

Convinced that it is necessary to develop international cooperation among States for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of such offences,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption of the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries,⁴¹ and welcoming the fulfilment of the provisions of paragraph 2 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/29 of 5 March 1991,³⁸ as reflected in the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission,⁴²

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights;

2. *Condemns* the continued recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit and use of mercenaries, as well as all other forms of support to mercenaries, for the purpose of destabilizing and overthrowing the Governments of African States and of other developing States and fighting against the national liberation movements of peoples struggling for the exercise of their right to self-determination;

3. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing and training are offences of grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Notes with serious concern* the use by the racist South African regime of groups of armed mercenaries against national liberation movements and for the destabilization of the Governments of southern African States;

5. *Denounces* any State that persists in the recruitment, or permits or tolerates the recruitment, of mercenaries and provides facilities to them for launching armed aggression against other States;

6. *Urges* all States to take the necessary steps and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to ensure, by both administrative and legislative measures, that the territory of those States and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries, or for the planning of activities designed to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State and to fight the national liberation movements struggling against racism, apartheid, colonial domination and foreign intervention or occupation;

7. *Calls upon* all States to extend humanitarian assistance to victims of situations resulting from the use of mercenaries, as well as from colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation;

8. *Reaffirms* that to use channels of humanitarian and other assistance to finance, train and arm mercenaries is inadmissible;

9. *Calls upon* all States which have not yet done so to consider taking early action to accede to or to ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;

10. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the use of mercenaries, especially in view of the additional elements highlighted in his report.⁴²

74th plenary meeting
16 December 1991

46/90. Monitoring of international plans and programmes of action in the field of social development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/125 of 7 December 1987, in which it endorsed the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future⁴³ and requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to ensure the implementation of, and follow-up action to, the Guiding Principles,

Reaffirming the continued importance and value of strategies and plans of action in different social policy areas directly related to the Guiding Principles, notably those concerning the status of women, the ageing, youth and disabled persons, as well as crime prevention and drug abuse, based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁸ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,²⁶ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights²⁶ and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,⁴⁴

Recalling its resolution 44/65 of 8 December 1989, in which it decided, *inter alia*, that social issues as conceived in the Guiding Principles should become a major part of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade,

Stressing the validity of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/48 of 28 May 1987 on the Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to redeploy resources to ensure appropriate follow-up action to the Interregional Consultation,

Concerned about the lack of appropriate follow-up action to the comprehensive programme of the Guiding Principles in the regions of Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Asia,

1. *Reaffirms* the validity of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future as a major framework for action at the local, national, regional and interregional levels in the field of social welfare and development;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on major issues and programme activities of the Secretariat and the regional commissions relating to social development and welfare and specific social groups;⁴⁵

3. *Stresses* the interrelationship between economic growth and human welfare as one of the principal themes of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;⁴⁶

4. *Appeals* to Governments to make use of the Guiding Principles and to apply the recommendations therein, as appropriate and in accordance with their national structures, needs and objectives, to inform the Secretary-General of problems in implementation and to accelerate the follow-up action to the Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes;

5. *Welcomes* the fact that provision was made for the implementation of the Guiding Principles in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997⁴⁷ and the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991,⁴⁸ as requested in its resolution 44/65;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General and the organizations of the United Nations system concerned to continue to in-

clude the implementation of the Guiding Principles in their programmes of work and to assist Governments, particularly those of the developing countries, in formulating appropriate social welfare policies so that effective programmes can be set up according to their needs;

7. *Urges* the executive secretaries of the regional commissions to give adequate attention to the recommendations for action at the regional level contained in the Guiding Principles;

8. *Stresses* the role of non-governmental and voluntary organizations in the implementation of the relevant recommendations of the Guiding Principles, particularly in social crisis management, as reflected in the proceedings of the international expert meeting on the role of voluntary organizations in crisis management: acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), drug abuse and mass migration as cases in point, held at Berlin from 18 to 22 November 1990;

9. *Urges* Member States in all regions to initiate regional expert group meetings devoted to issues raised in the Guiding Principles and to translate their recommendations into specific social policy activities;

10. *Welcomes* the idea of holding regional conferences such as the Conference of European Ministers Responsible for Social Affairs, to be held in Czechoslovakia in 1992, and the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, held in the Philippines from 7 to 11 October 1991;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To strengthen the follow-up action to the Interregional Consultation by, *inter alia*, appropriately reflecting the Guiding Principles in global programmes and events, including the preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family in 1994;⁴⁹

(b) To strengthen advisory services to Governments, especially those of developing countries, focusing on the policy, institution-building capacity, planning, administration and training aspects of developmental social welfare;

(c) To ensure that the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, which is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Guiding Principles, is provided with sufficient resources, without incurring additional expenses, through the regular budget of the United Nations, for an effective follow-up to the Interregional Consultation;

(d) To reflect appropriately resource and programme requirements for monitoring the implementation of the Guiding Principles in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993;

(e) To report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the progress achieved in the implementation of and follow-up action to the Guiding Principles and the present resolution;

12. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Secretary-General contained in the section II, paragraph 3, of his report entitled "Implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future",⁵⁰ and emphasizes the need for activities in this field to be carried out within existing resources;

13. *Decides* to consider the question of the implemen-

tation of the Guiding Principles at its forty-eighth session under the item entitled "Social development".

74th plenary meeting
16 December 1991

46/91. Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing and related activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/50 of 24 May 1989, in which the Council endorsed a draft programme of United Nations activities relating to the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, in 1992,

Pursuant to its resolution 45/106 of 14 December 1990, in which it endorsed the action programme on ageing for 1992 and beyond as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General on the question of ageing,⁵¹ invited Member States, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to consider innovative and effective ways of cooperating on the selection of targets in the field of ageing during 1991 and 1992, and urged Member States, the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to participate in the action programme on ageing for 1992 and beyond, especially in selecting targets in the field of ageing, in organizing community-wide activities and in launching an information and fund-raising campaign to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing at the local, national, regional and global levels,

Recalling that in resolution 45/106 it endorsed also the convening of an ad hoc working group of the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-second session to monitor the activities for the tenth anniversary, especially the launching of a global information campaign, and the selection of targets that might form the basis of the third review and appraisal of the International Plan of Action on Ageing to be made by the Commission at its thirty-third session, in 1993, and recommended that the Commission should give consideration to the desirability of convening, subject to the availability of funds, regional and sectoral meetings on the selection of targets in the field of ageing during 1991 and 1992 and global consultations in 1993 and 1997,

Recalling also that in resolution 45/106, it recognized the complexity and rapidity of the ageing of the world's population and the need to have a common basis and frame of reference for the protection and promotion of the rights of the elderly, including the contribution that the elderly can and should make to society,

Aware of the plight of the elderly in developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, as well as those in difficult circumstances, such as refugees, migrant workers and victims of conflict,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1751 (LIV) of 16 May 1973 on the aged and social security,

1. *Recommends* that the United Nations define, on the basis of the recommendations of a small expert group meeting to be held in 1992 within existing resources, targets on ageing to provide a pragmatic focus for the broad and ideal goals of the International Plan of Action on Age-