

8. *Again urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to consider acceding to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

9. *Invites* the States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to consider making the declaration provided for in article 41 of the Covenant;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and, where applicable, the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

11. *Stresses* the importance of avoiding the erosion of human rights by derogation, and underlines the necessity of strict observance of the agreed conditions and procedures for derogation under article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, bearing in mind the need for States parties to provide the fullest possible information during states of emergency, so that the justification for and appropriateness of measures taken in these circumstances can be assessed;

12. *Appeals* to States parties to the Covenants that have exercised their sovereign right to make reservations in accordance with relevant rules of international law to consider whether any such reservations should be reviewed;

13. *Urges* States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the specialized agencies and other relevant United Nations bodies to extend their full support and cooperation to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights informed of the relevant activities of the other treaty bodies, the Commission on Human Rights, the functional commissions concerned, the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and, as appropriate, the specialized agencies, and also to transmit the annual reports of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to those bodies;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat effectively assists the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the implementation of their respective mandates;

16. *Again urges* the Secretary-General, taking into account the suggestions of the Human Rights Committee, to take determined steps to give more publicity to the work of that Committee and, similarly, to the work of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

17. *Encourages* all Governments to publish the texts of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in as many languages as possible and to distribute them and make them known as widely as possible in their territories;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", report on the

status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

75th plenary meeting  
17 December 1991

**46/114. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families**

*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>8</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>26</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>2</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women,<sup>34</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>135</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the principles and standards established within the framework of the International Labour Organisation and the importance of the task carried out in connection with migrant workers and members of 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 members of their families,

*Recalling* its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, in which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

1. *Recalls with satisfaction* the adoption at its forty-fifth session of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;

2. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Convention;<sup>136</sup>

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and expresses the hope that it will enter into force at an early date;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all facilities and assistance necessary for the promotion of the Convention, through the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

5. *Invites* United Nations agencies and organizations, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to intensify their efforts with a view to disseminating information on and promoting understanding of the Convention;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a report on the status of the Convention;

7. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General

at its forty-seventh session under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments".

*75th plenary meeting  
17 December 1991*

#### 46/115. Non-discrimination and protection of minorities

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* that one of the main purposes of the United Nations, as proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations, is to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

*Noting* the importance of the effective implementation of international human rights instruments with regard to the rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities,

*Welcoming* the increased attention given by the human rights treaty bodies to the non-discrimination and protection of minorities,

*Aware* of the provisions of article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>26</sup> concerning the rights of persons belonging to ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities,

*Considering* that the United Nations has an important role to play regarding the protection of minorities,

*Bearing in mind* the work done so far within the United Nations system, in particular by the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

*Noting* the important achievements in this regard in regional, subregional and bilateral frameworks, which can provide a useful source of inspiration for future United Nations activities,

*Stressing* the need to ensure for all, without discrimination of any kind, full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and, in particular, to accomplish the elaboration of a draft declaration on the rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities,

*Recalling* its decision 45/434 of 18 December 1990 and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/61 of 6 March 1991,<sup>38</sup> as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/30 of 31 May 1991, in which the Council authorized the holding of an intersessional session of the open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights to enable the working group to complete its second reading of the draft declaration on the rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, with a view to submitting the text to the Commission at its forty-eighth session,

1. *Encourages* the Commission on Human Rights to complete the final text of the draft declaration on the rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities as soon as possible and to transmit it for adoption to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session of the work done

by the Commission on Human Rights with regard to the draft declaration;

3. *Decides* to keep the issue of the elaboration of the draft declaration on its agenda under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

*75th plenary meeting  
17 December 1991*

#### 46/116. World Conference on Human Rights

*The General Assembly,*

*Mindful* of the goal of the United Nations to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>8</sup>

*Recognizing* that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of another,

*Noting* that violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms continue to occur,

*Bearing in mind* that all Member States have pledged themselves to achieve the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in conformity with relevant articles of the Charter,

*Noting* the progress made by the United Nations towards this goal and the fact that there are areas in which further progress should be made,

*Recalling* its resolution 45/155 of 18 December 1990 in which it decided, *inter alia*, to convene at a high level a World Conference on Human Rights in 1993 and to establish a Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights,

*Taking note* of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/30 of 5 March 1991 entitled "World Conference on Human Rights",<sup>38</sup> and in particular the recommendations contained in the annex to that resolution,

*Taking note also* of the views and recommendations of Governments, specialized agencies, other international organizations, concerned United Nations bodies, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights, contained in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>137</sup>

*Welcoming* the appointment of the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights as Secretary-General of the Conference,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights on its first session;<sup>138</sup>

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments, United Nations bodies and organs and non-governmental organizations for their contributions to the preparatory meetings;

3. *Decides* that the Preparatory Committee, at its second session, will base the elaboration of the provisional agenda for the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993 on the objectives stated in paragraph 1 of resolution 45/155;

4. *Decides*, in accordance with the decisions adopted by the Preparatory Committee: