

ment²⁴ and having taken into account the comments thereon of the *ad hoc* Advisory Committee of Experts on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, at its seventh session,²⁵

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the excellent report on capital punishment prepared by the consultant appointed by the Secretary-General and for the cogent observations thereon of the *ad hoc* Advisory Committee of Experts;

2. *Urges* Governments of States Members of the United Nations:

(a) To keep under review, and to conduct research wherever necessary, with United Nations assistance, into the efficacy of capital punishment as a deterrent to crime in their countries, particularly where Governments are contemplating a change in their laws or practices;

(b) To review the types of crime to which capital punishment is in fact applied, and to remove this punishment from the criminal law concerning any crime to which it is in fact not applied nor intended to be applied;

(c) To broaden the studies so far carried out, with a view to including in them some consideration of the differences between civil and military tribunals and the policy of the latter in regard to the death penalty;

(d) To re-examine the facilities available for the medical and social investigation of the case of every offender liable to capital punishment;

(e) To ensure the most careful legal procedures and the greatest possible safeguards for the accused in capital cases in countries where the death penalty obtains;

(f) To study the report on capital punishment as well as the comments of the *ad hoc* Advisory Committee of Experts on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and to inform the Secretary-General, after an appropriate interval, of any new developments with respect to the law and practice in their countries concerning the death penalty;

(g) To provide information on their legislation and military penal jurisdiction, especially in connexion with any difference which may exist as compared with their ordinary penal legislation regarding the application of capital punishment;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to broaden the studies so far carried out, with a view to including in them some consideration of the differences between civil and military tribunals, and the policy of the latter in regard to the death penalty, to prepare a report based on information received from Governments under operative paragraph 2 (f) and (g) above, and to submit it to the United Nations Consultative Group on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, established under General Assembly resolution 415 (V), for the study of new developments reported by Governments, and new contributions of the criminal sciences in the matter.

*1251st plenary meeting,
9 April 1963.*

²⁴ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 62.IV.2.

²⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-fifth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 11, document E/3724, sect. III.

940 (XXXV). Fifteenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering General Assembly resolution 1775 (XVII) of 7 December 1962 on the fifteenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Special Committee for the Preparation of Plans for the Celebration of the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, together with its suggestions and recommendations concerning that celebration,²⁶

Having considered chapter VII of the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its nineteenth session,²⁷

Expressing the hope that the celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will stimulate interest in the Declaration and promote observance and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

1. *Declares* 10 December 1963 as the fifteenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake the necessary preparations for the celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of the Declaration as set out in the annex to the present resolution, substantially in accordance with the plan contained in the report of the Special Committee and incorporating the recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to re-examine those projects set forth in the annex which would involve additional budgetary credits in 1963, with a view to permitting them to be carried out without causing additional expenditures to the United Nations by:

(a) Extending the time period for their completion;

(b) Exploring with Member States the possibility that certain of the projects might be carried out by the Member States themselves;

(c) Other means;

4. *Commends* to Governments of Member States, to specialized agencies, to intergovernmental organizations, and to non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council, the aforementioned plan and additional recommendations for the celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of the Declaration, and expresses the hope that all parties concerned will co-operate in making the celebration successful and meaningful;

5. *Endorses* the understanding expressed in paragraph 12 of the report of the Special Committee that, when suggestions and recommendations are addressed to Governments, they would be implemented within the framework of national legislation and policy and according to available means.

*1258th plenary meeting,
15 April 1963.*

²⁶ ST/SG/AC.4/6.

²⁷ E/3743-E/CN.4/857.

ANNEX

Suggestions and recommendations concerning the celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

I. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. It is suggested that the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the heads of the specialized agencies and the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions issue special messages on the fifteenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, such messages to be widely circulated by all communications media, including the satellites.

2. It is further suggested that the United Nations organize at Headquarters a special meeting of the General Assembly in commemoration of the fifteenth anniversary of the Declaration.

