weeks' duration in New York, immediately after the first regular session of 1987 of the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to transmit to Governments the report of the Working Group so as to enable the members of the Group to continue the drafting, in second reading, of the draft convention during the inter-sessional meeting to be held in the spring of 1987, as well as to transmit the results obtained at that meeting to the General Assembly for consideration during its forty-second session;

4. *Also invites* the Secretary-General to transmit the above-mentioned document to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the international organizations concerned, for their information, so as to enable them to continue their co-operation with the Working Group;

5. *Decides* that the Working Group shall meet during the forty-second session of the General Assembly, preferably at the beginning of the session, to continue the second reading of the draft international convention on the pro-

tection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to do everything possible to ensure adequate secretariat services for the Working Group for the timely fulfilment of its mandate, both at its inter-sessional meeting to be held after the first regular session of 1987 of the Economic and Social Council and during the forty-second session of the General Assembly.

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#### 41/152. Improvement of social life

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* that the Members of the United Nations have undertaken in the Charter of the United Nations to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

*Recalling* the principles proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>2</sup> and in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,<sup>71</sup>

*Mindful* of the need to establish a harmonious balance between scientific, technological and material progress and the intellectual, spiritual, cultural and moral advancement of mankind,

*Considering* that the improvement of social life must be based on respect for and the promotion of all human rights and particularly on the elimination of all forms of discrimination,

*Aware* that freedom of expression, worship and association, and the ensuring of equality of rights and opportunities for all the people on an equal footing in respect of employment, health, education, culture, rest and social security, in particular, also contribute to the improvement of social life,

*Considering* that healthy recreational, cultural and sports activities contribute to the achievement of a proper level of physical and mental health,

*Considering also* that the improvement of social life must take place in a continuous and uninterrupted manner,

1. *Acknowledges* that the progress achieved is still inadequate and that greater progress is necessary in the world social situation despite the efforts made, and that efforts to this end should be continued;

2. *Confirms* the need to ensure the well-being of everyone and the enjoyment of all the other basic human rights, particularly freedom of expression, worship and association, and the ensuring of equality of rights and opportunities on an equal footing for all the people in respect of employment, health, education, culture, rest and social security;

3. *Reiterates* that it is the right of everyone to enjoy the greatest possible degree of physical and mental health;

4. *Emphasizes* that participation in cultural, sports and recreational activities and the use of leisure without discrimination of any kind promotes the improvement of social life;

5. *Decides* to resume consideration of the question of the improvement of social life at its forty-second session.

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<sup>148</sup> See A/C.3/41/3.