

Referring to General Assembly resolution 2840 (XXVI) of 18 December 1971 in which the Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to consider the principles of international co-operation in the detection, arrest, extradition and punishment of persons guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity and to submit a report on this question to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session,

Noting that many States have not yet submitted comments and observations in accordance with resolution 2712 (XXV),

1. *Once again requests* those States which have not yet done so to submit to the Secretary-General their comments and observations on this question, including proposals concerning principles of international co-operation in the detection, arrest, extradition and punishment of persons guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its twenty-ninth session an analytical survey of the comments, observations and proposals received from States, having regard to the need to formulate principles of international co-operation in the detection, arrest, extradition and punishment of persons guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

*1818th plenary meeting
2 June 1972*

1692 (LII). Report of the Commission on Human Rights

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its twenty-eighth session.⁶⁰

*1818th plenary meeting
2 June 1972*

1693 (LII). Collection and dissemination of information on human rights

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 9 (II) of 21 June 1946, 303 H (XI) of 9 August 1950, 683 B (XXVI) of 21 July 1958 and 1596 (L) of 21 May 1971,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 2538 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, 2732 (XXV) of 16 December 1970 and 2836 (XXVI) of 17 December 1971,

Considering the important contribution that periodic reports on human rights and the *Yearbook on Human Rights* have made to the advancement of human rights,

Convinced that it is only through the timely submission and publication of concise reports by Member States and specialized agencies and of objective information by non-governmental organizations in consultative status that the international community can appreciate both the progress achieved and the problems to be overcome,

Noting the delays experienced in the publication of the *Yearbook on Human Rights*,

⁶⁰ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/5113).*

Believing accordingly that the present system of collecting and disseminating information about the realization of human rights should be reviewed,

Conscious of the need to reduce the volume of documentation of the United Nations,

Conscious also of the burden placed upon States Members of the United Nations by the reporting obligations of the present system,

1. *Decides* to allocate this task to the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Periodic Reports of the Commission on Human Rights;

2. *Directs* the *Ad Hoc* Committee, at a special session to be held in New York from 8 to 16 January or 11 to 19 January 1973:

(a) To examine the effectiveness of the present system of collecting and disseminating information about the realization of human rights, giving particular attention to the *Yearbook on Human Rights* and its relation to periodic reports on human rights;

(b) To submit its findings and recommendations for the rationalization and improvement of this system to the Commission on Human Rights at its twenty-ninth session for onward transmission to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-fourth session.

*1818th plenary meeting
2 June 1972*

1694 (LII). Organization of the work of the Commission on Human Rights

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the Commission on Human Rights has an increasing role to play for the promotion of universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Considering further the continuing impact of human rights problems throughout the world and the variety and intensity of the questions with which the Commission has to deal,

Noting with appreciation the serious efforts of the Commission to promote the observance and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Noting that the Commission is experiencing difficulties in giving consideration to all of the items on its agenda,

Aware, however, of the heavy agenda of the Commission and that it is not in a position to examine all the items, due to paucity of time,

Recalling resolution 2 (XXV) of 21 February 1969 of the Commission in which the Commission decided to endeavour to establish a proper balance among the matters referred to it with a view to discharging its important functions to the full,

Noting, however, that the Commission has notably been unable in recent years to pay due attention to the work of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities which, as a subsidiary body of the Commission, has made outstanding and substantial contributions in the field of human rights,

Considering it necessary that the Commission make such arrangements so as to ensure the full consideration by the Commission of the Sub-Commission's reports,