



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/37/717
10 December 1982

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-seventh session
Agenda item 86

QUESTION OF A CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Karl BORCHARD (Federal Republic of Germany)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 24 September 1982, the General Assembly decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "Question of a convention on the rights of the child" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
2. The Committee considered this item jointly with items 84, 85, 87 and 88 at its 47th, 50th to 53rd, 55th, 56th, 64th and 67th meetings, on 18, 23, 24, 26 November and 3 and 7 December 1982. An account of the discussion of the Committee is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/37/SR.47, 50-53, 55-56, 64 and 67).
3. The Committee had before it the report of the Economic and Social Council, chapter V, section A (A/37/3 (Part I)). 1/
4. At the 47th meeting, on 18 November, the Special Assistant to the Director of the Centre for Human Rights made an introductory statement.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.3/37/L.46

5. At the 64th meeting, on 6 December, the representative of Poland introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/37/L.46), entitled "Question of a convention on the rights

1/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/37/3).

of the child", sponsored by Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chad, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Yemen, Egypt, the German Democratic Republic, Guyana, Guinea-Bissau, India, Jamaica, Jordan, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Madagascar, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Rwanda, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zaire as well as Colombia, Guinea, Mozambique and Senegal, subsequently joined by Bhutan, Bolivia, Ethiopia, the Central African Republic and Sierra Leone.

6. At its 67th meeting, on 6 December, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 7).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

7. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Question of a convention on the rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/166 of 20 December 1978, 34/4 of 18 October 1979, 35/131 of 11 December 1980 and 36/57 of 25 November 1981,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolutions 20 (XXXIV) of 8 March 1978, 2/ 19 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979, 3/ 36 (XXXVI) of 12 March 1980, 4/ 26 (XXXVII) of 10 March 1981 5/ and of 11 March 1982 6/ as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/18 of 5 May 1978, 1978/40 of 1 August 1978 and 1982/37 of 7 May 1982 and Council decisions 1980/138 of 2 May 1980 and 1981/144 of 8 May 1981,

Conscious of its important task to contribute to the improvement of the situation of children in the world and to ensure their development and education in conditions of peace,

Bearing in mind the need to pursue effective action with a view to generating the international record of accomplishment of the International Year of the Child,

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 4 (E/1978/34), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

3/ Ibid., 1979, Supplement No. 6 (E/1979/36), chap. XXIV, sect. A.

4/ Ibid., 1980, Supplement No. 3 (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

5/ Ibid., 1981, Supplement No. 5 (E/1981/25 and Corr.1), chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

6/ Ibid., 1982, Supplement No. 2 (E/1982/12), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

Noting again the important role of the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations in promoting the well-being of children and their development,

Aware of the importance of an international convention on the rights of the child for more effective protection of children's rights,

Noting with appreciation that further progress has been made in the elaboration of a draft convention on the rights of the child prior to and during the thirty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights,

1. Welcomes Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/37 by which the Council authorized an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights to meet for a period of one week prior to the thirty-ninth session of the Commission to complete the work on the draft convention;

2. Invites all Member States to offer their effective contribution to the elaboration of a draft convention on the rights of the child;

3. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to give the highest priority at its thirty-ninth session to the question of completing the draft convention on the rights of the child;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the Working Group in order to ensure its smooth and efficient work;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "Question of a convention on the rights of the child".
