

for the Third United Nations Development Decade<sup>125</sup> and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States;<sup>126</sup>

2. *Emphasizes* that, to this end, international co-operation should aim at the maintenance of stable and sustained economic growth with simultaneous action to increase concessional assistance to developing countries, build world food security, resolve the debt burden, eliminate trade barriers, promote monetary stability and enhance scientific and technological co-operation.

*75th plenary meeting  
8 December 1988*

#### 43/127. Right to development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the proclamation by the General Assembly at its forty-first session of the Declaration on the Right to Development,<sup>120</sup>

*Recalling also* its resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights relating to the right to development, and taking note of Commission resolution 1988/26 of 7 March 1988,<sup>27</sup> approved by the Economic and Social Council,

*Reiterating* the importance of the right to development for all countries, in particular the developing countries,

*Mindful* that, pursuant to the proclamation of the Declaration on the Right to Development, the Commission has entered a new phase of its deliberation on this matter, which is directed towards the implementation and further enhancement of the Declaration,

*Having considered* the report of the Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development<sup>127</sup> and all other relevant documents submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-third session,

*Aware* of the interest shown by several Member States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations in the work of the Working Group,

1. *Expresses the hope* that the replies of Governments, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations, submitted at the request of the Secretary-General based on Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/26 to offer their comments and views on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development, will contain practical proposals for further enhancement of the Declaration;

2. *Endorses* the agreement reached by the Commission that future work on the question of the right to development should proceed step by step and in stages;

3. *Calls upon* the Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development, at its twelfth session, to study the analytical compilation to be prepared by the Secretary-General of all replies received in response to Commission resolution 1988/26, if necessary together with the individual replies themselves, and to submit to the Commission at its forty-fifth session its final recommendations on those proposals which would best contribute to the further enhancement and implementation of the Declaration at the individual, national and international levels, and especially on the views of the Secretary-General and of Governments on the means of establishing

an evaluation system on the implementation and further enhancement of the Declaration;

4. *Calls upon* the Commission to decide at its forty-fifth session, on the basis of its consideration of the report of the Working Group and the views expressed by the members of the Commission during the session, on the future course of action on the question, in particular on practical measures for the implementation and enhancement of the Declaration;

5. *Invites* the Commission to report on the question to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council;

6. *Decides* to consider this question at its forty-fourth session under the item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

*75th plenary meeting  
8 December 1988*

#### 43/128. Development of public information activities in the field of human rights

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* that activities to improve public knowledge in the field of human rights are essential to the fulfilment of the purposes of the United Nations set out in Article 1, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations and that carefully designed programmes of teaching, education and information are essential to the achievement of lasting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions on this subject, in particular its resolution 42/118 of 7 December 1987, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/74 of 10 March 1988,<sup>27</sup>

*Recognizing* the catalytic effect of United Nations initiatives on national and regional public information activities in the field of human rights,

*Recognizing also* the valuable role that non-governmental organizations can play in these endeavours,

*Emphasizing* the importance of adherence by all Governments to the principles contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>2</sup> and believing that the fortieth anniversary of its adoption has provided a focus and renewed impetus to the promotional activities of the United Nations system in the field of human rights,

*Believing* that a world public information campaign on human rights would be a valuable complement to the activities of the United Nations further to promote and to protect human rights worldwide,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the development of public information activities in the field of human rights<sup>128</sup> and on the advisability of launching, within existing resources, a world public information campaign on human rights;<sup>129</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* the need for information materials on human rights to be carefully designed in clear and accessible form, to be tailored to regional and national requirements and circumstances with specific target audiences in mind and to be effectively disseminated in national and local languages and in sufficient volume to have the desired im-

<sup>125</sup> Resolution 35/56, annex.

<sup>126</sup> Resolution 3281 (XXIX).

<sup>127</sup> E/CN.4/1988/10.

<sup>128</sup> A/43/721.

<sup>129</sup> See A/43/711.

pact, and for effective use also to be made of the mass media, in particular radio and television and audio-visual technologies, in order to reach wider audiences, with priority being given to children, young people and the disadvantaged, including those in isolated areas;

3. *Appreciates* the measures taken during 1988 by the Secretariat, through the Centre for Human Rights and the Department of Public Information:

(a) To update, increase stocks and extend the language versions of human rights information materials, especially those on the basic United Nations human rights instruments and institutions, and, in this regard, urges the Secretariat to take measures to ensure the further production and effective dissemination of such documents in national and local languages, in co-operation with regional, national and local organizations as well as with Governments, making full and effective use of the United Nations information centres, which have a key promotional role to play in the field of human rights at the regional and national levels;

(b) To establish in the Department of Public Information a new Dissemination Division, which is revising and computerizing the Secretariat's distribution methods so as to target specific audiences better, globally and regionally, and which will assist organizations, schools and non-governmental organizations to identify appropriate material for their use;

(c) To expand audio-visual activities in the field of human rights, and, in this regard, again requests the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of co-production arrangements for future audio-visual programmes so as to achieve maximum public impact at an economical cost;

4. *Encourages* all Member States, in particular in order to follow up the activities of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to make special efforts to publicize and to facilitate and encourage publicity for the activities of the United Nations in the field of human rights, and to accord priority to the dissemination, in their respective national and local languages, of the Declaration, the International Covenants on Human Rights<sup>20</sup> and other international conventions and to information and education on the practical ways in which the rights and freedoms enjoyed under these instruments can be exercised;

5. *Urges* all Member States to include in their educational curricula materials relevant to a comprehensive understanding of human rights issues and encourages all those responsible for training in law and its enforcement, the armed forces, medicine, diplomacy and other relevant fields to include appropriate human rights components in their programmes, and, to this end, requests the Secretary-General to draw the attention of Member States to the teaching booklet on human rights, which could serve as a broad and flexible framework adaptable to national circumstances for the structuring and development of human rights teaching;

