

1. *Urgently calls* for full and immediate compliance with the Judgment of the International Court of Justice of 27 June 1986 in the case of "Military and Paramilitary Activities in and against Nicaragua" in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed on the implementation of this resolution.

*53rd plenary meeting
3 November 1986*

41/32. Twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Aware that the peoples of the United Nations have, in the Charter of the United Nations, declared their determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women, and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Recalling its resolution 2200 A (XXI) of 16 December 1966, by which it adopted and opened for signature and ratification or accession the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,³¹ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,³¹ and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,³¹

Recalling its resolution 31/86 of 13 December 1976, by which it welcomed with deep satisfaction the entry into force of those instruments as a major step in the international efforts to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling also its decision, contained in resolution 40/114 of 13 December 1985, to convene during its forty-first session a commemorative plenary meeting devoted to the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Convinced that the entry into force of the International Covenants has furthered the ability of the United Nations to promote, encourage and guarantee universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Also convinced that respect for and implementation of the provisions of the International Covenants in the field of human rights contribute to good co-operation between States for the achievement of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting, however, that only half of the States Members of the United Nations have acceded to the International Covenants,

Conscious that it is desirable to broaden accession to the International Covenants so that they acquire a genuinely universal character,

Desiring to observe solemnly the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenants,

1. *Invites* all States to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenants on Human Rights by continuing and strengthening measures aimed at the implementation, promotion and protection of the provisions of those instruments;

2. *Invites also* the appropriate United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and regional intergovernmental

organizations and non-governmental organizations to take appropriate measures to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenants;

3. *Reaffirms*, on the occasion of this twentieth anniversary, that, in order to contribute to the realization of the purposes and to the implementation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, States should pursue policies directed to the full implementation of the rights referred to in those instruments;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to those States that have become party to the International Covenants;

5. *Appeals strongly*, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenants, to all States that have not yet become parties to those instruments to do so, so that the Covenants acquire genuine universality, and to consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and making the declaration provided for in article 41 of the Covenant;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General, on the same occasion, to continue systematically encouraging States to become parties to the International Covenants and, through the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, to provide technical assistance to the States that are not parties to the Covenants with a view to helping them to ratify those instruments or accede thereto;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to arrange, within existing resources, the dissemination of appropriate public information on the International Covenants on Human Rights with a view to emphasizing their importance;

8. *Encourages* all Governments to publish the texts of the International Covenants in as many languages as possible, and to distribute them and make them known as widely as possible in their territories.

*54th plenary meeting
3 November 1986*

41/33. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security",

Recalling its resolutions ES-6/2 of 14 January 1980, 35/37 of 20 November 1980, 36/34 of 18 November 1981, 37/37 of 29 November 1982, 38/29 of 23 November 1983, 39/13 of 15 November 1984 and 40/12 of 13 November 1985,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the obligation of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of any State,

Reaffirming further the inalienable right of all peoples to determine their own form of government and to choose their own economic, political and social system free from outside intervention, subversion, coercion or constraint of any kind whatsoever,

Gravely concerned at the continuing foreign armed intervention in Afghanistan, in contravention of the above principles, and its serious implications for international peace and security,

Noting the increasing concern of the international community over the continued and serious sufferings of the

³¹ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Afghan people and over the magnitude of social and economic problems posed to Pakistan and Iran by the presence on their soil of millions of Afghan refugees, and the continuing increase in their numbers,

Deeply conscious of the urgent need for a political solution of the grave situation in respect of Afghanistan,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,³² and the status of the diplomatic process initiated by him,

Recognizing the importance of the initiatives of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the efforts of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries for a political solution of the situation in respect of Afghanistan,

1. *Reiterates* that the preservation of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and non-aligned character of Afghanistan is essential for a peaceful solution of the problem;

2. *Reaffirms* the right of the Afghan people to determine their own form of government and to choose their economic, political and social system free from outside intervention, subversion, coercion or constraint of any kind whatsoever;

3. *Calls* for the immediate withdrawal of the foreign troops from Afghanistan;

4. *Calls upon* all parties concerned to work for the urgent achievement of a political solution, in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution, and the creation of the necessary conditions which would enable the Afghan refugees to return voluntarily to their homes in safety and honour;

5. *Renews its appeal* to all States and national and international organizations to continue to extend humanitarian relief assistance with a view to alleviating the hardship of the Afghan refugees, in co-ordination with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

6. *Expresses its appreciation and support* for the efforts and constructive steps taken by the Secretary-General, especially the diplomatic process initiated by him, in the search for a solution to the problem;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue those efforts with a view to promoting a political solution, in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution, and the exploration of securing appropriate guarantees for the non-use of force, or threat of force, against the political independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of all neighbouring States, on the basis of mutual guarantees and strict non-interference in each other's internal affairs and with full regard for the principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep Member States and the Security Council concurrently informed of progress towards the implementation of the present resolution and to submit to Member States a report on the situation at the earliest appropriate opportunity;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

57th plenary meeting
5 November 1986

³² A/41/619-S/18347. For the printed text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-first Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1986*, document S/18347.

41/34. Law of the sea

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 37/66 of 3 December 1982, 38/59 A of 14 December 1983, 39/73 of 13 December 1984 and 40/63 of 10 December 1985, regarding the law of the sea,

Recognizing that, as stated in the third preambular paragraph of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,³³ 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 related resolutions adopted therewith and to refrain from any action to apply their provisions selectively, in a manner inconsistent with their object and purpose,

Emphasizing the need for States to ensure consistent application of the Convention, as well as the need for harmonization of national legislation with the provisions of the Convention,

Considering that, in its resolution 2749 (XXV) of 17 December 1970, it proclaimed that the sea-bed and ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, as well as the resources of the area, are the common heritage of mankind,

Recalling that the Convention provides the régime to be applied to the Area and its resources,

Seriously concerned at any attempt to undermine the Convention and related resolutions of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea,

Recognizing also the need for co-operation in the early and effective implementation by the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea of resolution II of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea,³⁴

Noting the developments within the Preparatory Commission in 1985 and in 1986 and the significant progress made by the Preparatory Commission through its unanimous decision of 5 September 1986 to facilitate the registration of applicants as pioneer investors for deep sea-bed mining,³⁵

Noting also that the Preparatory Commission has decided to hold its fifth regular session at Kingston from 30 March to 24 April 1987 and its summer meeting in 1987 at Geneva, Kingston or New York,³⁶

Noting the increasing needs of countries, especially developing countries, for information, advice and assistance in the implementation of the Convention and in their developmental process for the full realization of the benefits of the comprehensive legal régime established by the Convention,

Recognizing that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea encompasses all uses and resources of the sea and that all related activities within the United Na-

³³ *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, document A/CONF.62/121, annex I.

³⁵ See LOS/PCN/L.41/Rev.1, annex.

³⁶ See A/41/742, para. 115. In the light of the decision taken by the General Assembly at its 101st plenary meeting, on 11 December 1986, concerning the current financial crisis of the United Nations, the schedule of meetings for the fifth regular session of the Preparatory Commission has been modified. The Preparatory Commission will meet at Kingston from 30 March to 16 April 1987.