

Discrimination, in particular those relating to the protection of indigenous rights and to the use of education and the mass media to combat racial discrimination,<sup>64</sup>

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include the recognition and promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples in future United Nations activities under the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and to invite representatives of indigenous nations, peoples and communities, including non-governmental organizations, to participate in the planning and implementation of these activities;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to organize in 1988, as part of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, a seminar on the effects of racism and racial discrimination on the social and economic relations between indigenous peoples and States;

3. *Encourages* all States to ensure that educational and informational activities, including national celebrations, give an accurate interpretation of history and do not perpetuate or justify theories of racial superiority or the subjugation of indigenous or other peoples.

*16th plenary meeting  
27 May 1988*

#### **1988/36. Draft declaration of principles on the rights of indigenous populations**

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Requests* the Chairman/Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Mrs. Erica-Irene Daes, to prepare a working paper containing a set of principles and preambular paragraphs for inclusion in a draft declaration of principles on the rights of indigenous populations, for consideration by the Working Group at its sixth session, in 1988;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Chairman/Rapporteur in the completion of this task.

*16th plenary meeting  
27 May 1988*

#### **1988/37. Proposal to proclaim an international year of the world's indigenous populations**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolution 1982/34 of 7 May 1982, by which it authorized the establishment of a working group on indigenous populations with the mandate to review developments pertaining to the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous populations, giving special attention to the evolution of standards,

<sup>64</sup> See *Report of the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 1-12 August 1983* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.XIV.4 and corrigendum), chap. II.

*Recalling also* its resolution 1986/34 of 23 May 1986,

*Noting* that the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, in its resolution 1987/16 of 2 September 1987,<sup>58</sup> endorsed the recommendation that the Working Group on Indigenous Populations should make every effort to complete a draft declaration on indigenous rights as soon as possible,

*Conscious* of the continuing struggle of indigenous populations throughout the world to enjoy their inalienable human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Recommends* that the General Assembly should, at an appropriate time, proclaim an international year of the world's indigenous populations.

*16th plenary meeting  
27 May 1988*

#### **1988/38. Summary or arbitrary executions**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>6</sup> which proclaims the right to life, liberty and security of person,

*Having regard* to the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>3</sup> in which it is stated that every human being has the inherent right to life, that this right shall be protected by law, and that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 34/175 of 17 December 1979, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that mass and flagrant violations of human rights were of special concern to the United Nations and urged the Commission on Human Rights to take timely and effective action in existing and future cases of mass and flagrant violations of human rights,

*Mindful* of General Assembly resolutions 36/22 of 9 November 1981, 37/182 of 17 December 1982, 38/96 of 16 December 1983, 39/110 of 14 December 1984, 40/143 of 13 December 1985, 41/144 of 4 December 1986 and 42/141 of 7 December 1987,

*Recalling* resolution 1982/13 of 7 September 1982 of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,<sup>65</sup> in which the Sub-Commission recommended that effective measures should be adopted to prevent summary or arbitrary executions,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 1984/50 of 25 May 1984 and the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty annexed thereto, which were endorsed by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in its resolution 15,<sup>66</sup> and welcoming the ongoing work of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on summary and arbitrary executions,

<sup>65</sup> See E/CN.4/1983/4 and Corr.1, chap. XXI, sect. A.  
<sup>66</sup> *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: Report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. E.

*Welcoming* the close co-operation established between the Centre for Human Rights, the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control with regard to the elaboration of the principles on the effective prevention and investigation of arbitrary and summary executions, including extra-legal executions,

*Deeply alarmed* at the occurrence on a large scale of summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions,

*Convinced* of the need for appropriate action to combat and eventually eliminate the abhorrent practice of summary or arbitrary executions, which are a flagrant violation of the most fundamental right, the right to life,

1. *Strongly condemns*, once again, the large number of summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions, which continue to take place in various parts of the world;

2. *Appeals urgently* to Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, regional inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to take effective action to combat and eliminate summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Rapporteur, Mr. S. Amos Wako,<sup>67</sup> and welcomes his recommendations for eliminating summary or arbitrary executions;

4. *Decides* to renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for two years and decides that he should continue to report annually and submit further conclusions and recommendations to the Commission at its forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions;

5. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur in carrying out his mandate to continue to examine situations of summary or arbitrary executions;

6. *Also requests* the Special Rapporteur in carrying out his mandate to respond effectively to information that comes before him, in particular when a summary or arbitrary execution is imminent or threatened or when such an execution has occurred;

7. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to organize training programmes and to support projects with a view to providing training or education for law enforcement officials on human rights issues connected with their work, and appeals to the international community to support endeavours to that end;

8. *Invites* Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to support the efforts made in United Nations forums towards the adoption of an international instrument that would incorporate international standards for the proper investigation of all cases of death in suspicious circumstances, including provision for adequate autopsy;

<sup>67</sup> E/CN.4/1988/22 and Add.1 and 2.

9. *Endorses* the proposals of the Special Rapporteur concerning the elements to be included in such international standards;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to consider ways of publicizing the work of the Special Rapporteur, as well as his recommendations, particularly within the framework of the information activities of the Centre for Human Rights;

12. *Urges* all Governments, in particular those that have consistently not responded to communications transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur, and all others concerned, to co-operate with and assist the Special Rapporteur so that he may carry out his mandate effectively;

13. *Again requests* the Secretary-General to continue to make the utmost effort in cases where the minimum standard of legal safeguards provided for in articles 6, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights appears not to have been respected;

14. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to consider the question of summary or arbitrary executions as a matter of high priority at its forty-fifth session under the agenda item entitled "Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories".

*16th plenary meeting  
27 May 1988*

**1988/39. Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/71 of 10 March 1988,<sup>7</sup>

1. *Authorizes* an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights to meet for a period of one week prior to the forty-fifth session of the Commission, in order to continue to elaborate a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to extend all facilities to the working group for its meetings prior to and during the forty-fifth session of the Commission and in order to enable it to continue its work on the elaboration of the draft declaration to transmit the report of the working group that met prior to and during the forty-fourth session of the Commission,<sup>68</sup> together with the annexes thereto, to all Member

<sup>68</sup> E/CN.4/1988/26.