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ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES AND WAYS AND MEANS WITHIN THE UNITED
NATIONS SYSTEM FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF
HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Paul-Désiré KABORE (Burkina Faso)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1985, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms: reports of the Secretary-General" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
2. The Third Committee considered this item at its 33rd, 35th, 36th, 56th and 57th meetings on 7, 8, 27 and 29 November. An account of the discussion of the Committee is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/40/SR.33, 35, 36, 56 and 57).
3. The Committee had before it the following documentation:
 - (a) Report of the Economic and Social Council, chapter V, section A (A/40/3); 1/
 - (b) National institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights: report of the Secretary-General (A/40/469);

1/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/40/3/Rev.1).

(c) International conditions and human rights: report of the Secretary-General (A/40/677);

(d) Draft declaration on the right to development: note by the Secretary-General (A/40/277-E/1985/70);

(e) Letter dated 4 March 1985 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/160);

(f) Letter dated 26 November 1985 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, containing the text of the Draft Declaration on the Right to Development submitted by the experts from the Non-Aligned Countries of the Working Group of Governmental Experts in the Commission on Human Rights (A/C.3/40/11).

4. At the 33rd meeting, on 7 November, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs made an introductory statement.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.39

5. At the 56th meeting, on 27 November, the representative of India introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/40/L.39) entitled "National institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights", sponsored by Australia, India, Iraq, New Zealand, Nigeria and Sri Lanka as well as Norway.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.39 without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.40

7. At the 56th meeting, the representative of Cuba introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/40/L.40) entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms", sponsored by Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, India, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Romania, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yugoslavia as well as Mozambique and Viet Nam.

8. At the same meeting, after a procedural debate, the Committee decided, by 90 votes to 19, with 13 abstentions, to vote on the draft resolution. Subsequently, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.40 by 116 votes to 1, with 21 abstentions (see para. 17, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.46

9. At the 56th meeting, the representative of Australia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/40/L.46) entitled "Development of public information activities in the field of human rights", sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Finland, the Gambia, India, Ireland, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru and Yugoslavia as well as Samoa and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, subsequently joined by Bolivia, Costa Rica and El Salvador.

10. At the 57th meeting, on 29 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.46 without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.53 and amendments thereto
in documents A/C.3/40/L.60 and A/C.3/40/L.63

11. At the 56th meeting, on 27 November, the representative of Yugoslavia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/40/L.53) entitled "Right to development", sponsored by Banladesh, Brazil, Colombia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Guyana, Nigeria, Peru, the United Republic of Tanzania and Yugoslavia as well as Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic. The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the question of the right to development,

"1. Decides to adopt the Declaration on the Right to Development, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution.

"ANNEX

"Declaration on the right to development

"The General Assembly,

"Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations relating to the achievement of international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian nature, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

"Recognizing that development is a comprehensive economic, social, cultural and political process which aims at the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population and of all individuals on the basis of their active, free and meaningful participation in development and in the fair distribution of benefits resulting therefrom,

"Considering that under the provisions of the Universal Declaration of

Human Rights 1/ everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in that Declaration can be fully realized,

"Recalling the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 2/ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 2/

"Recalling further the relevant agreements, conventions, resolutions, recommendations and other instruments of the United Nations and its specialized agencies concerning the integral development of the human being, economic and social progress and development of all peoples, including those instruments concerning decolonization, the prevention of discrimination, respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms, the maintenance of international peace and security and the further promotion of friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter,

"Recalling the right of peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they have the right freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

"Recalling further the right of peoples to exercise their full and complete sovereignty over all their natural wealth and resources in accordance with the relevant principles of international law,

"Mindful of the obligation of States under the Charter to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

"Considering that the elimination of the massive and flagrant violations of the human rights of the peoples and individuals affected by situations such as those resulting from colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid, all forms of racism and racial discrimination, foreign domination and occupation, aggression and threats against national sovereignty, national unity and territorial integrity and threats of war would contribute to the establishment of circumstances propitious to the development of a great part of mankind,

