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THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 99

QUESTION OF A CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zimbabwe; draft resolution

Question of a convention on the rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions as well as Commission on Human Rights and Economic and Social Council resolutions on the question of a convention on the rights of the child,

Reaffirming that children's rights require special protection and call for continuous improvement of the situation of children all over the world, as well as their development and education in conditions of peace and security,

Profoundly concerned that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical as a result of inadequate social conditions, natural disasters, armed conflicts, exploitation, illiteracy, hunger and disability and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

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

Convinced of the positive contribution which an international convention on the rights of the child, as a standard-setting accomplishment of the United Nations in the field of human rights, would make to protecting children's rights and ensuring their well-being,

Noting with appreciation that the first reading of a full text of a draft convention on the rights of the child has been completed by the open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights,

Bearing in mind that 1939 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Rights of the Child ^{1/} and of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Child,

Considering that these anniversaries could constitute an appropriate target date for completion of the work on a draft convention on the rights of the child and for its adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, in 1989,

Bearing in mind the necessity of taking due account of the cultural values and needs of developing countries in the second reading of a draft convention on the rights of the child, in order to achieve the universal recognition of those rights in the future convention,

1. Welcomes Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/40 of 27 May 1988, in which the Council authorized a meeting of an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights for a period of up to two weeks in November-December 1988 with a view to completing the second reading of a draft convention on the rights of the child prior to the forty-fifth session of the Commission;

2. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to give the highest priority to, and to make every effort at its session in 1989 to complete, a draft convention on the rights of the child and to submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session;

3. Invites all Member States to offer their active support to the completion of a draft convention on the rights of the child in 1989, the year of the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Rights of the Child and of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Child;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to provide all the support and facilities necessary for the successful completion and adoption of a draft convention on the rights of the child;

^{1/} Resolution 1386 (XIV).

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Adoption of the convention on the rights of the child".
