

## DECISIONS

### **Role of non-governmental organizations in the programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination**

(Agenda item 13)

At its 1877th meeting, on 8 August 1973, the Council decided:

(a) To submit to the General Assembly, for consideration at its twenty-eighth session, the recommendations of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on the role of non-governmental organizations in the programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, annexed to its report,<sup>90</sup>

(b) To transmit to the General Assembly, for its information, the suggestions, annexed to the same report,<sup>91</sup> made by the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations on Human Rights concerning possible

modifications in the draft programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

(c) To request the Secretary-General to examine the possibilities of assisting conferences of non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights, in particular by the provision of conference facilities, such as interpretation and documentation, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session.

### **Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

(Agenda item 25)

At its 1877th meeting, on 8 August 1973, the Council decided to transmit the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees<sup>92</sup> to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session.

<sup>90</sup> E/5386, annex I.

<sup>91</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>92</sup> E/5306; for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/9012)*.

## PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION QUESTIONS

### **1800 (LV). International years and anniversaries**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Recalling its resolution 1368 (XLV) of 2 August 1968, in which it expressed the hope that new proposals for the designation of international years and anniversaries would be avoided, except on the most important occasions and after consideration of the probable impact of such proposals on existing celebrations,

Conscious that the proliferation of international years and anniversaries is continuing and tends to reduce the effectiveness of those celebrations of special importance for which full public support is needed,

Noting the comments of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination in its annual report for 1972/73,<sup>93</sup> and in particular the suggestion that it may be useful to make a distinction between special "days" and longer celebrations, particularly "years",

1. *Instructs* its subsidiary bodies to propose the designation of international years only on the most important occasions and where possible to propose instead celebrations of briefer duration;

2. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that it similarly instruct its subsidiary bodies;

3. *Requests* the intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to proclaim international

years only on the most important occasions and where possible to arrange instead for celebrations of briefer duration;

4. *Expresses the belief* that in any case the designation of the same year for more than one purpose should, if possible, be avoided;

5. *Invites* the intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to report to the Economic and Social Council whenever it is proposed to designate a "year", in order to enable the Council to comment on the purpose and timing of the "year" prior to a final decision being taken on its designation;

6. *Invites* the policy-making organs of those specialized agencies which have proposed the designation of international years to consider the possibility of converting any of the proposed "years" into celebrations of shorter duration;

7. *Invites* the executive heads of the intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to bring the present resolution to the attention of their various policy-making organs;

8. *Requests* the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to keep this matter under continuing review and to report back to the Council at its fifty-ninth session, within the context of its annual report, on the results achieved.

*1876th plenary meeting  
7 August 1973*

<sup>93</sup> E/5289 (part I), chap. I, sect. D.