"Concerned at the existence of serious obstacles to development, as well as to the complete fulfilment of human beings and of peoples, constituted, inter alia, by the denial of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and considering that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interdependent and that, in order to promote development,

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights and that, accordingly, the promotion of, respect for, and enjoyment of certain human rights and fundamental freedoms cannot justify the denial of other human rights and fundamental freedoms,

"Considering that international peace and security are essential elements for the realization of the right to development,

"Reaffirming that there is a close relationship between disarmament and development and that progress in the field of disarmament would considerably promote progress in the field of development and that resources released through disarmament measures should be devoted to the economic and social development and well-being of all peoples and, in particular, those of the developing countries,

"Recognizing that the human person is the central subject of the development process and that development policy should therefore make the human being the main participant and beneficiary of development,

"Recognizing that the creation of conditions favourable to the development of peoples and individuals is the primary responsibility of their States,

"Aware that efforts to promote and protect human rights at the international level should be accompanied by efforts to establish a new international economic order,

"Confirming that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations,

"Proclaims the following Declaration on the right to development:

"Article 1

"1. The right to development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized.

"2. The human right to development also implies the full realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, which includes the exercise of their inalienable right to full sovereignty over all their natural wealth and resources.

"Article 2

"1. The human person is the central subject of development and should be the active participant and beneficiary of the right to development.

"2. All human beings have a responsibility for development, individually and collectively, taking into account the need for full respect of their human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as their duties to the community, which alone can ensure the free and complete fulfilment of the human being, and they should therefore promote and protect an appropriate political, social and economic order for development.

"3. States have the right and the duty to formulate appropriate national development policies which aim at the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population and of all individuals, on the basis of their active, free and meaningful participation in development and in the fair distribution of the benefits resulting therefrom.

"Article 3

"1. States have the primary responsibility for the creation of national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development.

"2. The realization of the right to development requires full respect for the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

"3. States have the duty to co-operate with each other in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development. States should fulfil their rights and duties in such a manner as to promote a new international economic order based on sovereign equality, interdependence, mutual interest and co-operation among all States, as well as to encourage the observance and realization of human rights.

"Article 4

"1. States have the duty to take steps, individually and collectively, to formulate international development policies with a view to facilitating the full realization of the right to development.

"2. Sustained action is required to promote more rapid development of developing countries. As a complement to the efforts of developing countries effective international co-operation is essential in providing these countries with appropriate means and facilities to foster their comprehensive development.

"Article 5

"States shall take resolute steps to eliminate the massive and flagrant violations of the human rights of peoples and human beings affected by situations such as those resulting from apartheid, all forms of racism and

racial discrimination, colonialism, foreign domination and occupation, aggression, foreign interference and threats against national sovereignty, national unity and territorial integrity, threats of war and refusal to recognize the fundamental right of peoples to self-determination.

"Article 6

"1. All States should co-operate with a view to promoting, encouraging and strengthening universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without any distinction as to race, sex, language and religion.

"2. All human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interdependent; equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

"3. States should take steps to eliminate obstacles to development resulting from failure to observe civil and political rights as well as economic, social and cultural rights.

"Article 7

"All States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries.

"Article 8

"1. States should undertake, at the national level, all necessary measures for the realization of the right to development and shall ensure, inter alia, equality of opportunity for all in their access to basic resources, education, health services, food, housing, employment and the fair distribution of income. Effective measures should be undertaken to ensure that women have an active role in the development process. Appropriate economic and social reforms should be made with a view to eradicating all social injustices.

"2. States should encourage popular participation in all spheres as an important factor in development and in the full realization of all human rights.

"Article 9

"1. All the aspects of the right to development set forth in this Declaration are indivisible and interdependent and each of them should be considered in the context of the whole.

"2. Nothing in this Declaration shall be construed as being contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, or as implying that any State, group or person has a right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the violation of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenants on Human Rights.

