

Taking note also of the view expressed in the report entitled *Capital Punishment—Developments 1961 to 1965* that there is an over-all tendency in the world towards fewer executions,

Noting the view of the Advisory Committee that the trend among experts and practitioners in the field is towards the abolition of capital punishment,

Desiring to promote further the dignity of man and thus to contribute to the International Year for Human Rights,

1. Invites Governments of States Members of the United Nations:

(a) 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, by providing, *inter alia*:

(i) That a person condemned to death shall not be deprived of the right to appeal to a higher judicial authority or, as the case may be, to petition for pardon or reprieve;

(ii) That a death sentence shall not be carried out until the procedures of appeal or, as the case may be, of petition for pardon or reprieve have been terminated;

(b) To consider whether the careful legal procedures and safeguards referred to under sub-paragraph (a) above may not be further strengthened by the fixing of a certain time-limit or time-limits before the expiry of which no death sentence shall be carried out, as has already been recognized in certain international conventions dealing with specific situations;

(c) To inform the Secretary-General not later than 10 December 1970 of actions which may have been taken in accordance with sub-paragraph (a) above and of the results to which their consideration in accordance with sub-paragraph (b) above may have led;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to invite Governments of States Members of the United Nations to inform him of their present attitude—with indication of the reasons therefor—to possible further restriction of the use of the death penalty or to its total abolition, and to state whether they are contemplating restriction or abolition and also to indicate whether changes in this respect have taken place since 1965;

3. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the matter dealt with in paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 above to

the Commission on Human Rights through the Economic and Social Council.

1338 (XLIV). Advisory services in the field of human rights

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking into account the importance of seminars on the status of women,

Considering, however, the financial difficulties which confront the Governments of developing countries in meeting their share of the expenses involved in acting as host Governments to such seminars,

Noting General Assembly resolution 926 (X) of 14 December 1955, which provides, *inter alia*, that the amount of assistance and the conditions under which it is to be rendered shall be decided by the Secretary-General, with due regard to the greater needs of the under-developed areas, and in conformity with the principle that each requesting Government shall be expected to assume responsibility, as far as possible, for all or a considerable part of the expenses connected with the assistance furnished to it,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to examine the possibility of making a larger contribution to the financing of seminars on the status of women held in developing countries;

2. Requests the General Assembly to authorize the Secretary-General, in the absence of an invitation from a Government, to organize seminars on the status of women at the Headquarters of the United Nations, at the United Nations Office at Geneva or at the headquarters of the regional economic commissions.

*1530th plenary meeting,
31 May 1968.*

OTHER DECISION

Venue of the twenty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights

At its 1530th meeting held on 31 May 1968, the Council decided to take into account when considering, at its forty-fifth session, the agenda item on the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1969 and 1970, the recommendation of the Social Committee⁹⁴ that the Commission on Human Rights hold its twenty-fifth session in Geneva, Switzerland.

⁹⁴ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 13, document E/4535/Add.1, paras. 2 and 3.