

45/131. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,¹⁷⁴ as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of an increasing number of sovereign peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-sixth,¹⁷⁴ thirty-seventh,¹⁷⁵ thirty-eighth,¹⁷⁶ thirty-ninth,¹⁷⁷ fortieth,¹⁷⁸ forty-first,¹⁷⁹ forty-second,¹⁸⁰ forty-third,¹⁸¹ forty-fourth,¹⁸² forty-fifth¹⁸³ and forty-sixth sessions,³

Reiterating its resolutions 35/35 B of 14 November 1980, 36/10 of 28 October 1981, 37/42 of 3 December 1982, 38/16 of 22 November 1983, 39/18 of 23 November 1984, 40/24 of 29 November 1985, 41/100 of 4 December 1986, 42/94 of 7 December 1987, 43/105 of 8 December 1988 and 44/80 of 8 December 1989,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁸⁴

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a

¹⁷⁴ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

¹⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, 1981, *Supplement No. 5* and corrigendum (E/1981/25 and Corr.1), chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

¹⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, 1982, *Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

¹⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, 1983, *Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1983/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVII, sect. A.

¹⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, 1984, *Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1984/14 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

¹⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, 1985, *Supplement No. 2* (E/1985/22), chap. II, sect. A.

¹⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, 1986, *Supplement No. 2* (E/1986/22), chap. II, sect. A.

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*, 1987, *Supplement No. 5* and corrigenda (E/1987/18 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

¹⁸² *Ibid.*, 1988, *Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1988/12 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

¹⁸³ *Ibid.*, 1989, *Supplement No. 2* (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

¹⁸⁴ A/45/500.

fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, particularly the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of these acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of the millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this issue to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session under the item entitled "Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights".

*68th plenary meeting
14 December 1990*

45/132. Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, territorial integrity of States and self-determination of peoples, as well as a scrupulous respect for the principle of the non-use or threat of the use of force in international relations, as developed in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,¹⁸⁵

Reaffirming the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples and their liberation movements for their independence, territorial integrity, national unity and liberation from colonial domination, *apartheid* and foreign intervention and occupation, and that their legitimate struggle can in no way be considered as or equated to mercenary activity,

Recognizing that the use of mercenaries is a threat to international peace and security,

¹⁸⁵ Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.