

survey data and their use and interpretation shall form an integral part of national census programmes by establishing and strengthening national population organizations and institutions;

4. *Emphasizes* the need for the organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen their collaboration and co-ordination in the planning and execution of their population programmes.

*14th plenary meeting
9 May 1979*

1979/34. Question of the human rights of all persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 3452 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 3453 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, requested the Commission on Human Rights to study the formulation of a body of principles for the protection of all persons under any form of detention or imprisonment,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to all Governments the draft body of principles for the protection of all persons under any form of detention or imprisonment, contained in the report of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on its thirty-first session,⁴⁷ to solicit their comments and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session, so that the Assembly may consider the adoption of the principles;

2. *Authorizes* the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to request Mrs. Questiaux to continue the study of the implications for human rights of states of siege or emergency.

*15th plenary meeting
10 May 1979*

1979/35. Draft convention on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 32/62 of 8 December 1977 by which the Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to draw up a draft convention on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and Assembly resolution 33/178 of 20 December 1978 by which the Assembly requested the Commission, at its thirty-fifth session, to give high priority to the question of drafting such a convention,

Bearing in mind that it was not found possible to complete the work on the draft convention during the thirty-fifth session of the Commission,

⁴⁷ E/CN.4/1296, para. 109.

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 18 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979,⁴⁸

1. *Authorizes* an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights to meet for a period of one week prior to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission to complete the work on a draft convention on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-sixth session all relevant materials relating to the draft convention.

*15th plenary meeting
10 May 1979*

1979/36. Further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the responsibilities of the Commission on Human Rights under the Charter of the United Nations,

In conformity with General Assembly resolutions 32/130 of 16 December 1977 and 33/104 and 33/105 of 16 December 1978,

Recalling the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁴⁹ and the International Covenants on Human Rights,⁵⁰ in further promoting international co-operation in respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as required by the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting the increase in the workload of the Division of Human Rights as a result, *inter alia*, of the entry into force of the International Covenants on Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination⁵¹ and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*,⁵²

1. *Notes* that, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the relevant international instruments, the Commission on Human Rights, in fulfilling the functions set forth in Council resolution 5 (I) of 16 February 1946 and amended by Council resolution 9 (II) of 21 June 1946, should take into account the concepts enumerated in General Assembly resolution 32/130;

2. *Reaffirms* that the Commission on Human Rights shall be guided by the standards in the field of human rights laid down in the various international instruments in that field;

3. *Decides*, further, to add the following provisions to the terms of reference of the Commission on Human Rights set forth in Council resolution 5 (I) and amended by Council resolution 9 (II):

“The Commission shall assist the Economic and Social Council in the co-ordination of activities concerning human rights in the United Nations system”;

⁴⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 6 (E/1979/36)*, chap. XXIV.

⁴⁹ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

⁵⁰ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁵¹ General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

⁵² General Assembly resolution 3068 (XXVIII), annex.

4. *Authorizes:*

(a) An increase in the membership of the Commission on Human Rights to forty-three members, equitable geographical distribution being maintained;⁵³

(b) Regular meetings of the Commission for six weeks each year, with an additional week for meetings of working groups;

5. *Notes* that in certain circumstances the Commission may need to hold special sessions in order to complete unfinished business, including the drafting of human rights instruments;

6. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to prepare suggestions on the possibility of convening meetings of the officers of the Commission in inter-sessional periods in exceptional circumstances;

7. *Requests*, in order to enable the Commission on Human Rights to carry out the study requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/54 of 14 December 1978, those specialized agencies and other organs and bodies within and related to the United Nations system which are, according to their explicit mandates, concerned with the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms, to provide the Secretary-General with a short survey of their human rights activities and programmes;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to compile for the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-seventh session an analytical presentation of the material submitted pursuant to paragraph 7 above;

9. *Notes* that the Commission on Human Rights, at its thirty-seventh session, may wish to set up a sessional working group to study the material compiled and to make proposals, if it deems it appropriate, for the co-ordination of specific human rights activities and programmes within the United Nations system;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the increase in the workload of the Division of Human Rights, to examine the question of the staffing and other resources of the human rights sector of the Secretariat, bearing in mind that it should always be at a level which will allow it to discharge its duties efficiently;

11. *Emphasizes* the value of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights and reaffirms that this programme should be maintained and developed;

12. *Requests* the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, with a view to consolidating its effectiveness and resources, to examine its programme of work so as to identify specific areas for its concentrated attention and to make recommendations thereon to the Commission on Human Rights;

13. *Decides* that the annual session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities may be extended to four weeks;

14. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his efforts to continue rendering the good offices envisaged in the Charter of the United Nations in the field of human rights;

15. *Takes note* of General Assembly resolution 33/105, in which the Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to take into account, in continuing its work on the over-all analysis of the alternative approaches and ways and means for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the views expressed on the various proposals, including that for the establishment of a post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and notes that the Commission was unable to reach agreement on the latter proposal;

16. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue its work on the further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the question of the programme and methods of work of the Commission and the examination of the alternative approaches and ways and means for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution and the relevant chapter of the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its thirty-fifth session⁵⁴ to the attention of the General Assembly.

*15th plenary meeting
10 May 1979*

1979/37. Yearbook on Human Rights

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1793 (LIV) of 18 May 1973,

Having noted General Assembly resolution 33/171 of 20 December 1978,

Considering that the *Yearbook on Human Rights* is an important means of disseminating information on developments at the national and international levels concerning the promotion and protection of human rights,

Bearing in mind that States which have become parties to such international instruments as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,⁵⁵ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁵⁶ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination⁵⁶ and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*⁵⁷ submit reports on an established basis in accordance with the requirements of those instruments,

Mindful that the system of periodic reports established under its resolution 1074 C (XXXIX) of 28 July 1965 continues to provide a useful source of information on human rights developments in States which are not participating in reporting procedures established under the relevant international instruments,

Considering that the *Yearbook on Human Rights* should be conceived to reflect human rights developments in a maximum number of States,

1. *Decides* that henceforth the part of the *Yearbook on Human Rights* devoted to national developments shall consist of extracts from reports made by

⁵⁴ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 6 (E/1979/36), chap. IX.*

⁵⁵ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁵⁶ General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

⁵⁷ General Assembly resolution 3068 (XXVIII), annex.

⁵³ The eleven additional seats would be distributed as follows: African States—3, Asian States—3, Latin American States—2, Western European and other States—2, Eastern European States—1.