

1. *Urges* the Commission on Human Rights to continue its efforts to promote the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to pay due attention in the organization of its work to the limitations of time and its heavy agenda, and, if necessary, resort to means such as the grouping of items, postponement of items at the beginning of its sessions, informal consultations on draft resolutions and establishment of working groups;

3. *Further urges* the Commission on Human Rights to allocate sufficient time for an adequate consideration of the reports of its Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and working groups, and to avoid, where possible, repetitious consideration of matters dealt with in detail by the Sub-Commission;

4. *Authorizes* the Commission on Human Rights, in accordance with Council resolution 1165 (XLI) of 5 August 1966, to hold in 1973 a six-week session in order to enable the Commission to devote sufficient time to the consideration of the reports of the Sub-Commission on its twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions and the studies of the Sub-Commission which have not been acted upon;

5. *Requests* Member States to show greater understanding for the heavy agenda of the Commission on Human Rights, *inter alia*, by avoiding priority for matters of peripheral nature or limited interest to the United Nations.

1818th plenary meeting
2 June 1972

1695 (LII). Question of slavery and the slave trade in all their practices and manifestations, including the slavery-like practices of apartheid and colonialism

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that no one shall be held in slavery or servitude and that slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms,

Noting the recommendations of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in its resolution 3 (XXIV) on the question of slavery and the slave trade in all their practices and manifestations,

Bearing in mind the information and recommendations on these matters contained in the *Report on Slavery*⁶¹ prepared by the Special Rapporteur, Mr. Mohamed Awad, in accordance with Council resolutions 960 (XXXVI) of 12 July 1963 and 1077 (XXXIX) of 28 July 1965 and submitted to the Council at its forty-first session in 1966,

Deeply regretting the untimely death of the Special Rapporteur,

Desirous of furthering the work of which he has been such a distinguished proponent,

Bearing in mind also the information and recommendations contained in the study transmitted to it by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,⁶² on the measures which might be taken to implement the international Slavery

Convention of 25 September 1926⁶³ and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery of 30 April 1956⁶⁴ and the various recommendations included in the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights relating to the abolition of slavery, the slave trade, and institutions and practices similar to slavery, and on the possibilities of international police co-operation to put an end to the transportation of persons in danger of being enslaved,

Convinced of the need for the adoption of urgent measures to accelerate the ratification of or accession to the international Slavery Convention of 1926 and the Supplementary Convention of 1956, and to strengthen the application of those Conventions and the various recommendations included in the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights on the abolition of slavery, the slave trade, and institutions and practices similar to slavery,

Mindful of the work of the International Labour Organisation relating to freedom of association and freedom of labour and of its programme for the elimination of *apartheid* in labour matters in the Republic of South Africa, of the activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to correct a social outlook tolerating the existence of slavery and forms of servitude similar to slavery, and of the special responsibility of the Food and Agriculture Organization in connexion with problems of land tenure,

Noting that technical assistance is now available to States for the purpose of improving their administrative machinery with a view to combating any vestiges of slavery, the slave trade, and institutions and practices similar to slavery which may exist,

1. *Calls upon* all eligible States which are not yet parties, to become parties as soon as possible to the international Slavery Convention of 1926 and the Supplementary Convention of 1956 on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery;

2. *Draws attention* to the close relationship between the effects of slavery, *apartheid* and colonialism and to the need to take concrete measures to ensure the effective implementation of the relevant international conventions and decisions of the United Nations with a view to bringing about the complete elimination of these shameful phenomena;

3. *Calls upon* all States to enact any legislation necessary to prohibit slavery and the slave trade in all their practices and manifestations and to provide effective penal sanctions for persons committing, or ordering to be committed, any of the following acts: (a) abduction, or planning the abduction, or giving instructions for the abduction, of any person by force, treachery, gifts, abuse of authority or power, or intimidation, which results in that person being placed in a status of slavery or servitude as defined in the international Slavery Convention of 1926 and the Supplementary Convention of 1956; (b) holding any person in a status of slavery or servitude as defined in those Conventions; and calls upon all States to search for persons alleged

⁶³ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. LX, 1927, No. 1414.

⁶⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 266 (1957), No. 3822.

⁶¹ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 67.XIV.2.