"Article 10

"Steps should be taken to ensure the full exercise and progressive enhancement of the right to development, including the formulation, adoption and implementation of policy, legislative and other measures at the national and international levels."

12. At the 56th meeting, the representative of Yugoslavia orally revised the draft resolution by deleting the words "in accordance with the relevant principles of international law" at the end of the seventh preambular paragraph of the Declaration.

13. At the same meeting, the representative of France introduced amendments to the draft resolution (contained in document A/C.3/40/L.63), also sponsored by the Netherlands. The amendments read as follows:

"Article 1, paragraph 2, of the annex to the draft resolution

"1. Replace the words 'which includes' by the word 'whereby'.

"2. Replace the remainder of the paragraph by incorporating the text of paragraph 2 of article 1 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: 1/

'all peoples may, for their own ends, freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international economic co-operation, based upon the principle of mutual benefit and international law. In no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence.'

1/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex."

14. At the same meeting, the representative of Pakistan introduced amendments to the draft resolution (contained in document A/C.3/40/L.60), which read as follows:

"1. In the annex, page 5 after present article 3, add new article 4 as follows:

"Article 4

"1. The achievement of the right to development requires a concerted international and national effort to eliminate economic deprivation, hunger and disease in all parts of the world without discrimination.

"2. To this end, international co-operation should aim at maintenance of stable and sustained economic growth with simultaneous action to increase concessional assistance to developing countries, build world food security, resolve the debt burden, eliminate trade barriers, promote monetary stability and enhance scientific and technological co-operation.

"2. Renumber remaining articles accordingly."

15. At the 57th meeting, on 29 November, the representative of Yugoslavia orally introduced a draft decision, as follows:

"The General Assembly, having considered the question of a draft declaration on the right to development, decides to transmit to its forty-first session the draft declaration on the right to development contained in document A/C.3/40/L.53, as well as all relevant documents with a view to continuing the consideration of this issue at its forty-first session."

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote (see para. 18).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

17. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

National institutions for the protection
and promotion of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/123 of 16 December 1977, 33/46 of 14 December 1978, 34/49 of 23 November 1979, 36/134 of 14 December 1981, 38/123 of 16 December 1983 and 39/144 of 14 December 1984 concerning national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights,

Mindful of the guidelines on the structure and functioning of national and local institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/46,

Emphasizing the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 2/ the International Covenants on Human Rights 3/ and other international human rights instruments for promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Conscious of the significant role that institutions at the national level can play in protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms and in developing and enhancing public awareness and observance of those rights and freedoms,

Welcoming the holding of seminars at Geneva, under the auspices of the United Nations, on the experience of different countries in the implementation of international standards on human rights, held in June and July 1983, and on commissions for community relations, held in September 1985,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 4/
2. Emphasizes the importance of developing, in accordance with national legislation, effective national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, and of maintaining their independence and integrity;
3. Encourages all Member States to take appropriate steps for the establishment or, where they already exist, the strengthening of national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights;
4. Draws attention to the constructive role that national non-governmental organizations can play in the work of such national institutions;
5. Encourages all Member States to take appropriate steps to promote the exchange of information and experience concerning the establishment of such national institutions;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to give due attention to the role of national institutions and non-governmental organizations concerned with the protection and promotion of human rights and to provide all necessary assistance to Member States, upon their request, in the implementation of paragraphs 3 and 5 above, according high priority to the needs of developing countries;

2/ Resolution 217 A (III).

3/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

4/ A/40/469.

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide and, as appropriate, to enhance assistance in the field of human rights to Governments, at their request, within the framework of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

8. welcomes and encourages the efforts of the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly, through the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council, a consolidated report, for eventual publication as a United Nations handbook, on national institutions for the use of Governments, including information on the various types and models of national and local institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, taking into account differing social and legal systems;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Charter of the United Nations the peoples of the United Nations have declared their determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling also the purposes and principles of the Charter to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Emphasizing the significance and validity of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 5/ and of the International Covenants on Human Rights 6/ in promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling its resolution 32/130 of 16 December 1977, in which it decided that the approach to the future work within the United Nations system with respect to human rights questions should take into account the concepts set forth in that resolution,

5/ Resolution 217 A (III).

