



General Assembly

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/55/597)]

55/73. New international humanitarian order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/124 of 9 December 1998 and other pertinent resolutions¹ relating to the promotion of the new international humanitarian order and international cooperation in the humanitarian field,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the new international humanitarian order² and his previous reports³ containing comments and views of Governments as well as of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, pertaining to humanitarian assistance, and the annex thereto,

Bearing in mind the reports of the Secretary-General⁴ submitted in the context of the Millennium Summit of the United Nations,

Noting the importance of adherence to internationally accepted norms and principles as well as the need to promote, as required, national and international legislation to meet actual and potential humanitarian challenges,

Noting with deep concern the continuing trend of systematic violations of refugee law, international humanitarian law and human rights instruments, which can lead ultimately to emergency situations,

Noting with appreciation the increased attention of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to addressing the security needs of personnel responding to these emergencies,

Noting with appreciation also the emphasis placed by the Secretary-General on promoting strict adherence to refugee law, international humanitarian law and human rights instruments,

¹ Resolutions 36/136, 37/201, 38/125, 40/126, 42/120, 42/121, 43/129, 43/131, 45/100, 45/102, 47/106, 49/170 and 51/74.

² A/55/545.

³ A/37/145, A/38/450, A/40/358 and Add.1 and 2, A/41/472, A/43/734 and Add.1, A/45/524, A/47/352, A/49/577 and Corr.1, A/51/454 and A/53/486.

⁴ S/1999/957 and A/54/2000.

Recognizing that the ultimate aim of all humanitarian assistance should be to save human lives and facilitate the transition, at the appropriate time, to rehabilitation and reconstruction and to facilitate local capacity-building and institution-building, as necessary, in the affected countries and regions,

Recognizing, in addition, the urgent need further to strengthen international cooperation and coordination in the humanitarian field,

1. *Notes* the Secretary-General's continuing support of efforts to promote a new international humanitarian order;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to promote strict adherence to refugee law, international humanitarian law, human rights instruments and internationally accepted norms and principles in situations of armed conflict and complex emergencies;

3. *Urges* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and others concerned to extend cooperation and provide support to the efforts of the Secretary-General, inter alia, through the relevant United Nations agencies and organizational mechanisms set up to address the assistance and protection needs of victims of complex emergencies as well as the safety and security of United Nations and other humanitarian workers;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties involved in complex humanitarian emergencies to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel so as to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian populations;

5. *Invites* Governments to make available to the Secretary-General, on a voluntary basis, information and expertise on humanitarian problems of concern to them, in order to identify opportunities for future action;

6. *Invites* the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues to continue and to strengthen further its activities, including cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the other relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain in contact with Governments and the relevant international and non-governmental organizations and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the progress made concerning the promotion of a new international humanitarian order and compliance with refugee law, international humanitarian law and human rights instruments in armed conflicts and emergency situations.

*81st plenary meeting
4 December 2000*