

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General⁹¹ containing an account of the work of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa and the administration of the Programme for the period from 1 September 1990 to 31 August 1991,

Noting with satisfaction that the recommendations of the evaluation of the Programme undertaken in 1989 as endorsed by the Advisory Committee continue to be implemented,

Recognizing the valuable assistance rendered by the Programme to the peoples of South Africa and Namibia,

Also noting with satisfaction that educational and technical assistance for southern Africa has become a growing concern of the international community,

Fully recognizing the need to provide continuing educational opportunities and counselling abroad to a greater number of students from inside South Africa in a wide variety of professional, cultural and linguistic disciplines, as well as opportunities for vocational and technical training and for advanced studies at graduate and postgraduate levels in priority fields of study,

Strongly convinced that the development of the Programme is essential in order to meet the increasing demand for educational and training assistance to disadvantaged students from South Africa,

Taking note of the recommendations of the International Conference on the Educational Needs of the Victims of Apartheid in South Africa, convened in Paris from 25 to 27 June 1991⁹² by the Special Committee against Apartheid and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in cooperation with the Advisory Committee of the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa,

Noting that in order to address the priority needs of disadvantaged South Africans, the Programme is allocating greater resources for the purpose of institution-building in South Africa, in particular by strengthening black and other institutions of higher learning through a graduate student and junior faculty enhancement programme abroad in the field of educational management and other short-term specialized training courses with built-in returnability and employability of participants,

1. Endorses the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa;

2. Commends the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa for their continued efforts to develop the Programme so that it can best meet the needs evolving from changing circumstances in South Africa, to promote generous contributions to the Programme and to enhance cooperation with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental agencies involved in educational and technical assistance to South Africa;

3. Welcomes the main thrust of the Paris Statement on International Assistance to the Victims of Apartheid in the Fields of Education and Training,⁹³ adopted by the International Conference on the Educational Needs of the Victims of Apartheid in South Africa, with special regard to:

(a) Supporting and complementing the endeavours of South Africans towards major educational restructuring

through quality education, research and development of learning material;

(b) Providing assistance for the training of the managers of educational change at all levels, including teachers' educators, planners, curriculum specialists and administrators;

(c) Assisting in training programmes in the fields of public administration, policy analysis and planning, and business management, and strengthening the capacity of institutions and organizations;

4. Welcomes the recommendation made in the Paris Statement that a follow-up conference be convened in the first half of 1992 under the auspices of the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa and within existing resources;

5. Calls upon all non-governmental organizations, scholarship agencies and foundations to cooperate with the Programme in making the proposed follow-up conference a success;

6. Emphasizes that it is incumbent upon the international community to assist in bridging the economic and social disparities in South Africa during the transitional period, particularly in the field of education;

7. Calls upon non-governmental educational programmes and other non-governmental organizations and individuals concerned to assist the Programme in facilitating the returnability and job placement of its graduates;

8. Appeals to Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, individuals and international professional associations to use their influence and leverage inside South Africa to assist graduates of the Programme in obtaining access to job opportunities so that they can effectively contribute their professional competence and expertise towards the political, economic and social development of South Africa during the period of transition and beyond;

9. Considers that under the changing circumstances in South Africa, the Programme should have, in addition to its educational and training programmes abroad, the necessary flexibility to provide, in an appropriate manner, educational and training assistance to disadvantaged South Africans within the country itself;

10. Expresses its appreciation to all those who have supported the Programme by providing contributions, scholarships or places in their educational institutions;

11. Appeals to all States, institutions, organizations and individuals to offer greater financial and other assistance to the Programme to enable it to carry out its expanded programme of activities.

72nd plenary meeting
13 December 1991

46/81. Declaration on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaties in the field of human rights,

Recalling, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Covenants, the fundamental importance and special status of these basic human rights instruments of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the importance of the observance and effective implementation of the universally recognized standards in the field of human rights as contained in the Covenants,

Solemnly declares that acceptance of the International Covenants on Human Rights contributes greatly to the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and urges all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights⁹⁴ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights⁹⁴ and to consider acceding to the Optional Protocols to the latter at the earliest moment.

73rd plenary meeting
16 December 1991

46/82. The situation in the Middle East

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The General Assembly,

Having discussed the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Recalling its resolutions 36/226 A and B of 17 December 1981, ES-9/1 of 5 February 1982, 37/123 F of 20 December 1982, 38/58 A to E of 13 December 1983, 38/180 A to D of 19 December 1983, 39/146 A to C of 14 December 1984, 40/168 A to C of 16 December 1985, 41/162 A to C of 4 December 1986, 42/209 A to D of 11 December 1987, 43/54 A to C of 6 December 1988, 44/40 A to C of 4 December 1989, 45/83 A to C of 13 December 1990 and 45/68 of 6 December 1990,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981, 508 (1982) of 5 June 1982, 509 (1982) of 6 June 1982, 701 (1991) of 31 July 1991 and other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General of 22 October 1991,⁹⁵ 8 November 1991⁹⁹ and 15 November 1991,⁹⁶

Reaffirming the need for continued collective support for the decisions adopted by the Twelfth Arab Summit Conference, held at Fez, Morocco, on 25 November 1981 and from 6 to 9 September 1982,⁹⁷ which were confirmed by subsequent Arab summit conferences, including the Extraordinary Arab Summit Conference held at Casablanca, Morocco, from 23 to 26 May 1989,

Reiterating its previous resolutions on the question of Palestine and its support for the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people,

Welcoming all efforts contributing towards the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people through the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, in accordance with the United Nations resolutions relating to the question of Palestine and to the situation in the Middle East, including Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973,

Welcoming also the world-wide support extended to the

just cause of the Palestinian people and the other Arab countries in their struggle against Israeli aggression and occupation in order to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East and the full exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable national rights, as affirmed by previous resolutions of the General Assembly on the question of Palestine and on the situation in the Middle East,

Gravely concerned that the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories still remain under Israeli occupation, that the relevant resolutions of the United Nations have not been implemented and that the Palestinian people is still denied the restoration of its land and the exercise of its inalienable national rights in conformity with international law, as reaffirmed by resolutions of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,⁶¹ to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories,

Reaffirming also all relevant United Nations resolutions which stipulate that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law and that Israel must withdraw unconditionally from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories,

Gravely concerned also at Israeli policies involving the escalation and expansion of the conflict in the region, which further violate the principles of international law and endanger international peace and security,

Reaffirming further the imperative necessity and urgency of establishing a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region, based on full respect for the Charter and the principles of international law,

1. *Reaffirms its conviction* that the question of Palestine is the core of the conflict in the Middle East and that no comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region will be achieved without the full exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable national rights and the immediate, unconditional and total withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories;

2. *Reaffirms* that a just and comprehensive settlement of the situation in the Middle East cannot be achieved without the participation on an equal footing of all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people;

3. *Declares once more* that peace in the Middle East is indivisible and must be based on a comprehensive, just and lasting solution of the Middle East problem under the auspices of the United Nations and on the basis of its relevant resolutions, which ensures the complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories, and which enables the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to exercise its inalienable rights, including the right to return and the right to self-determination, national independence and the establishment of its independent sovereign State in Palestine, in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations relating to the question of Palestine, in particular General Assembly resolutions ES-7/2 of 29