

*Welcoming with appreciation* the fact that the High Commissioner has continued in 1990 and 1991 to organize and implement programmes for educational and other appropriate assistance for student refugees in the southern African region,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Governments of Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe for the cooperation that they have extended to the High Commissioner on matters concerning the welfare of student refugees,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General<sup>114</sup> and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;<sup>100</sup>

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner, donor countries and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their assistance in mitigating the plight of the large number of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

3. *Commends* the Governments concerned for providing assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and their efforts to promote voluntary repatriation and other measures taken in order to find appropriate and lasting solutions;

4. *Expresses deep concern* at the serious and far-reaching consequences of the massive presence of refugees and displaced persons in the countries concerned and the implications for their long-term socio-economic development;

5. *Expresses the hope* that additional resources will be made available for general refugee programmes to keep pace with refugee needs;

6. *Appeals* to Member States, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide adequate material, financial and technical assistance for relief and rehabilitation programmes for the large number of refugees, voluntary returnees and displaced persons and victims of natural disasters;

7. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to continue their efforts to mobilize humanitarian assistance for the relief, repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize adequate financial and material assistance for the full implementation of ongoing projects in rural and urban areas affected by the presence of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

9. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue her efforts with the appropriate United Nations agencies and intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to consolidate and increase essential services to refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to study and assess the environmental and socio-economic impact of the prolonged presence of refugees in the host countries with a view to rehabilitating those areas;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive and consolidated report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, under the sub-item entitled "Questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons", and an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992.

74th plenary meeting  
16 December 1991

#### 46/110. United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>8</sup> which states that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

*Recalling also* the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>118</sup>

*Recalling with satisfaction* the entry into force on 26 June 1987 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>119</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, in which it noted with deep concern that acts of torture took place in various countries, recognized the need to provide assistance to the victims of torture in a purely humanitarian spirit and established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

*Alarmed* at the widespread occurrence of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

*Convinced* that the struggle to eliminate torture includes the provision of assistance in a humanitarian spirit to the victims and members of their families,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>120</sup>

1. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation* to the Governments, organizations and individuals that have already contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;

2. *Calls upon* all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for initial as well as further contributions to the Fund;

3. *Invites* Governments to make contributions to the Fund, preferably on a regular basis, in order to enable the Fund to provide continuous support to projects that depend on recurrent grants;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments that pledged a contribution to the Fund at the 1991 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include the Fund on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Board of Trustees of the Fund for the work it has carried out;

7. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the support given to the Board of Trustees of the Fund by carrying out its decisions on an increasing number of projects;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials, to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its efforts to make the Fund and its humanitarian work better known and in its appeal for contributions.

75th plenary meeting  
17 December 1991