

bodies and to promote and support the establishment of effective national organizations of disabled persons, including umbrella organizations;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to review the translation into the official languages of the United Nations of the terms "impairment", "disability", "handicap" and "disabled person" used in the World Programme of Action;

8. *Emphasizes* the need to identify specific measures to strengthen the Disabled Persons Unit of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, within existing resources, in order to enable it to implement the objectives of the Decade;

9. *Welcomes* the support already provided by some Governments to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons and appeals for further voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the Disabled Persons Unit and to enable it to perform its focal-point functions;

10. *Reaffirms* that the resources of the Voluntary Fund should be used to support catalytic and innovative activities in order to implement further the objectives of the World Programme of Action within the framework of the Decade, with priority given, as appropriate, to programmes and projects of the least developed countries;

11. *Invites* Governments and non-governmental organizations to continue their contributions to the Voluntary Fund, and calls upon Governments and non-governmental organizations that have not yet done so to consider contributing to the Voluntary Fund so as to enable it to respond effectively to the growing demand for assistance;

12. *Also invites* Member States to submit updated national reports to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the agenda for action;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons".

*68th plenary meeting
14 December 1990*

45/92. Human rights and scientific and technological developments

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,³³ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,³³ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights³³ and other relevant instruments, such as the Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons³⁴ and the Body of Principles

for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment,³⁵

Recalling its resolution 33/53 of 14 December 1978, in which it requested the Commission on Human Rights to urge the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to undertake, as a matter of priority, a study of the question of the protection of those detained on the grounds of mental ill-health, with a view to formulating guidelines,

Recalling also its resolution 44/134 of 15 December 1989, in which it welcomed the establishment of the open-ended Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to examine, revise and simplify as necessary the draft body of principles and guarantees submitted by the Sub-Commission,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/38 of 6 March 1990³ and Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/37 of 25 May 1990, by which the Council authorized the Working Group to continue its work with a view to submitting the draft body of principles and guarantees to the Commission at its forty-seventh session,

1. *Welcomes* the significant progress made by the Working Group in the elaboration of a body of principles for the protection of persons with mental illness and for the improvement of mental health care, and urges the Group to complete its work expeditiously for submission to the Commission on Human Rights;

2. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to consider the subject at its forty-seventh session, in the light of the report and recommendations of the Working Group, with a view to submitting the draft principles to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council.

*68th plenary meeting
14 December 1990*

45/93. Human rights and scientific and technological developments

The General Assembly,

Noting that scientific and technological progress is one of the decisive factors in the development of human society,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁵ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,³³ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights³³ and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,¹²

Conscious that it is only the creative genius of humankind that makes progress and the development of civilization possible in a peaceful environment and that human life must be recognized as supreme,

Recalling the fundamental importance of the right to life,

Bearing in mind also that the exchange and transfer of scientific and technological knowledge is one of the important ways to accelerate the social and economic development of the developing countries,

³³ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³⁴ Resolution 3447 (XXX).

³⁵ Resolution 43/173, annex.

1. *Calls upon* all States to make every effort to use the achievements of science and technology in order to promote peaceful social, economic and cultural development and progress;

2. *Recalls* the historic responsibility of the Governments of all countries of the world to preserve civilization and to ensure that everyone enjoys his or her inherent right to life, and calls upon them to do their utmost to assist in implementing the right to life through the adoption of appropriate measures at both the national and the international levels;

3. *Also calls upon* all States, appropriate United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to take the necessary measures to ensure that the results of scientific and technological progress and the material and intellectual potential of mankind are used for the benefit of mankind and for promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments".

*68th plenary meeting
14 December 1990*

45/94. Need to ensure a healthy environment for the well-being of individuals

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in accordance with the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁵ and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,³³ everyone has the right to an adequate standard of living for his or her own health and well-being and that of his or her family and to the continuous improvement of living conditions,

Recognizing the need to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms in all their aspects,

Considering that a better and healthier environment can help contribute to the full enjoyment of human rights by all,

Reaffirming that, in accordance with the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,³⁶ men and women have the fundamental right to freedom, equality and adequate conditions of life in an environment of a quality that permits a life of dignity and well-being, and that they bear a solemn responsibility to protect and improve the environment for present and future generations,

Bearing in mind the fact that increasing environmental degradation could endanger the very basis of life,

Bearing in mind also that the economic growth and development of the developing countries are essential in order to address the problems of the degradation and protection of the environment,

Emphasizing the increasing role of the United Nations in addressing global environmental problems,

³⁶ *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. I.

Recalling that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in Brazil in 1992, will elaborate strategies and measures to halt and reverse the effects of environmental degradation in the context of strengthened national and international efforts to promote sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries,

Stressing the importance for all countries to take effective actions for the protection and enhancement of the environment in accordance with their respective capacities and responsibilities and taking into account the specific needs of developing countries and that, as the major sources of pollution, the developed countries have the main responsibility for taking appropriate measures urgently,

Welcoming Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/41 of 6 March 1990³⁷ and Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities resolution 1990/7 of 30 August 1990,³⁷ in which they decided to study the problems of the environment and its relation to human rights,

1. *Recognizes* that all individuals are entitled to live in an environment adequate for their health and well-being;

2. *Calls upon* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations dealing with environmental questions to enhance their efforts towards ensuring a better and healthier environment;

3. *Encourages* the Commission on Human Rights, with the assistance of its Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, to continue studying the problems of the environment and its relation to human rights, with a view to submitting to the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the progress made on the matter;

4. *Believes* that appropriate organs of the United Nations, within their respective competences, should pursue active efforts in seeking to promote a better and healthier environment.

*68th plenary meeting
14 December 1990*

45/95. Guidelines for the regulation of computerized personal data files

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/132 of 15 December 1989,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/42 of 6 March 1990³⁷ and Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/38 of 25 May 1990, entitled "Guidelines on the use of computerized personal files",

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Mr. Louis Joinet, for his report containing a revised version of the draft guidelines for the regulation of computerized personal data files;³⁸

³⁷ See E/CN.4/1991/2-F/CN.4/Sub.2/1990/59.

³⁸ E/CN.4/1990/72.