

Assembly resolution 38/20 of 22 November 1983 and of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session of the views and suggestions expressed at the above-mentioned meeting, if it is convened.

*100th plenary meeting
16 December 1983*

38/118. Principles of Medical Ethics

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 37/194 of 18 December 1982, by which it adopted the Principles of Medical Ethics relevant to the role of health personnel, particularly physicians, in the protection of prisoners and detainees against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Alarmed that not infrequently members of the medical profession or other health personnel are engaged in activities which are difficult to reconcile with the Principles of Medical Ethics,

Recognizing the need for the full application of the Principles of Medical Ethics and desiring that the Principles be given wide publicity,

1. *Urges* all Governments to take measures with a view to promoting the application by all health personnel and Government officials, in particular those employed in institutions of detention or imprisonment, of the Principles of Medical Ethics relevant to the role of health personnel, particularly physicians, in the protection of prisoners and detainees against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to disseminate the Principles of Medical Ethics widely and in as many languages as possible and to issue a pamphlet containing the text of the Principles in the six official languages of the United Nations;

3. *Calls upon* all Governments to give the Principles of Medical Ethics the widest possible distribution, in particular among medical and paramedical associations and institutions of detention or imprisonment, in an official language of the State;

4. *Invites* all relevant intergovernmental organizations, in particular the World Health Organization, and non-governmental organizations concerned to bring the Principles of Medical Ethics to the attention of the widest possible group of individuals, especially those active in the medical and paramedical field;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session on the steps taken by the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies, as well as by Governments, for the dissemination and implementation of the Principles of Medical Ethics.

*100th plenary meeting
16 December 1983*

38/119. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 3452 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

Bearing in mind article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹⁷⁰

Recalling also its resolution 32/62 of 8 December 1977, in which it requested the Commission on Human Rights to draw up a draft convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in the light of the principles embodied in the Declaration, and its resolution 32/63 of 8 December 1977,

Recalling further that the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, in its resolution 11 of 5 September 1980, expressed the belief that the draft convention should be finalized at the earliest possible time,¹⁷¹

Considering that it was not possible to complete the work on the draft convention during the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights,

1. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/38 of 27 May 1983, in which the Council authorized a meeting of an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights for a period of one week prior to the fortieth session of the Commission in order to complete the work on a draft convention;

2. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to complete, at its fortieth session, as a matter of the highest priority, the drafting of a convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, with a view to submitting a draft, including provisions for the effective implementation of the future convention, to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

*100th plenary meeting
16 December 1983*

38/120. Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General concerning preparations for the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa¹⁷² and the sections on Africa contained in the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,¹⁷³

Recalling its resolutions 37/197 of 18 December 1982, entitled "International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa", and 38/5 of 28 October 1983 on co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity,

Bearing in mind resolution AHG/Res.114 (XIX) on the Second Conference, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African

¹⁷⁰ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

¹⁷¹ See *Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders*, Caracas, 25 August-5 September 1980: Report prepared by the Secretariat (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IV.4), chap. I, sect. B.

¹⁷² A/38/526.

¹⁷³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/38/12 and Corr.1) and Supplement No. 12A (A/38/12 Add.1).*