6/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Recalling also its resolutions 34/46 of 23 November 1979, 35/174 of 15 December 1980, 36/133 of 14 December 1981, 38/124 of 16 December 1983 and 39/145 of 14 December 1984,

Taking into account Commission on Human Rights resolution 1985/43 of 14 March 1985, 7/

Underlining that the right to development is an inalienable human right,

Recognizing that the human being is the main subject of development and that everyone has the right to participate in, as well as to benefit from, the development process,

Reiterating once again that the establishment of the new international economic order is an essential element for the effective promotion and the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Reiterating also its profound conviction that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interdependent and that equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of both civil and political and economic, social and cultural rights,

Reaffirming the importance of furthering the activities of the existing organs of the United Nations system in the field of human rights in conformity with the principles of the Charter,

Underlining the need for the creation of conditions at the national and international levels for the promotion and full protection of the human rights of individuals and peoples,

Recognizing that international peace and security are essential elements for the full realization of human rights, including the right to development,

Considering that the resources that would be released by disarmament could contribute significantly to the development of all States, in particular the developing countries,

Recognizing that co-operation among all nations on the basis of respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State, including the right of each people to choose freely its own socio-economic and political system and to exercise full sovereignty over its wealth and natural resources, subject to the principles referred to in article 1, paragraph 2, and article 25 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 6/ is essential for the promotion of peace and development,

7/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1985, Supplement No. 2 (E/1985/22), chap. II, sect. A.

Convinced that the primary aim of such international co-operation must be the achievement by each human being of a life of freedom and dignity and freedom from want,

Acknowledging the progress so far achieved by the international community in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Concerned, however, at the occurrence of violations of human rights in the world,

Reaffirming that nothing in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or persons the right to engage in any activity or perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth therein,

Affirming that the ultimate aim of development is the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population, on the basis of its full participation in the process of development and a fair distribution of the benefits therefrom,

Emphasizing that Governments have the duty to ensure respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Taking note of the work done by the Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development, as reflected in its reports to the Commission on Human Rights,

1. Reiterates its request that the Commission on Human Rights continue its current work on the overall analysis with a view to further promoting and improving human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the question of the Commission's programme and working methods, and on the overall analysis of the alternative approaches and ways and means for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in accordance with the provisions and concepts of General Assembly resolution 32/130 and other relevant texts;

2. Affirms that a primary aim of international co-operation in the field of human rights is a life of freedom, dignity and peace for all peoples and for each human being, that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the others;

3. Affirms its profound conviction that equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, protection and promotion of both civil and political and economic, social and cultural rights;

4. Reaffirms that it is of paramount importance for the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms that Member States should undertake specific obligations through accession to, or ratification of, international

instruments in this field and, consequently, that the standard-setting work within the United Nations system in the field of human rights and the universal acceptance and implementation of the relevant international instruments should be encouraged;

5. Reiterates once again that the international community should accord, or continue to accord, priority to the search for solutions to mass and flagrant violations of human rights of peoples and individuals affected by situations such as those mentioned in paragraph 1 (e) of General Assembly resolution 32/130, paying due attention also to other situations of violations of human rights;

6. Reaffirms its responsibility for achieving international co-operation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, and expresses its concern at serious violations of human rights, in particular mass and flagrant violations of these rights, wherever they occur;

7. Expresses concern at the present situation with regard to the achievement of the objectives and goals for establishing the new international economic order and its adverse effects on the full realization of human rights, in particular the right to development;

8. Reaffirms that the right to development is an inalienable human right;

9. Reaffirms also that international peace and security are essential elements in achieving the full realization of the right to development;

