

9. *Invites* the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to continue to provide financial support in the field of aging, particularly for the implementation of the plan of action that would result from the World Assembly on Aging;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-seventh session the item entitled "Question of the elderly and the aged".

*49th plenary meeting  
9 November 1981*

### 36/21. Crime prevention and criminal justice and development

*The General Assembly,*

*Concerned* at the escalation of crime and violence in many parts of the world,

*Conscious* of the forms and dimensions crime has assumed in the context of socio-economic development, and the increasing difficulties encountered,

*Stressing* the vital contribution that the United Nations Congresses on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders make to improving the quality of life,

*Recalling* its resolution 35/171 of 15 December 1980, in which it endorsed the Caracas Declaration, annexed to that resolution, and recommendations relating to the new perspectives for international co-operation in crime prevention in the context of development, adopted by the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

*Recalling* its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, which is one of the principal guarantees for the creation of better conditions so that all peoples may attain a decent life,

*Mindful* that in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, the Assembly declared that the ultimate aim of development was the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population on the basis of its full participation in the process of development and the fair distribution of the benefits therefrom,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice and development;<sup>45</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* that crime prevention and criminal justice should be considered in the context of economic development, political, social and cultural systems and social values and changes, as well as in the context of the new international economic order;

3. *Invites* Member States to intensify efforts to make their criminal justice systems more responsive to changing socio-economic conditions, also through the appropriate development of national forms of social control;

4. *Urges* the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the Secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme to increase their level of support to programmes of technical assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and to encourage technical co-operation among developing countries;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures for the fullest implementation of the Caracas Declaration and for the appropriate preparation of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and

the Treatment of Offenders, in close co-operation with all the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular with the regional commissions and the United Nations training and research institutes in crime prevention;

6. *Calls upon* the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, entrusted with the preparation of the United Nations Congresses on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to give particular attention, in the formulation of the agenda of the Seventh Congress, to current and emerging trends in crime prevention and criminal justice, with a view to defining new guiding principles for the future course of crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development needs and the goals of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and a new international economic order, taking into account the political, economic, social and cultural circumstances and traditions of each country and the need for crime prevention and criminal justice systems to be consonant with the principles of social justice;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1982 on the preparatory work for the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, also to take into account the relevant recommendations made by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its seventh session, without prejudice to the existing reporting procedures.

*49th plenary meeting  
9 November 1981*

### 36/22. Arbitrary or summary executions

*The General Assembly,*

*Having regard* to the provisions bearing on capital punishment in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>46</sup> particularly its articles 6, 14 and 15,

*Recalling* its resolution 2393 (XXIII) of 26 November 1968, in which it invited Governments of Member States, *inter alia*, to ensure the most careful legal procedures and the greatest possible safeguards for the accused in capital cases in countries where the death penalty obtained,

*Recalling also* its resolution 35/172 of 15 December 1980 on arbitrary or summary executions,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 35/171 of 15 December 1980, in which it, *inter alia*, endorsed the Caracas Declaration, adopted by consensus at the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, annexed to that resolution,

1. *Condemns* the practice of summary executions and arbitrary executions;

2. *Strongly deplores* the increasing number of summary executions as well as the continued incidence of arbitrary executions in different parts of the world;

3. *Notes with concern* the occurrence of executions that are widely regarded as being politically motivated;

4. *Urges* all States concerned to respect the minimum standard of legal safeguards referred to in paragraph 1 (a) of General Assembly resolution 35/172;

5. *Again requests* the Secretary-General to use his best endeavours in cases where this minimum standard of legal safeguards appears not to be respected;

6. *Invites* Member States, specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and relevant non-

<sup>45</sup> A/36/442.

<sup>46</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.