

“(b) Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the sessions and the work of all international conferences convened under its auspices, in accordance with Assembly resolutions 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and 31/152 of 20 December 1976;

“(c) The specialized agencies concerned, as well as interested organs and bodies of the United Nations;

“(d) Interested intergovernmental organizations;

“(e) The Special Committee against *Apartheid*;

“(f) The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

“(g) The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

“(h) The Commission on Human Rights;

“(i) The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories;

“(j) Other interested committees of the United Nations;

“(k) Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council which have contributed to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and to the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the first World Conference, taking into account also their record in the struggle against racism and racial discrimination;

“7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as part of the preparatory process, to take adequate steps to ensure that maximum publicity is given to the Conference and, to that end, to allocate the necessary resources from the regular budget;

“8. *Calls upon* all States to contribute to the success of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, in particular by their active participation in the Conference;

“9. *Urges* all States to co-operate with the Secretary-General of the Conference in the preparatory work and to consider the establishment of national committees for publicizing the aims and, eventually, the main results of the Conference;

“10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the work of the Conference;

“11. *Decides* to consider at its thirty-eighth session, as a matter of high priority, an item entitled ‘Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination’.”

25th plenary meeting
5 May 1982

1982/33. Review of the composition, organization and administrative arrangements of the Sessional Working Group (of Governmental Experts) on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1988 (LX) of 11 May 1976, by which it noted the important responsibilities placed upon the Economic and Social Council by the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in particular those resulting from articles 21 and 22 of the Covenant, and expressed its readiness to fulfil those responsibilities,

Recalling its decision 1978/10 of 3 May 1978, by which it decided to establish a Sessional Working Group on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, for the purpose of assisting the Council in the consideration of reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant in accordance with Council resolution 1988 (LX), and determined the composition of the Working Group,

Recalling also its resolution 1979/43 of 11 May 1979, by which it approved the methods of work of the Sessional Working Group, and its decision 1981/158 of 8 May 1981, by which it incorporated certain changes in, and modified the methods of work of, the Sessional Working Group,

Recalling further its resolution 1980/24 of 2 May 1980, by which it noted that the Sessional Working Group, established in accordance with Council decision 1978/10, had encountered certain difficulties in discharging its responsibilities under the arrangements and requested the Secretary-General to solicit the views of members of the Council and all States parties to the Covenant on the future composition, organization and administrative arrangements of the Sessional Working Group and to submit a report thereon, together with any comments he might wish to make, to the Council at its organizational session for 1981, in order to assist the Council in reviewing its decision 1978/10,

Recalling its decision 1981/162 of 8 May 1981, by which it decided to review the composition, organization and administrative arrangements of the Sessional Working Group at its first regular session of 1982,

Having considered the report of the Sessional Working Group (of Governmental Experts) on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,⁵⁹

Decides that:

(a) The Working Group established by Economic and Social Council decision 1978/10 and modified by Council decision 1981/158 shall be renamed “Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights” (hereinafter referred to as “the Group of Experts”);

(b) The fifteen members of the Group of Experts shall be elected by the Economic and Social Council

* For the text of the Covenant, see General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁵⁹ E/1982/56 and Corr.1.

from among the States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in accordance with the geographical distribution established by the Council in paragraph (a) of its decision 1978/10, under the following conditions:

- (i) The members of the Group of Experts shall be elected for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election at the end of their terms;
- (ii) One third of the membership of the Group of Experts, comprising one member from each regional group, shall be renewed each year;
- (iii) The first elections shall take place during the resumed second regular session of 1982 of the Economic and Social Council and the confirmation of the experts designated by Member States to represent them in the Group of Experts shall take place at the organizational session for 1983 of the Council; immediately after the first elections, the President of the Council shall choose by lot the name of one member from each regional group whose term shall expire at the end of one year and the name of another member from each regional group whose term shall expire at the end of two years;
- (iv) The terms of office of members elected to the Group of Experts shall begin on 1 January following their election and shall expire on 31 December following the election of members that are to succeed them as members of the Group of Experts;
- (v) Subsequent elections shall take place each year during the first regular session of the Council;
- (vi) Each Member State elected to the Group of Experts shall designate, in consultation with the Secretary-General and subject to confirmation by the Council, a qualified person to represent that Member State in the Group of Experts;
- (vii) The person so designated by his or her Government shall be an expert with recognized competence in the field of human rights;

(c) The Group of Experts shall meet annually for a period of three weeks, beginning two weeks before the first regular session of the Council; the duration of each session may be extended by the Council at its organizational session, if required, taking into account the number of reports to be examined by the Group of Experts in the course of its following session;

(d) At the end of each of its sessions, the Group of Experts shall submit to the Economic and Social Council a report on its activities and shall make suggestions and recommendations of a general nature based on its consideration of reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant and by the specialized agencies, in order to assist the Council to fulfil, in particular, its responsibilities under articles 21 and 22 of the Covenant;

(e) The Secretary-General shall provide the Group of Experts with summary records of its proceedings; those summary records shall be made available to the Council at the same time as the report of the Group of Experts; the Secretary-General shall also

provide the Group of Experts with appropriate conference facilities;

(f) The Economic and Social Council shall review the composition, organization and administrative arrangements of the Group of Experts at its first regular session of 1985, and subsequently every three years, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution and the increase in the number of States parties to the Covenant;

(g) The procedures and methods of work established by the resolutions and decisions referred to in the preamble to the present resolution shall remain in force in so far as they are not modified by the present resolution.

27th plenary meeting
6 May 1982

1982/34. Study of the problem of discrimination against indigenous populations

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1589 (L) of 21 May 1971, resolutions 22 (XXXVII) of 10 March 1981⁶⁰ and 1982/19 of 10 March 1982⁶¹ of the Commission on Human Rights and resolutions 8 (XXIV) of 18 August 1971,⁶² 5 (XXXIII) of 10 September 1980⁶³ and 2 (XXXIV) of 8 September 1981⁶⁴ of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Recognizing the urgent need to promote and to protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous populations,

Bearing in mind the concerns expressed in this regard at the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination in 1978,⁶⁵

Believing that special attention should be given to appropriate avenues of recourse at the national, regional and international levels in order to advance the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous populations,

Mindful of the conclusions of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and of the Commission on Human Rights that the plight of indigenous peoples is of a serious and pressing nature and that special measures are urgently needed to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous populations,

1. *Authorizes* the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to establish annually a working group on indigenous populations which shall meet for up to five working days before the annual sessions of the Sub-Commission in order to review developments pertaining to the promotion and protection of the human rights and funda-

⁶⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 5 (E/1981/25)*, chap. XXVIII.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*, 1982, *Supplement No. 2 (E/1982/12 and Corr.1)*, chap. XXVI.

⁶² See E/CN.4/1070 and Corr.1, chap. XII.

⁶³ See E/CN.4/1413 and Corr.1, chap. XVII.

⁶⁴ See E/CN.4/1512, chap. XX.

⁶⁵ See *Report of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 14-25 August 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.XIV.2).