

tary-General and the High Commissioner in the implementation of humanitarian programmes of assistance for the student refugees in southern Africa;

10. *Requests* the High Commissioner, in co-operation with the Secretary-General, to continue to keep the matter under review, to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1988, of the current status of the programmes and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*93rd plenary meeting  
7 December 1987*

#### 42/139. Assistance to displaced persons in Ethiopia

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all its resolutions, in particular resolution 41/141 of 4 December 1986, as well as all those of the Economic and Social Council, on assistance to displaced persons in Ethiopia,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to displaced persons in Ethiopia,<sup>161</sup>

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,<sup>162</sup>

*Recognizing* the increasing number of voluntary returnees and refugees in Ethiopia,

*Deeply concerned* at the situation of displaced persons and voluntary returnees in the country, which has been aggravated by the devastating effect of the prolonged drought,

*Aware* of the heavy burden placed on the Government of Ethiopia and of the need for adequate assistance to displaced persons and victims of natural disasters, as well as to voluntary returnees and refugees,

1. *Commends* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and international organizations and voluntary agencies for their assistance to refugees and voluntary returnees in Ethiopia;

2. *Appeals* to Member States and to international organizations and voluntary agencies to provide Ethiopia with adequate material, financial and technical assistance in order to carry out relief and rehabilitation programmes for displaced persons, voluntary returnees and refugees;

3. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue his efforts in mobilizing humanitarian assistance for the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of voluntary returnees and refugees in Ethiopia;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the High Commissioner, to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1988, of the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-third session.

*93rd plenary meeting  
7 December 1987*

#### 42/140. 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>13</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>52</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 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, in 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, 40/130 of 13 December 1985 and 41/151 of 4 December 1986, in 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 at its sixth inter-sessional meeting, held from 1 to 12 June 1987, and at the current session of the General Assembly, from 22 September to 2 October 1987, during which the Group continued with the second reading of the draft convention,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the two most recent reports 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>162</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 1988 of the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to transmit to Governments the two most recent reports 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 1988, as well as to transmit the results obtained at that meeting to the General Assembly for consideration during its forty-third session;

<sup>161</sup> A/42/499.

<sup>162</sup> A/C.3/42/1 and A/C.3/42/6.

4. *Also invites* the Secretary-General to transmit the above-mentioned documents 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-third session of the General Assembly, preferably at the beginning of the session, to continue the second reading of the draft international convention on the protection 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 1988 of the Economic and Social Council and during the forty-third session of the General Assembly.

93rd plenary meeting  
7 December 1987

#### 42/141. Summary or arbitrary executions

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>2</sup> in which it is stated that every human being has the right to life, liberty and security of person,

*Having regard* to the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>13</sup> in which it is stated that every human being has the inherent right to life, that this 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, 38/96 of 16 December 1983, 39/110 of 14 December 1984, 40/143 of 13 December 1985 and 41/144 of 4 December 1986,

*Deeply alarmed* at the continued 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,<sup>163</sup> in which the Sub-Commission recommended that effective measures should be adopted to prevent the occurrence of summary or arbitrary executions,

*Welcoming* Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/50 of 25 May 1984 and the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty annexed thereto, which resolution was endorsed by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in its resolution 15,<sup>164</sup> as well as the ongoing work on summary or arbitrary

executions within the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control,

*Recognizing* the need for closer co-operation between the Centre for Human Rights and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control in efforts to bring an end to summary or arbitrary executions,

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

1. *Once again strongly condemns* the large number of summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions, that continue to take place in various parts of the world;

2. *Demands* that the practice of summary or arbitrary executions be brought to an end;

3. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/35 of 7 May 1982, in which the Council decided to appoint for one year a special rapporteur to consider the questions related to summary or arbitrary executions;

4. *Also welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/60 of 29 May 1987, 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-fourth session;

5. *Urges* all Governments and all others concerned to co-operate with and assist the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights in order that he may carry out his mandate effectively;

6. *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, or when such an execution has recently occurred;

7. *Welcomes* the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur in his report<sup>165</sup> to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-third session with a view to eliminating summary or arbitrary executions;

8. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur on the need to develop international standards designed to ensure effective legislation and other domestic measures so that proper investigations are conducted by appropriate authorities into all cases of suspicious death, including provisions for adequate autopsy;

9. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to receive information from appropriate United Nations bodies and other international organizations and to examine the elements to be included in such standards and to report to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-fourth session on progress made in this respect;

10. *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;

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

<sup>163</sup> See E/CN.4/1983/4-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1982/43 and Corr. 1, chap. XXI, sect. A.

<sup>164</sup> See *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders*, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985 report prepared by the Secretariat (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. F.

<sup>165</sup> E/CN.4/1987/20