



General Assembly

Distr .
LIMITED

A/C.3/41/L.77
20 November 1986
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-first session
THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Austria, Canada, Central African Republic, Cyprus, France,
Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, India, Japan, Senegal,
Sri Lanka, and Sweden; draft resolution

Fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Concidering that the year 1988 will mark the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which, conceived "as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations", **has** been and rightly continues to **be** a fundamental **source** of **inspiration** for national and international **efforts** for the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling in this respect **its resolution 217 A (III) of 10 December 1948**, proclaiming officially the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and its resolution **36/169** of 16 **December** 1981 concerning the observance of the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration as well as resolution **38/57** relating to the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration,

Convinced of the continuing need to promote the universal observance and enjoyment of human rights which contribute to peaceful and friendly relations among nations,

1. Decides to celebrate in **1988** the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of **Human Rights**;

2. Invites Member States, the **specialized** agencies, regional **intergovernmental organizations** and non-governmental **organizations** to take **appropriate measures**, such as those set forth in the annex to the present resolution, and to support appropriate activities aimed at encouraging the

promotion of the universal observance and enjoyment of civil and political, as well as economic, social and cultural rights;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to initiate within existing **resources**, appropriate **activities**, such as ~~those indicated~~ in the annex to the present resolution, to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the **Declaration**;

4. Further requests the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to disseminate appropriate public information, broadcasting and audio-visual material designed to draw attention to, and emphasise the importance of, the Declaration and the role ~~played~~ and work done by the United Nations to ensure the effective enjoyment of **human** rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. Invites the **United Nations** Postal Administration to issue commemorative postage stamps on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the Declaration;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-third session an item entitled "Fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of **Human Rights**";

7. Further decides to hold a special commemorative meeting to ~~celebrate~~ the fortieth anniversary of the **Declaration**, which falls on 10 December 1988, and requests the **Secretary-General** to make the necessary preparations for the programme of that meeting.

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Annex

RECOMMENDED MEASURES FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE FORTIETH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

1. The following recommendations are made for possible action at the national level:

- (a) Formal proclamation of 10 December 1988 as Human Rights Day;
- (b) Issuance of special messages on 10 December 1988 by Heads of State or Government or other prominent civil personalities;
- (c) Special meetings of parliamentary and other public and private institutions on Human Rights Day;
- (d) Special consideration by States which have not yet ratified or acceded to the international instruments of the United Nations in the field of human rights, to become parties to those instruments;
- (e) Establishment or strengthening of national or local institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights and the encouragement of teaching programmes on human rights at various educational levels;
- (f) Dissemination of the text of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in national languages, including the languages of minorities)
- (g) Issuance of human rights postage stamps, first-day covers and special cancellations during 1988;
- (h) Participation by non-governmental organizations in the celebration, and the organisation of activities by such organizations;
- (i) Organization of activities within the framework and in support of current decades and international years being prepared on human rights issues.

2. It is recommended that the following measures, among others, should be taken by the Secretary-General at the United Nations level:

- (a) Issuance by 10 December 1988 of updated versions in all official languages of the United Nations of the publication Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments of the United Nations;
- (b) Issuance by 10 December 1988 of updated versions in all official languages of the United Nations of the publication United Nations Action in the Field of Human Rights issued in 1983;

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(c) Organization of commemorative events as in past practice at United Nations Headquarters at the United Nations office at Geneva and at Vienna, ³³ Well an at United Nations information centres on or around 10 December **1988**;

(d) Organization in **1988**, within the framework of the Advisory **Services Programme**, of an international seminar on the teaching of human rights)

(e) Adoption **of** arrangements for the award of human rights prizes **as** envisaged in recommendation C of the annex to General Assembly resolution 2217 (XXI) of 19 December 1966.