3. It is further suggested that the Secretary-General:

(a) Organize a concert to celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of the Declaration, the concert to be broadcast and televised to various parts of the world;

(b) Issue human rights stamps, first-day covers and special cancellations to mark the anniversary of the Declaration;

(c) Promote the widest and most intensive dissemination of the Declaration in as many languages as possible by means of suitably printed and appropriately set-out posters, leaflets and pamphlets;

(d) Prepare and publish a new edition of the pamphlet entitled *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights: A Standard of Achievement*,^a an up-to-date pamphlet on the work of the United Nations in the field of human rights, an up-to-date edition of the handbook entitled *Teaching Human Rights*,^b and wall sheets and leaflets on the Declaration;

(e) Consider, in connexion with arrangements for the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration in 1968, the preparation and publication of a history of the Declaration and other international instruments on human rights, with special reference to progress already achieved, current endeavours and work remaining to be done in the field of human rights and with a brief and objective account of the role of the United Nations in the process of decolonization;

(f) Prepare a radio documentary script on the Declaration; encourage and assist broadcasting and television organizations, as appropriate, in the production of documentary or dramatic programmes relating to human rights;

(g) Design and make available to Member States a poster symbolizing the concept of human rights, for national reproduction and distribution;

(h) Urge United Nations officers at Headquarters, in information centres and regional offices to give lectures and write articles on the Declaration and to co-operate with information media and educational authorities in various countries in organizing the celebration of the anniversary;

(i) Request the distributors of United Nations publications to prepare a special display of relevant United Nations documents during the months of November and December 1963.

4. It is also suggested:

(a) That the specialized agencies organize at their headquarters commemorative ceremonies on the fifteenth anniversary of the Declaration;

^a United Nations publication, Sales No.: 62.I.9.

^b United Nations publication, Sales No.: 62.I.5.

(b) That the specialized agencies devote special issues of their magazines or special information programmes to the Declaration, particularly to those rights and freedoms within their purview, and, if possible, hold round-table discussions;

(c) That the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization consider the possibility of promoting the performance or the exhibition, in connexion with the fifteenth anniversary, of notable musical, dramatic or artistic works which are illustrative of the themes of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(d) That the Universal Postal Union consider the possibility of requesting its member States to issue human rights stamps, first-day covers and special cancellations on the fifteenth anniversary of the Declaration, as UNESCO has already suggested in a circular letter to the postmasters-general of member States;

(e) That the International Labour Organisation consider the possibility of inviting the workers' and employers' organizations with which it has a relationship to take action during 1963 aimed at publicizing at least those parts of the Declaration which fall within the scope of those organizations.

II. NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS

5. It is recommended:

(a) That Governments proclaim 10 December 1963 as Human Rights Day, and celebrate that day, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 423 (V) of 4 December 1950;

(b) That Governments seize the opportunity of the fifteenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to redouble their efforts to bring about the signature, ratification or acceptance in any other form of existing international conventions designed to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in particular spheres;

(c) That Heads of State or of Government issue special messages on 10 December 1963 reaffirming faith in the dignity and worth of the human person and dedication to the implementation of the Declaration;

(d) That Governments consider entrusting the organization of the celebration of the fifteenth anniversary to an existing institution or an *ad hoc* committee designated or set up for this purpose;

(e) That Governments consider the proclamation on 10 December 1963 of an amnesty and other measures of clemency to political or other prisoners;

(f) That Governments consider the issuance of human rights stamps, first-day covers and special cancellations on Human Rights Day (see paragraph 4 (d) above);

(g) That, wherever appropriate, the Governments concerned consider the invitation contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 772 B (XXX) of 25 July 1960 regarding national advisory committees on human rights.

