

**1987/58. Question of a convention on the rights of the child**

*The Economic and Social Council.*

Recalling General Assembly resolution 41/116 of 4 December 1986, by which the Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to give the highest priority to, and to make every effort at its forty-third session to complete, the draft convention on the rights of the child and to submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-second session,

Considering that it was not found possible to complete the work on the draft convention during the forty-third session of the Commission on Human Rights,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/48 of 11 March 1987,

1. *Authorizes* a meeting of an open-ended working group for a period of one week prior to the forty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights, with a view to completing the work on the draft convention on the rights of the child at that session;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to extend all facilities to the working group for its meeting prior to and during the forty-fourth session of the Commission to enable it to fulfil its task successfully, and notes the usefulness of providing the working group, in advance of its session, with such working documents as a compilation of all amendments and new proposals and relevant provisions of other international instruments;

3. *Draws attention* to the need for new proposals to be submitted early in the session of the working group.

*18th plenary meeting  
29 May 1987*

**1987/59. Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms**

*The Economic and Social Council.*

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/52 of 11 March 1987,

1. *Authorizes* an open-ended working group to meet for a period of one week prior to the forty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights, with a view to continuing the elaboration of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to extend all facilities to the working group for its meeting prior to and during the forty-fourth session of the Commission and, to enable the group to continue its work on the elaboration of the draft declaration, to transmit to all member States in advance of the meeting the report of the working group that met prior to and during the forty-third session, together with the annexes thereto.

*18th plenary meeting  
29 May 1987*

**1987/60. Summary or arbitrary executions**

*The Economic and Social Council.*

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>5</sup> which guarantees the right to life, liberty and security of person,

Having regard to the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>1</sup> in which it is stated that every human being has the inherent right to life, that this right shall be protected by law, and that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/175 of 17 December 1979, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that mass and flagrant violations of human rights were of special concern to the United Nations and urged the Commission on Human Rights to take timely and effective action in existing and future cases of mass and flagrant violations of human rights,

Mindful of General Assembly resolutions 36/22 of 9 November 1981, 37/182 of 17 December 1982, 38/96 of 16 December 1983, 39/110 of 14 December 1984, 40/143 of 13 December 1985 and 41/144 of 4 December 1986,

Taking note of resolution 1982/13 of 7 September 1982 of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,<sup>2</sup> in which the Sub-Commission recommended that effective measures should be adopted to prevent the occurrence of summary or arbitrary executions,

Recalling Council resolution 1984/50 of 25 May 1984 and the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty set out in the annex thereto, which were endorsed by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in its resolution 15,<sup>67</sup> and welcoming the ongoing work on summary and arbitrary executions done by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control,

Recognizing the need for closer co-operation between the Centre for Human Rights, the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control in efforts to bring an end to summary or arbitrary executions,

Deeply alarmed at the occurrence on a large scale of summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions,

Convinced of the need for appropriate action to combat and eventually eliminate the abhorrent practice of summary or arbitrary executions, which represents a flagrant violation of the most fundamental human right, the right to life,

1. *Strongly condemns*, once again, the large number of summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions, which continue to take place in various parts of the world;

2. *Appeals urgently* to Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to take effective action to combat and eliminate summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Rapporteur, Mr. S. Amos Wako,<sup>83</sup> and welcomes his recommendations for the elimination of summary or arbitrary executions, in particular the recommendations that Governments

(a) Ratify international human rights instruments, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including the Optional Protocol thereto,<sup>1</sup> and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;<sup>84</sup>

<sup>5</sup> See E/CN.4/1981/4 and Corr. 1, chap. XXI, sect. A.

<sup>67</sup> E/CN.4/1987/20.

<sup>83</sup> General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.