

or to conferences convened by, or held under the auspices of, international organizations of a universal character, to consider as soon as possible the question of ratifying, or acceding to, the Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character;

2. *Calls once more upon* the States concerned to accord to the delegations of the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States and accorded observer status by international organizations, the facilities, privileges and immunities necessary for the performance of their functions, in accordance with the provisions of the Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

48th plenary meeting
28 November 1990

45/38. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/44 of 8 December 1977, 34/51 of 23 November 1979, 37/116 of 16 December 1982, 39/77 of 13 December 1984, 41/72 of 3 December 1986 and 43/161 of 9 December 1988,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General⁵ on the status of the Protocols⁶ Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949⁷ and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts,

Convinced of the continuing value of established humanitarian rules relating to armed conflicts and the need to respect and ensure respect for these rules in all circumstances within the scope of the relevant international instruments, pending the earliest possible termination of such conflicts,

Stressing the need for consolidating and implementing the existing body of international humanitarian law and for the universal acceptance of such law,

Mindful of the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross in offering protection to the victims of armed conflicts,

Noting with appreciation the continuing efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross to promote and to disseminate knowledge of the two additional Protocols,

1. *Appreciates* the virtually universal acceptance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the increasingly wide acceptance of the two additional Protocols of 1977;

2. *Notes*, however, the fact that, in comparison with the Geneva Conventions, the number of States parties to the two additional Protocols is still limited;

⁵ A/45/454.

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

3. *Appeals* to all States parties to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties also to the additional Protocols at the earliest possible date;

4. *Calls upon* all States becoming Parties to Protocol I to consider making the declaration provided for under article 90 of that Protocol;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a report on the status of the additional Protocols based on information received from Member States;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts".

48th plenary meeting
28 November 1990

45/39. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,⁸

Conscious of the need to develop and strengthen friendly relations and co-operation among States,

Convinced that respect for the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations is a basic prerequisite for the normal conduct of relations among States and for the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Alarmed by the repeated acts of violence against diplomatic and consular representatives, as well as against representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, which endanger or take innocent lives and seriously impede the normal work of such representatives and officials,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 664 (1990) of 18 August 1990, 667 (1990) of 16 September 1990 and 674 (1990) of 29 October 1990 regarding, *inter alia*, certain recent flagrant violations of international law concerning the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

Mindful of the universal condemnation of those violations during the debate on the question in the Sixth Committee at the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly,⁹

Concerned at the abuse of diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, particularly if acts of violence are involved,

Emphasizing the duty of States to take all appropriate measures as required by international law, including measures of a preventive nature, and to bring offenders to justice,

⁸ A/45/455 and Add.1-3.

⁹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Sixth Committee, 5th to 7th and 45th meetings, and corrigendum.*

Welcoming measures already taken by States to this end in conformity with their international obligations,

Convinced that the role of the United Nations, which includes the reporting procedures established under General Assembly resolution 35/168 of 15 December 1980 and further elaborated in later Assembly resolutions, is important in promoting efforts to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

Reaffirming its resolution 43/167 of 9 December 1988,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Strongly condemns* acts of violence against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as against missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, and emphasizes that such acts can never be justified;

3. *Calls* for the immediate cessation of continuing violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives and for respect of the right of free passage of diplomatic and consular personnel coming from or returning to the sending State;

4. *Urges* States to observe, implement and enforce the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations and, in particular, to ensure, in conformity with their international obligations, the protection, security and safety of the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above officially present in territories under their jurisdiction, including practical measures to prohibit in their territories illegal activities of persons, groups and organizations that encourage, instigate, organize or engage in the perpetration of acts against the security and safety of such missions, representatives and officials;

5. *Also urges* States to take all necessary measures at the national and international levels to prevent any acts of violence against the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above and to bring offenders to justice;

6. *Recommends* that States should co-operate closely through, *inter alia*, contacts between the diplomatic and consular missions and the receiving State, with regard to practical measures designed to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives and with regard to the exchange of information on the circumstances of all serious violations thereof;

7. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the instruments relevant to the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives;

8. *Also calls upon* States, in cases where a dispute arises in connection with a violation of their international obligations concerning the protection of the missions or the security of the representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, to make use of the means for peaceful settlement of disputes, including the good offices of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General, when he deems it appropriate, to offer his good offices to the States directly concerned;

9. *Requests* all States to report to the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 9 of resolution 42/154 of 7 December 1987;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to issue a report on the item, in accordance with paragraph 12 of resolution 42/154, containing also an analytical summary of the reports received under paragraph 9 above, on an annual basis, as well as to proceed with his other tasks pursuant to the same resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives".

48th plenary meeting
28 November 1990

45/40. United Nations Decade of International Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/23 of 17 November 1989 by which it declared the period 1990-1999 the United Nations Decade of International Law,

Recalling also that the main purposes of the Decade, according to resolution 44/23, should be, *inter alia*:

(a) To promote acceptance of and respect for the principles of international law;

(b) To promote means and methods for the peaceful settlement of disputes between States, including resort to and full respect for the International Court of Justice;

(c) To encourage the progressive development of international law and its codification;

(d) To encourage the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law;

Recalling further that it decided to consider the question of the programme for the Decade and of appropriate action to be taken during the Decade at its forty-fifth session,

Expressing its appreciation for the Secretary-General's report on the United Nations Decade of International Law,¹⁰ submitted pursuant to resolution 44/23,

Noting that the Sixth Committee established the Working Group on the United Nations Decade of International Law with a view to preparing generally acceptable recommendations for the Decade,

Having considered the report of the Sixth Committee submitted to that end,¹¹

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Sixth Committee for the elaboration, within the framework of its Working Group, of the programme for the activities to be commenced during the first term (1990-1992) of the United Nations Decade of International Law, and requests the Working Group to continue its work at the forty-sixth session in accordance with its mandate and methods of work;

2. *Adopts* the programme for the activities to be commenced during the first term (1990-1992) of the

¹⁰ A/45/430 and Corr.1 and Add.1-3.

¹¹ See A/C.6/45/L.5.