

1978/19. Further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the question of the programme and methods of work of the Commission on Human Rights

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter of the United Nations enumerating the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Concerned at the lack of adequate resources currently allocated from the regular budget for the implementation of the human rights programmes,

Invites the General Assembly at its thirty-third session to consider taking appropriate action to increase, within the limits of available resources, the allocations to the budget of the human rights programme of the United Nations.

*15th plenary meeting
5 May 1978*

1978/20. Reporting system on human rights

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling paragraph 7 of its resolution 1988 (LX) of 11 May 1976 by which it decided that States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights⁵³ which submit reports under the Covenant need not submit reports on similar questions under the periodic reporting procedure established under Council resolution 1074 C (XXXIX) of 28 July 1965,

Noting that the States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights⁵⁴ have undertaken, in accordance with article 40 of the Covenant, to submit reports to the Human Rights Committee on the measures they have adopted which give effect to the rights recognized therein and on the progress made in the enjoyment of those rights:

(a) Within one year of the entry into force of the Covenant for the States parties concerned,

(b) Thereafter whenever the Committee so requests,

Decides to exempt States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights from submitting reports on similar questions under the periodic reporting procedure established under Council resolution 1074 C (XXXIX).

*15th plenary meeting
5 May 1978*

1978/21. Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights in South Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 237 (LXII) of 13 May 1977 by which it transmitted to the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts of the Commission on Human Rights, for consideration and report, the allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights in South Africa made by the International Textile, Garment and Leather Workers' Federation and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions,⁵⁴

Having received with appreciation the report of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts thereon,⁵⁵

1. Endorses the conclusions of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts of the Commission on Human Rights

⁵³ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁵⁴ E/5930.

⁵⁵ E/1978/21.

that the repressive legislation adopted in South Africa and the practices pursued in accordance with this legislation are in flagrant contradiction with the international standards governing trade union rights and that South Africa has consistently and deliberately violated trade union freedoms;⁵⁶

2. *Condemns* the continued infringement of trade union rights and, in particular, the repression of African workers and their trade unions in South Africa and Namibia;

3. *Calls* for the immediate repeal of banning orders issued against African and other trade unionists and an end to the use of torture and cruel and inhuman treatment of those detained for their political and trade union activities;

4. *Demands* the immediate and unconditional recognition of all trade union rights of African workers in South Africa and Namibia;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to draw the attention of Member States to the conclusions of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts and the present resolution.

*15th plenary meeting
5 May 1978*

1978/22. Measures to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the terms of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁵⁷ and those of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,⁵⁸

Considering the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975⁵⁹ and the Recommendation concerning Migrant Workers, 1975,⁶⁰ adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,

Bearing in mind its resolution 2083 (LXII) of 13 May 1977,

Considering in particular General Assembly resolution 32/120 of 16 December 1977 by which the Assembly recommended that the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council should consider the question of migrant workers fully and in depth at their next sessions, in collaboration with the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other interested agencies of the United Nations system, on the basis of the instruments adopted and the documents and studies prepared by the United Nations and the specialized agencies, including the study on the exploitation of labour through illicit and clandestine trafficking⁶¹ and the report of the Seminar on the Human Rights of Migrant Workers, held at Tunis from 12 to 24 November 1975,⁶²

Having taken note of the work done by the Commission on Human Rights in this field at its thirty-fourth session,⁶³

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 85.

⁵⁷ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

⁵⁸ General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

⁵⁹ International Labour Office, *Official Bulletin*, vol. LVIII, 1975, Series A, No. 1, Convention No. 143.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, No. 1, Recommendation No. 151.

⁶¹ E/CN.4/Sub.2/L.640.

⁶² ST/TAO/HR/50.

⁶³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 4 (E/1978/34)*, chap. XX.

1. *Stresses* the need to undertake the study recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution 32/120, on the basis of a consolidated report on the work done on the question by the interested agencies of the United Nations and by other intergovernmental bodies;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare such a report in conformity with the recommendation made by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 21 B (XXXIV) of 8 March 1978,⁶⁴ and to communicate it to Member States before December 1978 so that it may be brought to the attention of Governments;

3. *Decides* that a working group open to all States Members of the United Nations should meet at Geneva for not more than one week at the end of December 1978 to formulate specific proposals to be submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-fifth session when it begins to consider fully and in depth the question of migrant workers, in the light of other appropriate recommendations which the General Assembly may transmit to it on this subject;

4. *Decides further* to include as a separate item in the agenda of its first regular session of 1979 a question entitled "Measures to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers" and to examine that question on the basis of the report to be submitted to it by the Commission on Human Rights and of the report to be submitted to it by the Commission on Social Development in accordance with Council resolution 1926 (LVIII) of 6 May 1975.

*15th plenary meeting
5 May 1978*

1978/23. Draft general principles on equality and non-discrimination in respect of persons born out of wedlock

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 234 (LXII) of 13 May 1977 by which it decided to transmit the draft general principles on equality and non-discrimination in respect of persons born out of wedlock⁶⁵ to Governments for comments and to consider further those principles at its first regular session of 1978, with a view to their approval,

Taking note of the comments received from a number of Governments,⁶⁶

1. *Requests* Governments which have not yet done so to submit to the Secretary-General as soon as possible their comments and observations concerning the draft general principles on equality and non-discrimination in respect of persons born out of wedlock;

2. *Decides* to consider those general principles at its first regular session of 1979, with a view to their possible approval.

*15th plenary meeting
5 May 1978*

1978/24. Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its thirty-fourth session,⁶⁷

⁶⁴ *Ibid.*, chap. XXVI.

⁶⁵ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 6 (E/5927)*, para. 212.

⁶⁶ E/1978/14 and Add.1-6.

⁶⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 4 (E/1978/34)*.

Taking note of the decisions of the Commission concerning the violation by Israel of human rights in the occupied Arab territories,

1. *Commends* the Commission on Human Rights for its vigilance and its decisions for the protection of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine;⁶⁸

2. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to pursue its efforts for the protection of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine, and to continue to take the appropriate measures in this respect.

*15th plenary meeting
5 May 1978*

1978/25. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1998 (LX) of 12 May 1976, by which it decided to create an International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

Recalling further that, by its resolution 31/135 of 16 December 1976, the General Assembly accepted the offer of the Government of Iran to have the Institute established in that country and that by its resolution 32/137 of 16 December 1977 it requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council on the establishment of the Institute,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General on progress achieved towards the establishment of an International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;⁶⁹

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue actively the necessary consultations for the establishment of the Institute and to complete as soon as possible the draft document requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 32/137 in the light of those consultations and the discussions in the Second (Social) Committee of the Council at its first regular session of 1978;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to proceed with the appointment of the Director of the Institute and the members of the Board of Trustees as soon as the agreement with the host country is signed;

4. *Decides* that, as soon as the Director and the members of the Board of Trustees are appointed, the Institute should start functioning as an autonomous body under the auspices of the United Nations and financed from voluntary contributions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to draw the attention of Governments to General Assembly resolution 32/139 of 16 December 1977, in which the Secretary-General was requested to convene during the thirty-third session of the General Assembly a pledging conference for voluntary contributions for the purpose of financing, *inter alia*, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*15th plenary meeting
5 May 1978*

⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, chap. II.

⁶⁹ E/1978/30.