

29 November 1979 and 41/142 of 4 December 1986 on the implementation of the Declaration,

Convinced of the continuing need to achieve the full realization of the principles and objectives contained in the Declaration, which will contribute to peaceful and friendly relations between nations,

Noting that 1989 marks the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration,

1. *Reaffirms* the lasting validity and importance of the principles and objectives contained in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development;

2. *Decides* to observe in 1989 the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration;

3. *Invites* all States, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to take appropriate measures, such as those set forth in the annex to the present resolution, which are based on the measures recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/150 of 4 December 1986 on the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and to support appropriate activities aimed at encouraging the promotion of human rights and social justice;

4. *Invites* all States to inform the Secretary-General of their views and comments concerning the impact of the Declaration, since its adoption, on the formulation and implementation of the national policies and measures of their Governments, as well as the way in which the principles, objectives, means and methods set forth in the Declaration are taken into account in their policies, plans and programmes and in their bilateral and multilateral relations in the field of development;

5. *Invites* all States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views and comments on possible ways and means of increasing the contribution of the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to achieving the full realization of the principles and objectives contained in the Declaration;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include the information received pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 5 above in the report requested in paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 41/142, to be submitted to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures for the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration, bearing in mind the recommended possible measures contained in the annex to the present resolution, in order to draw attention to and emphasize the importance of the Declaration, and the role played and the work done by the United Nations to ensure the effective fulfilment of the objectives of the Declaration;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session an item entitled "Twentieth anniversary of the proclamation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development";

9. *Also decides* to devote one plenary meeting during its forty-fourth session to the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration, which falls on 11 December 1989, and requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary preparations for the programme of that meeting.

85th plenary meeting
30 November 1987

ANNEX

Recommended possible measures for the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development

1. The following measures are recommended for possible action at the national level:

(a) Formal proclamation of 11 December 1989 as Social Progress and Development Day;

(b) Issuance of special messages on 11 December 1989 by heads of State or Government or other prominent civil personalities;

(c) Special meetings of parliamentary and other public and private institutions on Social Progress and Development Day;

(d) Establishment or strengthening of national or local institutions for the promotion of social progress and development and social justice, and the encouragement of teaching programmes on social progress and development at various educational levels;

(e) Dissemination of the text of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development in national languages;

(f) Issuance during 1989 of social progress and development postage stamps, first-day covers and special cancellations;

(g) Participation by non-governmental organizations in the observance of the anniversary, and the organization of activities by such organizations;

(h) Organization of activities within the framework and in support of current United Nations decades and international years being prepared on social development.

2. It is recommended that the following measures, among others, should be taken by the Secretary-General at the United Nations level:

(a) Issuance by 11 December 1989 in all the official languages of the United Nations of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development;

(b) Organization of commemorative events, according to standard practice, at United Nations Headquarters and at the United Nations Offices at Geneva and Vienna, as well as at Nairobi and at United Nations information centres, on or around 11 December 1989.

42/49. Achievement of social justice

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the pledge of States Members of the United Nations under the Charter of the United Nations to take joint and separate action to promote higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development,

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,¹⁴ social progress and development shall be founded on respect for the dignity and value of the human person and shall ensure the promotion of human rights and social justice,

Taking into account recommendations made by the Secretary-General on some perspectives on the work of the United Nations in the 1990s, contained in the annex to the note on the preparation of the next medium-term plan,¹⁵

1. *Considers* that the common purpose of the international community must be to forge from varied economic, social and political conditions a global environment of sustained development, full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, social justice and peace;

2. *Recognizes* that social justice is one of the most important goals of social progress;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of co-operation among countries in promoting a climate conducive to the achievement by individual countries of the goals of development and social justice and progress;

¹⁴ Resolution 2542 (XXIV).

¹⁵ See A/42/512.

4. *Considers* that such co-operation should continue to be a major focus of activities of the United Nations in accordance with the principles of the Charter;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, in elaborating their national policy in the field of social development, to take into consideration the importance of achieving social justice for all.

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42/50. National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress

The General Assembly,

Guided by the desire to promote a higher standard of life, full employment and conditions for economic and social progress and development,

Recalling its resolutions 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 and 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, as well as its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Recalling also its resolutions 3273 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, 31/38 of 30 November 1976, 36/19 of 9 November 1981, 38/25 of 22 November 1983 and 40/23 of 29 November 1985, in which it reaffirmed the importance for every State to carry out fundamental social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress and the necessity of studying national experience in this field,

Taking note with concern of the findings on the economic and social situation in many parts of the world, contained in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Highlights of the world social situation 1987: recent developments and current issues",¹⁶

Desirous of securing the speedy and complete removal of major obstacles to the economic and social progress of peoples, as defined in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,¹⁴

Taking note of the proposal of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to act as host to an interregional seminar on the national experience of developing and developed countries in carrying out far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress, as called for in paragraph 3 of resolution 38/25,

1. *Reaffirms* that further exchange of national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress would contribute to the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress;¹⁷

3. *Appreciates* that the Secretary-General is making arrangements to hold, in 1988, the interregional seminar called for in paragraph 3 of resolution 38/25, within the resources allotted to the programme for sectoral and regional advisory services;

4. *Invites* Member States to submit to the Secretary-General reports on their national experience in carrying

out far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States, a report on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress, taking into account the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 36/19, 38/25 and 40/23, and to submit it to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council;

6. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council to consider at their next sessions the question of national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress".

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42/51. Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Aging and related activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 37/51 of 3 December 1982, by which it endorsed the International Plan of Action on Aging, adopted by consensus by the World Assembly on Aging,¹⁸

Reaffirming its resolution 40/29 of 29 November 1985, in which it stressed the importance of the United Nations Trust Fund for Aging in assisting Member States, in particular developing countries, in formulating and implementing policies and programmes on aging,

Reaffirming further its resolution 40/30 of 29 November 1985, in which it expressed its conviction that the elderly must be considered an important and necessary element in the development process at all levels within a given society, and reaffirming also that developing countries, in particular, need assistance in order to implement the Plan of Action,

Reaffirming its resolution 41/96 of 4 December 1986, in which it urged Governments to intensify their efforts, within the context of their own national priorities, cultures and traditions, to implement the recommendations contained in the Plan of Action,

Taking note of Commission for Social Development resolution 30/1 of 4 March 1987¹⁹ relating to the preparation by the Secretary-General of the medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the question of aging,²⁰

Recognizing the importance of the second review and appraisal of the implementation of the Plan of Action, which will be undertaken by the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-first session, in 1989,

¹⁸ See *Report of the World Assembly on Aging, Vienna, 26 July-6 August 1982* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.

¹⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 7 (E/1987/20)*, chap. I, sect. D.

²⁰ A/42/567.

¹⁶ See E/CN.5/1987/2.

¹⁷ A/42/57-E/1987/8.