6. Governments might also wish:

(a) To disseminate, or to co-operate with the United Nations in disseminating, the text of the Declaration in national or local languages (see paragraph 3 (c) above);

(b) To encourage, as appropriate, schools and universities to hold special meetings on Human Rights Day and to organize special courses or seminars on human rights;

(c) To encourage, as appropriate, national organizations (such as human rights committees, United Nations associations, UNESCO's national commissions, trade unions, religious organizations, academic or professional associations and youth organizations) to hold national or regional conferences with a view to discussing problems of human rights;

(d) To consider or encourage the production of documentary or dramatic programmes (see paragraph 3 (f) above) relating to human rights, and the reading of the text of the Declaration, on radio or television;

(e) To promote the performance or exhibition, in connexion with the fifteenth anniversary, of notable musical, dramatic or artistic works which are illustrative of the themes of human rights and fundamental freedoms (see paragraph 4 (c) above);

(f) To consider the possibility of granting special honours or awards in 1963 to persons who have made outstanding contributions to the promotion of human rights;

(g) To display on 10 December 1963 the United Nations flag on public buildings, which might be illuminated;

(h) To reproduce and distribute United Nations posters on human rights themes, including the posters selected by UNESCO at its international contest in 1962 (see paragraph 3 (g) above);

(i) To reproduce and distribute the United Nations poster on the Declaration (see paragraph 3 (g) above).

III. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

7. It is suggested that non-governmental organizations, international or national:

(a) Adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, or articles thereof, as appropriate, as the themes of their annual or special conferences in 1963;

(b) Organize commemorative ceremonies on the fifteenth anniversary of the Declaration;

(c) Print and distribute the text of the Declaration, and prepare and publish pamphlets, leaflets and posters on the Declaration;

(d) Establish awards, if possible, to honour persons who have distinguished themselves in the field of human rights;

(e) Organize community projects, such as panel discussions on local problems of human rights, children's parades and display of the United Nations flag in school and business buildings;

(f) Encourage local communities to establish a list of questions with a view to investigating and sounding out public opinion as to the communities' effectiveness in promoting the principles of the Declaration.

8. It is further suggested:

(a) That special religious services be held on the fifteenth anniversary of the Declaration;

(b) That radio and television networks carry special programmes, and newspapers publish editorials, on the fifteenth anniversary of the Declaration, the text of the Declaration to be read or reprinted in whole or in part, if possible (see paragraph 6 (d) above); that information media organize public debates on great issues of freedom;

(c) That schools and universities hold special assemblies on 10 December 1963 and organize courses or seminars on human rights (see paragraph 6 (b) above);

(d) That research institutions and universities consider the publication of historic declarations of human rights, famous bills of rights and great orations and speeches on human rights, with appropriate commentaries or annotations.

942 (XXXV). United Nations Children's Fund

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note with satisfaction of the reports of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its June 1962²⁸ and December 1962²⁹ sessions and of the report of the Executive Director of the Fund.³⁰

*1260th plenary meeting,
16 April 1963.*

²⁸ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3 (E/3655/Rev.1).*

²⁹ *Ibid., Supplement No. 3A (E/3705), and ibid., Annexes, agenda item 12, document E/3706.*

³⁰ *Ibid., Annexes, agenda item 12, document E/3722.*

OTHER QUESTIONS

928 (XXXV). The convening of a fourth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the third United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East,³¹ which was held in Bangkok from 27 October to 10 November 1961,

Commending the valuable contribution of the Conference in furthering the progress of cartographic work in the region,

Noting the recommendation of the Conference that a fourth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East should be convened not later than 1964,³²

³¹ *Ibid., agenda item 8, document E/3713.*

³² United Nations publication, Sales No.: 62.I.14, p. 8, resolution 2.

Noting also that the Government of the Philippines has tentatively offered to act as host to the Conference in Manila during the latter part of 1964 and to extend full co-operation to the United Nations in this connexion,³³

Requests the Secretary-General, bearing in mind the dates of other conferences on connected subjects, to take the necessary steps, upon confirmation by the Government of the Philippines of its offer, to convene in Manila during the last quarter of 1964 a fourth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East, including consultations regarding a provisional agenda and the sending of invitations to Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of specialized agencies, as well as to the specialized agencies concerned and other interested international organizations.

*1244th plenary meeting,
3 April 1963.*

³³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 8, document E/3713/Add.1.*