6. *Notes* the special value, under the advisory services and technical assistance programme, of regional and national training courses and workshops, in co-operation with Governments, regional and national organizations and non-governmental organizations, in promoting practical education and awareness in the field of human rights, and welcomes the priority given to the organization of such activities by the Centre for Human Rights;

7. *Decides* to launch on 10 December 1988, the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, within existing resources, a World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights, under which the ac-

tivities of the Organization in this field should be developed and strengthened in a global and practically oriented fashion, engaging the complementary activities of concerned bodies of the United Nations system, Member States and non-governmental organizations;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the fullest effective deployment of the skills and resources of all concerned units of the Secretariat and to make available, within existing resources, and in particular from the budget of the Department of Public Information, adequate funding for developing practical and effective human rights information activities, including those within the programme of the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights;

9. *Calls upon* the Centre for Human Rights, which has primary responsibility within the United Nations system in the field of human rights, to co-ordinate the substantive activities of the World Campaign pursuant to the direction of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, and to serve as liaison with Governments, regional and national institutions, non-governmental organizations and concerned individuals in the development and implementation of the World Campaign's activities;

10. *Calls upon* the Department of Public Information, which has primary responsibility for public information activities, to co-ordinate the public information activities of the World Campaign and, in its responsibility as secretariat to the Joint United Nations Information Committee, to promote co-ordinated system-wide information activities in the field of human rights;

11. *Emphasizes* the need for the United Nations to harmonize its activities in the field of human rights with those of other organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, with regard to the dissemination of information on international humanitarian law and, with regard to education for human rights, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which was requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 38/57 of 9 December 1983 to submit a report to the Assembly at its forty-third session on its human rights teaching and training programmes;

12. *Urges* all Member States that have not yet done so to nominate national focal points that could be supplied with copies of relevant human rights material and that might also serve as points of liaison with the United Nations in the development and implementation of the World Campaign, and requests the Secretary-General to publish the list of such focal points in his report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-fifth session a report on the current and proposed aims and activities of the World Campaign;

14. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights, at its forty-fifth session, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General, to give priority consideration to this question with a view to providing appropriate guidance on the aims and activities of the World Campaign;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution for consideration under the item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United

Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms”.

75th plenary meeting  
8 December 1988

#### 43/129. New international humanitarian order

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolutions 36/136 of 14 December 1981, 37/201 of 18 December 1982, 38/125 of 16 December 1983, 40/126 of 13 December 1985 and 42/120 and 42/121 of 7 December 1987 relating to the promotion of a new international humanitarian order,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General<sup>130</sup> and the comments made by various Governments regarding the humanitarian order and the work done in this regard by the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues,

Noting the actions being taken by the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system with regard to the humanitarian issues, examined by the Independent Commission, that fall within their respective mandates,

Recognizing with concern the continuing need further to strengthen international responses to growing humanitarian challenges and to adjust actions of governmental and non-governmental organizations to new realities in a fast-changing world,

Bearing in mind the importance of creative humanitarian action at the international as well as the regional and national levels to alleviate human suffering and to promote durable solutions to humanitarian problems,

Convinced of the need for an active follow-up to the recommendations and suggestions made by the Independent Commission and of the importance of the role being played in this regard by the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues set up for the purpose,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his continuing active support for the efforts to promote a new international humanitarian order;

2. Encourages Governments as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations that have not yet done so to provide their comments and expertise to the Secretary-General regarding the humanitarian order and the report of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues;

3. Invites the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues to continue and further strengthen its essential role in following up the work of the Independent Commission;

4. Invites Governments to make available to the Secretary-General, on a voluntary basis, information and expertise on humanitarian issues of concern to them, in order to identify opportunities for future action;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to remain in contact with Governments as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations and the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on the progress made by them;

6. Decides to review at its forty-fifth session the question of a new international humanitarian order.

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#### 43/130. Promotion of international co-operation in the humanitarian field

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolution 42/121 of 7 December 1987,

Noting that one of the purposes of the United Nations, set forth in its Charter, is to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of a humanitarian character,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>2</sup> which proclaims, *inter alia*, that recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Guided by universally accepted human values and common aspiration for a better, more just, safe and humane world,

Noting that international co-operation in the humanitarian field could contribute to attaining the ideals of a new international humanitarian order,

Mindful of the significance of the existing workable system to promote, facilitate and co-ordinate humanitarian activities carried out by Governments, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

Taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues<sup>131</sup> and the efforts of the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues to promote public awareness of humanitarian problems and to identify alternative approaches for resolving humanitarian problems,

1. Calls upon Governments, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations further to develop international co-operation in the humanitarian field;

2. Reiterates that international co-operation in the humanitarian field will facilitate better understanding, mutual respect, confidence and tolerance among countries and peoples, thus contributing to a more just and non-violent world;

3. Invites Governments to promote, within existing mechanisms, regular exchanges of information and of national experience in addressing humanitarian problems;

4. Encourages the international community to contribute substantially and regularly to international humanitarian activities;

5. Invites all non-governmental organizations concerned with the humanitarian issues examined by the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues and working with strictly humanitarian motives to bear in mind the recommendations and suggestions made in the report of the Independent Commission in the context of their policies and actions in the field;

6. Invites Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to forward to the Secretary-General, on a voluntary basis, their comments con-

<sup>130</sup> A/43/734.

<sup>131</sup> *Winning the Human Race? The Report of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues* (London and New Jersey, Zed Books Ltd., 1988).