

*Commentary:*

(a) This prohibition derives from the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted by the General Assembly, according to which:

“[Such act] is an offence to human dignity and shall be condemned as a denial of the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and as a violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights [and other international human rights instruments].”

(b) The Declaration defines torture as follows:

“... torture means any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted by or at the instigation of a public official on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or confession, punishing him for an act he has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating him or other persons. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to, lawful sanctions to the extent consistent with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.”<sup>122</sup>

(c) The term “cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment” has not been defined by the General Assembly, but should be interpreted so as to extend the widest possible protection against abuses, whether physical or mental.

[Articles 6 to 10 could not be debated by the informal open-ended Working Group during the thirty-third session of the General Assembly owing to lack of time.]

**33/184. Importance of the improvement of the status and role of women in education and in the economic and social fields for the achievement of the equality of women with men**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, in which it proclaimed the period from 1976 to 1985 the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

*Recalling also* its resolution 31/134 of 16 December 1976 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/30 and 1978/32 of 5 May 1978,

*Recognizing* the importance of the improvement of the status and role of women in education and in the economic and social fields for the achievement of the equality of women with men,

*Recognizing further* the importance of the exchange of experience in these matters among States,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of women in education,<sup>123</sup>

1. *Urges* States to take the necessary measures to promote full equality of women with men in education and in the economic and social fields;

2. *Recommends* that States envisage in their policies all appropriate measures to create necessary conditions which will enable women to participate in work on an equal footing with men;

<sup>122</sup> *First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders: report by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 56.IV.4), annex I.A.  
<sup>123</sup> A/33/214.

3. *Invites* Member States to give in their reports, which are to be submitted in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 1325 (XLIV) of 31 May 1968 and 1677 (LII) of 2 June 1972 and General Assembly resolution 3520 (XXX), the fullest possible information on their experience in the improvement of the status and role of women in education and in the economic and social fields and its impact on the achievement of the equality of women with men;

4. *Invites* the specialized agencies and regional commissions as well as other interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to submit their observations concerning ways and means for the improvement of the status and role of women in education and in the economic and social fields, on the basis of existing studies and field experience in projects, as well as the conclusions of seminars and symposiums held on such subjects;

5. *Requests* the specialized agencies, regional commissions and other interested organizations of the United Nations system to organize seminars and meetings and to make studies on ways and means for the improvement of the status of women in education and in the economic and social fields;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare an analytical report on the status and role of women in education and in the economic and social fields, based on the material received under paragraphs 3 and 4 above as well as on various existing studies and research, for consideration by the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bear in mind the content of the present resolution in preparing documentation for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1980.

*95th plenary meeting  
29 January 1979*

**33/185. Preparations for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, including the adoption of the subtheme “Employment, Health and Education”**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, in which it decided to convene a world conference in 1980, and 33/189 of 29 January 1979, in which it, *inter alia*, emphasized the subtheme “Employment, Health and Education” for the Programme of Action for the second half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and requested the Secretary-General to invite the regional commissions to convene preparatory meetings and seminars,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/32 of 5 May 1978, in which the Council recommended the subtheme “Employment, Health and Education” for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and invited Member States to submit reports