

*Deeply conscious* of the continuing critical need of the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia for concrete assistance from the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations in their struggle for liberation from colonial rule and in their efforts to consolidate their national independence,

*Noting with concern* that, although progress has been maintained in the extension of assistance to refugees from Zimbabwe and Namibia, the action taken hitherto by the organizations and agencies concerned in the provision of assistance to the peoples of those territories through their national liberation movements is still far from adequate to meet the urgent and growing needs of those peoples,

*Noting* the closer contacts established and the consultations held between the specialized agencies and United Nations institutions and the Organization of African Unity and the national liberation movements of Zimbabwe and Namibia in the formulation of assistance programmes,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council and endorses the observations and suggestions contained therein;

2. *Reaffirms* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the struggle of colonial peoples to exercise their right to self-determination and independence entails, as a corollary, the extension by United Nations organizations of all the necessary moral and material assistance to the peoples of the colonial territories and their national liberation movements;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and organizations within the United Nations system which have continued to co-operate in varying degrees with the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity in the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of United Nations bodies, and urges all the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system to accelerate the full and speedy implementation of the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, in the light of the intensification of the liberation struggle in Zimbabwe and Namibia, to do everything possible as a matter of urgency to render, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, increased assistance to the peoples of those territories and their national liberation movements in their struggle for liberation;

5. *Urges further* those specialized agencies and organizations within the United Nations system which have not already done so to include in the agenda of the regular meetings of their governing bodies a separate item on the progress made by those organizations in their implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the other relevant resolutions of United Nations bodies;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, to continue to take all necessary measures to withhold any financial, economic, technical or other assistance to the Government of South Africa and the illegal régime in Southern Rhodesia, to discontinue all support to them until they restore to the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia their inalienable right to self-determination and independence,

and to refrain from taking any action which might imply recognition of or support for the illegal domination of the territories by those régimes;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the arrangements made by several specialized agencies and United Nations organizations which enable representatives of the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity to participate fully as observers in the proceedings relating to matters concerning their respective countries, and calls upon those international institutions which have not yet done so to follow that example and make the necessary arrangements without delay;

8. *Recommends* that all Governments should intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system of which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of United Nations bodies and, in that connexion, should accord priority to the question of providing assistance on an emergency basis to the peoples of the colonial territories and their national liberation movements;

9. *Urges* the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, having regard to the recommendations contained in paragraph 4 above, to formulate, with the active co-operation of the Organization of African Unity, and to submit, as a matter of priority, to their governing and legislative organs concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant United Nations decisions, in particular specific programmes of assistance to the peoples of the colonial territories and their national liberation movements;

10. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution and to the discussions on the subject at the second regular session of 1978 of the Council;

11. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to continue consultations on this matter with the Chairman of the Special Committee and to report thereon to the Council;

12. *Decides* to keep this question under continuous review.

*32nd plenary meeting  
21 July 1978*

**1978/39. Humanitarian assistance programmes of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the Horn of Africa**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Taking note* of the statement made to the Council by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on 21 July 1978 concerning his humanitarian assistance programmes in the Horn of Africa,<sup>123</sup>

*Taking note* of the appeal launched by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in his telegram dated 10 April 1978, for urgent assistance to refugees and displaced persons in the Horn of Africa,

*Noting with appreciation* the assistance thus far provided to the refugees and displaced persons in the region,

<sup>123</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Plenary Meetings, 32nd meeting.*

*Realizing* that the assistance thus far received falls far short of the needs and requirements of the countries in the region,

*Recognizing* the plight of the refugees and displaced persons and the formidable burden imposed on the limited resources of the Governments of the countries in the region,

1. *Requests* all States to respond generously and expeditiously to the appeal of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to enable him to mobilize the maximum international support in order to alleviate the sufferings of the refugees and displaced persons in the Horn of Africa;

2. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in co-operation with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and other specialized agencies, as well as non-governmental organizations, to render the maximum possible assistance to the Governments of the countries in the region;

3. *Invites* the High Commissioner to continue to intensify humanitarian assistance to the refugees and displaced persons in the region;

4. *Requests* the High Commissioner to include in his annual report to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1979 information regarding the steps he has taken to implement the present resolution.

*35th plenary meeting  
1 August 1978*

#### **1978/40. International Year of the Child**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having considered* the progress report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund on the International Year of the Child, 1979,<sup>124</sup>

*Convinced* of the need for all States to pay increased attention to the welfare, protection and education of children in a spirit of solidarity, equality and respect among all nations,

*Noting with satisfaction* that to date the Governments of 141 countries have indicated their intention to respond to General Assembly resolution 31/169 of 21 December 1976, by which the Assembly proclaimed the year 1979 International Year of the Child, and that 91 of those countries have already established national commissions for the Year,

*Noting with appreciation* the equally positive response from the organizations of the United Nations system and the no less positive response from non-governmental organizations,

*Bearing in mind* Council resolution 1978/18 of 5 May 1978 concerning the question of a convention on the rights of the child,

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly which laid the foundations for a new international economic order, as well as other pertinent resolutions and decisions of United Nations organizations,

*Taking note* of the message sent by the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund to the General Assembly at its tenth special session devoted to

<sup>124</sup> E/1978/101.

disarmament,<sup>125</sup> which appeals to Governments to ensure that an adequate portion of any savings that may result from a reduction in expenditures on armaments is channelled through national or multinational programmes towards meeting the minimum requirements of children everywhere,

*Commending* the work of the Interagency Advisory Group for the International Year of the Child and the creation of a single Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations for the Year, which Committee is a member of the Advisory Group,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Children's Fund for the manner in which it has carried out the responsibility of lead agency entrusted to it by the General Assembly in its resolution 31/169;

2. *Reaffirms* that the International Year of the Child is intended to be a Year for action at the national level, supported, where called for, by activities and consultations at the regional and international levels;

3. *Expresses the strong hope* that each country will take this occasion to review the situation of its children in depth, to elaborate plans, including the setting of realistic goals, for the initiation, extension or improvement of services meeting the particular needs of its children, and to put those plans into operation in the course of 1979;

4. *Urges*, in addition, the Governments of Member States to increase their assistance to programmes benefiting children in the developing countries, with a view to helping the Governments of those countries to ensure that all children will be provided with at least the most essential services by the end of the century;

5. *Urges* the United Nations Children's Fund and other United Nations agencies concerned to give appropriate attention during the International Year of the Child, in their programmes to assist children, to those children who find themselves in special circumstances that might not be adequately covered in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, in particular children living under colonial rule, *apartheid* and foreign occupation, and requests such agencies to consult with their respective recognized representatives and other interested governmental and non-governmental bodies, in order to identify the particular problems and needs of those children and give them the necessary assistance and care;

6. *Commends* those Governments which have made voluntary contributions towards the cost of the secretariat of the International Year of the Child and urges Governments which have not yet taken such action to do so.

*35th plenary meeting  
1 August 1978*

#### **1978/41. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971, 3243 (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, 3440 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, 31/173 of 21 December 1976 and 32/56 of 8 December 1977, and Council resolution 2102 (LXIII) of 3 August 1977,

*Mindful* of the need to ensure a sound and enduring financial basis for the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator in order to facilitate the ac-

<sup>125</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 14 (E/1978/54)*, para. 13.