

Conscious of the importance of teaching, education, research, training and information in the promotion and protection of human rights,

Reiterating its belief that progress in the promotion of respect for and protection of human rights is assisted by a favourable world public opinion,

1. *Urges* all Governments to consider action to facilitate publicity regarding United Nations activities in the field of human rights, with particular reference to the work of the Commission on Human Rights;

2. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance of encouraging the dissemination of international instruments on human rights as widely as possible, including texts in their own languages;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organisation, to draw up and implement a world-wide programme for the dissemination of international instruments on human rights in as many languages as possible and to report on the implementation of this programme to the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-seventh session;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to inform the Committee on Information of its strong hopes that the Committee will make suitable recommendations for developing public information activities in the field of human rights;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Governments, regional governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and United Nations information centres with a view to inviting their comments on its implementation;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure in the interim that adequate resources are available to permit the speedy preparation and distribution of the existing United Nations publications concerned with human rights;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-seventh session on the measures taken to enhance public information activities in the field of human rights, including any proposals made to this end by the Committee on Information, and to include in his report information on the implementation of the plans mentioned in his report to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session,⁶² as well as information received pursuant to the request contained in paragraph 5 above.

*22nd plenary meeting
2 May 1980*

1980/31. Study of situations which appear to reveal a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights as provided in Commission on Human Rights resolution 8 (XXIII) and Economic and Social Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII)

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the Commission on Human Rights has been examining since its thirty-third session, in 1977, the situation regarding the alleged persecution of Jehovah's Witnesses in Malawi,

Considering further that the Government of Malawi has not co-operated with the Commission on Human

Rights or replied to the communications addressed to it regarding this matter,

1. *Regrets* the failure of the Government of Malawi to co-operate with the Commission on Human Rights in the examination of a situation said to have deprived thousands of Jehovah's Witnesses in Malawi of their basic human rights and fundamental freedoms between 1972 and 1975, which constrains the Economic and Social Council to publicize the matter;

2. *Expresses the hope* that the human rights of all citizens of Malawi have been fully restored and, in particular, that adequate measures are being taken to provide a remedy to those who may have suffered injustices.

*22nd plenary meeting
2 May 1980*

1980/32. Draft convention against 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 against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and Council resolution 1979/35 of 10 May 1979, by which it authorized 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 against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Considering that it was not found possible to complete the work on the draft convention during the thirty-sixth session of the Commission,

Taking note of resolution 34 (XXXVI) of 12 March 1980 of the Commission on Human Rights,⁶³

1. *Authorizes* a meeting of an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights for a period of one week prior to the thirty-seventh session of the Commission to complete the work on a draft convention against 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-seventh session all the material relevant to the draft convention.

*22nd plenary meeting
2 May 1980*

1980/33. Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights in the Republic of South Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1979/39 of 10 May 1979 on the report of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts of the Commission on Human Rights on allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights in the Republic of South Africa,

Noting with grave concern that recent reforms in South African labour legislation were cosmetic in nature and not aimed at producing fundamental changes in the

⁶³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 3 (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI.*