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Agenda item 95

HUMAN RIGHTS AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Afghanistan, Angola, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Poland, Romania, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Human rights and use of scientific and technological developments

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the determination of the peoples of the United Nations to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to reaffirm faith in the dignity and worth of the human person, to maintain international peace and security and to develop friendly relations among peoples and international co-operation in promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 2/ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 2/

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Recalling also the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, 3/ and the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 4/

Recalling further the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, 5/ the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind, 6/ the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace 7/ as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that in its resolution 38/75 of 15 December 1983 the General Assembly resolutely, unconditionally and for all time condemned nuclear war as being contrary to human conscience and reason, as the most monstrous crime against peoples and as a violation of the foremost human right - the right to life,

Recalling its resolutions 37/189 A of 18 December 1982, 38/113 of 16 December 1983, 39/134 of 14 December 1984 and 40/111 of 13 December 1985,

Taking note with appreciation of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1982/7 of 19 February 1982, 8/ 1983/43 of 9 March 1983, 9/ 1984/28 of 12 March 1984, 10/ 1986/10 of 10 March 1986 11/ and 1986/29 of 11 March 1986, 11/

Convinced that all the rights and freedoms, as well as all the material goods and spiritual wealth that both man and nations possess, have a common foundation - the right to life,

1. Reaffirms that all peoples and all individuals have an inherent right to life and that the safeguarding of this cardinal right is an essential condition for the enjoyment of the entire range of economic, social and cultural, as well as civil and political, rights;

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3/ Resolution 3281 (XXIX).

4/ Resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

5/ Resolution 2734 (XXV).

6/ Resolution 3384 (XXX).

7/ Resolution 39/11, annex.

8/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 2 (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

9/ Ibid., 1983, Supplement No. 3 (E/1983/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVII, sect. A.

10/ Ibid., 1984, Supplement No. 4 (E/1984/14 and Corr.1), and chap. II, sect. A.

11/ Ibid., 1986, Supplement No. 2 (E/1986/22), chap. II, sect. A.

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2. Stresses once again the urgent need for the international community to make every effort to strengthen peace, remove the growing threat of war, particularly nuclear war, halt the arms race and achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control and prevent violations of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and the self-determination of peoples, thus contributing to ensuring the right to life;

3. Stresses further the foremost importance of the implementation of practical measures of disarmament for releasing substantial additional resources, which should be utilized for social and economic development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries;

4. Calls upon all States, appropriate organs of the United Nations, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to take the necessary measures to ensure that the results of scientific and technological progress are used exclusively in the interests of international peace, for the benefit of mankind and for promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. Again calls upon all States that have not yet done so to take effective measures with a view to prohibiting, in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, any propaganda for war, in particular the formulation, propounding and dissemination of and propaganda for doctrines and concepts aimed at unleashing nuclear war;

6. Looks forward to further efforts by the Commission on Human Rights with a view to ensuring the inherent right of all peoples and all individuals to life;

7. Decides to consider this question at its forty-second session under the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments".

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