⁶² E/CN.4/Sub.2/322.

to have committed, or to have ordered to be committed, any such acts, and to bring such persons, regardless of their nationality, before its own courts, or to hand such persons over for trial to another State concerned;

4. *Calls upon* all eligible States, which have not yet done so to ratify the following International Labour Organisation Conventions which deal with matters closely related to the abolition of slavery, the slave trade, and institutions and practices similar to slavery: the Employment Policy Convention (No. 122) of 1965, the Forced Labour Convention (No. 29) of 1930, the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (No. 105) of 1957, the Social Policy (Basic Aims and Standards) Convention (No. 117) of 1962, the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention (No. 87) of 1948, the Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention (No. 98) of 1949, and the Convention Concerning the Protection and Integration of Indigenous and Other Tribal and Semi-tribal Populations in Independent Countries (No. 107) of 1957;

5. *Appeals* to all States to give effect, by national legislation or otherwise, to the Tenants and Share-Croppers' Recommendation (No. 132), adopted by the International Labour Organisation in 1968;

6. *Invites* the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to co-operate, within the limits established by its constitution and in accordance with the special arrangement between the United Nations and that organization, approved by the Council in its resolution 1579 (L) of 20 May 1971, with the United Nations in its efforts to eliminate slavery, the slave trade, and institutions and practices similar to slavery, and in particular to forward to the Secretary-General annually any information at its disposal with regard to the international traffic in persons, including reports on the subject received from its national central bureaux;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to utilize such information to supplement information made available to him under the terms of the Supplementary Convention of 1956 and Council resolution 1579 (L), and to present a summary of available information to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at each session;

8. *Calls upon* States where total emancipation of slaves and other persons of servile status has not yet taken place to accelerate this emancipation and to make every effort to absorb such persons into the general labour force and to give them access to vocational guidance and training facilities;

9. *Recommends* to all specialized agencies, inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned that they continue and expand their assistance to such persons, including vocational guidance and training in particular;

10. *Recommends* that Governments, through the Secretary-General, call upon the experts on the list kept by the Secretary-General, and other important persons, in accordance with Council resolution 1330 (XLIV) of 31 May 1968, for advice on matters relating to the elimination of slavery and the slave trade in all their practices and manifestations;

11. *Recommends* to Governments of countries of refuge that refugee facilities and travel documents should be made easily available to the victims of racial discrimination who have to leave their countries to escape the slavery-like practices of *apartheid*, enabling them in particular to return to their country of refuge;

12. *Directs* the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to examine the possibility of the establishment of some form of permanent machinery to give advice on the elimination of slavery and on the suppression of the traffic in persons and exploitation of slavery and on the suppression of the traffic in persons and exploitation of the prostitution of others, and to make recommendations with a view to seeking the better implementation of the United Nations instruments concerned;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To undertake, on the basis of information available to him, a survey of national legislation for the purpose of eliminating practices similar to slavery;

(b) To prepare a plan of technical co-operation to contribute to the eradication of slavery and the slave trade in all their practices and manifestations, including assistance to facilitate the passage of legislation to promote the elimination of practices covered by the Supplementary Convention of 1956, and to transmit it to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities for consideration;

(c) To ascertain the needs of Governments in this respect, and to submit a report thereon to the Sub-Commission at its twenty-sixth session;

(d) To report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Economic and Social Council on the basis of information obtained from Governments, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and the competent non-governmental organizations in consultative status.

*1818th plenary meeting
2 June 1972*

1696 (LII). Draft convention and draft protocol on the suppression and punishment of the crime of *apartheid*

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 2786 (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, which emphasizes the need to take further effective measures with a view to the suppression and punishment of the crime of *apartheid*,

Recognizing that the preparation and adoption of an international instrument providing specific measures for the suppression and punishment of the crime of *apartheid* would have great importance in the struggle to eliminate the shameful phenomenon of the present-day world,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 4 (XXVIII) of 23 March 1972,⁶⁵ which contains, *inter alia*, a request to all Governments to communicate their comments and views concerning the draft convention and the draft protocol to the Secretary-General at the earliest possible date for consideration by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session,

1. *Emphasizes* the great importance of the preparation and adoption of an international instrument for the suppression and punishment of the crime of *apartheid* that could serve as a legal basis for uniting the efforts of all States with a view to eradicating the inhuman policies and practices of *apartheid*;

2. *Considers* it essential to complete at the earliest possible date the preparation of a draft international

⁶⁵ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/5113)*, chap. XIII.