10. Recognizes that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interdependent;

11. Considers it necessary that all Member States promote international co-operation on the basis of respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State, including the right of each people to choose freely its own socio-economic and political system and to exercise full sovereignty over its wealth and natural resources, subject to the principles referred to in article 1, paragraph 2, and article 25 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, with a view to resolving international problems of an economic, social and humanitarian character;

12. Expresses concern at the existing disparity between the established norms and principles and the actual situation of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the world;

13. Urges all States to co-operate with the Commission on Human Rights in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

14. Reiterates the need to create, at the national and international levels, conditions for the full promotion and protection of the human rights of individuals and peoples;

15. Reaffirms once again that, in order to facilitate the full enjoyment of all rights and complete personal dignity, it is necessary to promote the rights to education, work, health and proper nourishment through the adoption of measures at the national level, including those that provide for workers' participation in management, as well as the adoption of measures at the international level, including the establishment of the new international economic order;

16. Again requests the Commission on Human Rights to take the necessary measures to promote the right to development, and welcomes the decision of the Commission in its resolution 1985/43 concerning the future work of the Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly at its forty-first session a report containing information on the progress made by the Working Group in the implementation of the tasks mentioned in the preceding paragraph;

18. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Development of public information activities in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that activities to improve public knowledge in the field of human rights are necessary to the fulfilment of the purposes of the United Nations set out in Article 1, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions on the status of the International Covenants on Human Rights, 8/ including resolution 39/136 of 14 December 1984,

Taking into account the relevant General Assembly resolutions concerning the further promotion of human rights, including resolution 39/144 of 14 December 1984 relating to the activities of national institutions in the field of human rights,

8/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Welcoming Commission on Human Rights resolution 1985/49 of 14 March 1985 on the development of public information activities in the field of human rights, 9/

Recognizing the fundamental importance of national and regional public information activities in the field of human rights and the catalytic effect that initiatives of the United Nations can have on these activities,

Reaffirming that programmes of teaching, education and information in the field of human rights are central to the achievement of lasting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Noting the importance of making available United Nations materials on human rights in national and local languages, including in simplified form, and of making more effective use of the mass media and of new technologies in order to reach a wider audience, especially the less-educated and those in isolated areas,

Believing that the promotional activities of the United Nations system in the field of human rights should be enhanced and strengthened,

1. Requests all Member States to take appropriate steps, by all available means, including the mass media, to give publicity to the activities of the United Nations in the field of human rights and to accord priority to the dissemination of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 10/ the International Covenants on Human Rights and other international conventions in their respective national and local languages;

2. Calls upon all relevant elements of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies and regional commissions, to assist further in the dissemination of United Nations material on human rights;

3. Welcomes the efforts of the Secretary-General to issue a personalized version of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the official languages of the United Nations, having in mind the desirability of completing this task in 1986, and further welcomes the preparation of a list of basic reference works on human rights for use by United Nations information centres and other interested bodies;

4. Notes with satisfaction the request of the Commission on Human Rights to the Secretary-General, in its resolution 1985/49, to collect relevant material, including that prepared by specialized agencies, regional bodies, Governments, groups, non-governmental organizations and individuals, with a view to preparing a basic teaching booklet on human rights in the official languages of the United Nations;

9/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1985, Supplement No. 2 (E/1985/22), chap. II, sect. A.

10/ Resolution 217 A (III).

5. Recommends that all Member States consider including, in their educational curricula, material relevant to a comprehensive understanding of human rights issues;

6. Urges the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-second session to give special attention to the development of public information activities in the field of human rights and to submit its views and recommendations on further action, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-first session;

7. Decides to continue its consideration of this question at its forty-first session under the item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

* * *

18. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

DRAFT DECISION

Draft declaration on the right to development

The General Assembly, having considered the question of a draft declaration on the right to development, decides to transmit to its forty-first session the draft declaration on the right to development contained in document A/C.3/40/L.53, as well as all relevant documents with a view to continuing the consideration of this issue at its forty-first session.
