

RESOLUTIONS

FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF 1991

1991/1. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957, in which the Assembly provided for the establishment of an Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as Assembly resolutions 1958 (XVIII) of 12 December 1963, 2294 (XXII) of 11 December 1967, 36/121 D of 10 December 1981, 42/130 of 7 December 1987 and 45/138 of 14 December 1990, in which it provided for subsequent increases in the membership of the Executive Committee,

Recalling also the note verbale dated 27 September 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner,¹

Recommends that the General Assembly take a decision at its forty-sixth session on the question of increasing the membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from forty-four to forty-five States.

*8th plenary meeting
23 May 1991*

1991/2. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1990/49 of 25 May 1990,

Reaffirming the purpose set forth in the Charter of the United Nations of achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling the proclamation by the General Assembly, in its resolution 38/14 of 22 November 1983, of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Recalling also the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 38/14 and contained in the annex thereto, to achieve the objectives of the Second Decade,

Reaffirming the plan of activities for the period 1990-1993, to be implemented by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 42/47 of 30 November 1987, to which it is annexed, and recalling the activities that were proposed for the period 1985-1989,

Conscious of the responsibility conferred upon it by the General Assembly for coordinating and, in particular, evaluating the activities undertaken in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade,

Bearing in mind, in particular, its mandate under General Assembly resolution 41/94 of 4 December 1986 to submit to the Assembly, during the period of the Second Decade, annual reports on the activities undertaken or contemplated to achieve the objectives of the Second Decade,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade,²

Noting that despite the efforts of the international community, the principal objectives of the first Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the first years of the Second Decade have not been attained, and that millions of human beings continue to be victims of varied forms of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-16/1 of 14 December 1989 and contained in the annex thereto,

Noting with deep concern the decision of certain Governments to relax the existing measures even before apartheid is eradicated and a non-racial democratic society is established in South Africa,

Expressing deep concern that the lack of resolve on the part of the South African regime to end the violence in that country could lead to further escalation of tension and loss of more lives,

Stressing the need to continue the coordination of activities undertaken by various United Nations bodies and specialized agencies for the purpose of implementing the Programme of Action for the Second Decade,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of achieving the objectives of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, in particular the recommendations contained therein;

¹ E/1990/121.

² E/1991/39.

3. *Calls upon* the South African regime to exercise its responsibility to end the violence in that country and thus sustain the emerging political climate, which has the potential to create conditions that are conducive to the abolition of the system of apartheid;

4. *Calls upon* Governments to encourage positive change in South Africa based on the guidelines set out in the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, in particular by maintaining existing measures against South Africa until there is clear evidence of profound and irreversible change;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue with the implementation of the activities for the period 1990-1993, and further requests him to continue to accord the highest priority to measures to combat apartheid;

6. *Invites* all Governments to take or continue to take all necessary measures to combat all forms of racism and racial discrimination and to support the work of the Second Decade by making contributions to the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, in order to ensure further implementation of the activities for the Second Decade;

7. *Welcomes* the adoption by the General Assembly of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990;

8. *Also welcomes* the proclamation of the International Year for the World's Indigenous People by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/164 of 18 December 1990;

9. *Reaffirms* the need to continue giving particular attention to the specific activities of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade that are directed towards the elimination of apartheid, which is the most destructive and vicious form of institutionalized racism;

10. *Also reaffirms* the importance of public information activities in combating racism and racial discrimination and in mobilizing public support for the objectives of the Second Decade, and commends the efforts of the Coordinator for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the effective and immediate implementation of the activities proposed for the first half of the Second Decade that have not yet been undertaken;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his reports, to continue to pay special attention to the situation of migrant workers and members of their families;

13. *Reaffirms* the need for continued coordination of the full range of programmes being implemented by the United Nations system as they relate to the objectives of the Second Decade;

14. *Decides* to continue to accord the highest priority each year to the agenda item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination".

*10th plenary meeting
29 May 1991*

1991/3. Emergency assistance to Somalia

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 1989/111 of 22 May 1989 and General Assembly resolutions 44/178 of 19 December 1989 and 45/229 of 21 December 1990,

Welcoming the action taken by the Secretary-General of sending a mission to Somalia to ascertain security conditions in preparation for the resumption of an emergency assistance programme,

Having heard the report of the Special Coordinator for Emergency Relief Operations in Somalia,³

Extremely concerned at the massive displacement of the population in the affected regions of Somalia, the extensive damage to and destruction of villages, towns and cities, the heavy damage inflicted by the civil conflict on the country's infrastructure and the widespread disruption of public facilities and services,

Noting with great satisfaction the humanitarian efforts being deployed by various national and international non-governmental organizations,

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance rendered by a number of Member States to ameliorate the hardship and suffering of the affected population,

Aware of the complex political situation prevailing throughout the country and the continuation of civil strife in several areas,

1. *Strongly appeals* to Somalia's national leaders to do their utmost to bring about national reconciliation and to restore and promote peace and stability throughout the country;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the action taken in preparing for the resumption of United Nations assistance programmes in Somalia;

3. *Also expresses its appreciation* for the humanitarian assistance provided to Somalia by several countries, as well as by members of the community of non-governmental organizations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assist in the formulation of medium- and long-term programmes for the rehabilitation and development of Somalia;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to dispatch, without delay, an inter-agency assessment mission to determine the emergency and medium-term needs of the affected population and to make recommendations on the financial and material resources required for the restoration of basic social services and physical infrastructure, including power, water, shelter, transport and communications;

6. *Appeals* to Member States and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations to extend generous assistance, in particular food, medicines and shelter, to the affected population through the appropriate humanitarian channels;

7. *Urges* the appropriate specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations

³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Plenary Meetings, vol. I, 8th meeting.*