

of the effective implementation of international instruments on human rights,

*Taking note* of General Assembly resolution 42/105 of 7 December 1987, concerning reporting obligations of States parties to international instruments on human rights,

1. *Appeals strongly* to all States that have not yet done so to become parties to international instruments on human rights;

2. *Emphasizes* the interest and responsibility of States parties to the various human rights instruments in ensuring that legal, financial and administrative difficulties affecting the functioning of the relevant treaty bodies are appropriately addressed;

3. *Urges* all States parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination<sup>44</sup> and all States parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment<sup>71</sup> to comply fully with their financial obligations under these conventions;

4. *Emphasizes* that the United Nations has an interest in ensuring that difficulties affecting the functioning of the relevant treaty bodies are appropriately addressed;

5. *Affirms* its commitment to the relevant provisions of various resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, addressing such issues as:

(a) The importance of effective systems of periodic reporting by States parties to international instruments on human rights for reviewing and assisting efforts to promote and protect the rights and freedoms elaborated in those instruments;

(b) The need for the United Nations to ensure that financial difficulties, which may increasingly impede the functioning of certain human rights treaty bodies and deter universal acceptance of certain international instruments on human rights, are appropriately addressed;

(c) The importance of the application of universally recognized criteria in the implementation of provisions of the international instruments on human rights;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General fully to inform the General Assembly at its forty-third session, the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1989 and the Commission on Human Rights, as its subsidiary body, at its forty-fifth session, as well as the second meeting of chairmen of human rights treaty bodies, of further developments concerning the effective functioning of treaty bodies established in accordance with the international instruments on human rights.

*16th plenary meeting  
27 May 1988*

<sup>71</sup> General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.

## **1988/43. Realization of the right to adequate housing**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 1986/41 of 23 May 1986 and 1987/62 of 29 May 1987,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 41/146 of 4 December 1986,

*Taking into account* General Assembly resolution 42/146 of 7 December 1987, in which the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council and its appropriate functional commissions to keep the question of the right to adequate housing under periodic review.

*Bearing in mind* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>6</sup> and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>3</sup> provide that all persons have the right to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families, including adequate housing, and that States should take appropriate steps to ensure the realization of that right,

*Recognizing* that the provision of housing for the homeless is an integral part of national economic and social development in all countries and an important step towards the realization of the right to development,

*Recalling* the objectives of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless,<sup>72</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the measures and action taken and the renewed commitments made during the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless by Member States, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to advance the realization of the right to adequate housing,

*Recognizing* the importance of sustaining the momentum generated by the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* that millions of people do not enjoy the right to adequate housing;

2. *Reaffirms* the provisions of General Assembly resolution 42/146 and the need to take appropriate measures, at the national and international levels, to promote the right of all persons to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families, including adequate housing;

3. *Calls upon* all States and international organizations concerned to pay special attention to the realization of the right to adequate housing in carrying out measures to develop national shelter strategies and settlement improvement programmes within the framework of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000;<sup>73</sup>

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the social aspects of the situation of homeless people to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

5. *Requests* the General Assembly to consider the question of the realization of the right to adequate housing at its forty-third session under the agenda

<sup>72</sup> See General Assembly resolution 37/221.

<sup>73</sup> See General Assembly resolution 42/191.

item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council".

*16th plenary meeting  
27 May 1988*

**1988/44. Review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice under Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

*Bearing in mind* its resolutions 1986/11 of 21 May 1986 and 1987/49 and 1987/53, both of 28 May 1987, as well as General Assembly resolution 42/59 of 30 November 1987,

*Noting* that 1988 is the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the programme of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice and that the scope and extent of criminal activity have assumed dimensions that could not have been foreseen by Member States when they entrusted the United Nations with a leading role in this field,

*Emphasizing* the central role of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control in assisting the Council in the preparations for the quinquennial United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders and in developing the programme of work of the United Nations in this field, as specified by the General Assembly in its resolution 32/60 of 8 December 1977 and by the Council in its resolution 1979/19 of 9 May 1979,

*Conscious* that the effective management of the increasing range of United Nations activities in crime prevention and criminal justice, and the efficient preparation of the quinquennial congresses, require professional, technical and specialized work on the part of the Secretariat, as well as close involvement on the part of the Committee,

*Noting with concern* that the resources available to the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat have decreased, while the commitments of the United Nations in this field have increased,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>74</sup>

2. *Acknowledges* the work accomplished by the Secretariat in implementing its programme of work in this field, including progress in the preparations for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, following the directives of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control and the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council, as specified in its resolutions 1986/11 and 1987/53, while recognizing the major tasks still to be undertaken;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations programme of work in crime prevention and criminal justice is supported by adequate resources through such measures as appropriate redeployment of staff and funds, including redeployment from relevant departments at Headquarters, and to ensure that the specialized and technical nature of the programme and the high priority attached by Member States to crime prevention and criminal justice are fully reflected in the management and staffing of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the interest shown in, and the support given to, the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch by many Governments, as well as by non-governmental organizations and the professional community, which have been involved in the preparations for the Eighth Congress, and invites them to continue to participate actively in such preparations;

5. *Welcomes* the appointment of the Secretary-General of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to pay particular attention to the operational aspects of the programme of work, specifically to assist interested countries in developing self-reliance in the area of crime prevention through human resources development, the reinforcement of national machinery, the promotion of joint training activities and the development of pilot and demonstration projects, and invites the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the Secretariat and other agencies that provide funding for technical co-operation to continue to provide effective support and assistance for this endeavour;

7. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in co-operation with the Secretariat, to play an active role in the formulation and implementation of technical co-operation projects in crime prevention and criminal justice and to allocate adequate resources and expertise for technical assistance activities through, *inter alia*, the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence, and urges the Secretary-General to strengthen existing interregional advisory services;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to foster further close collaboration between the Secretariat and the United Nations regional and interregional institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice and to co-ordinate the activities of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch with those of the institutes, particularly through the reinforcement of existing contacts, the crime information network, substantive support of technical co-operation projects, staff secondment and exchange of expertise and research findings;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways and means of ensuring the optimal functioning of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control;

<sup>74</sup> E/1988/31.