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Agenda item 38

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Colombia: draft resolution

Solidary human rights

The General Assembly,

Considering that 10 December next is the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/ which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations at the third session, held in Paris,

Bearing in mind that the promotion and protection of human rights are a fundamental purpose of the United Nations, embodied in the Charter signed at San Francisco and reflected in numerous international instruments,

Noting the importance of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol thereto and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 2/ which were adopted by the General Assembly in 1966 and which are fully effective today,

Aware of the many individual instruments which have been adopted within the framework of the United Nations to endow the Universal Declaration with mandatory procedures so as to ensure its effectiveness,

Emphasizing the interdependence of the peoples of the world, which was recognized by the Charter of the United Nations and subsequent instruments,

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI).

Taking into account the fact that peace and the effectiveness of basic human rights are interrelated,

Reaffirming the principle of international responsibility in the common welfare of mankind and the right of peoples to development,

Conscious of the importance of preserving the environment and maintaining the principles of environmental legislation which have been developed within the United Nations,

Recalling that the United Nations has declared that there are assets which are the common heritage of mankind,

Recognizing the relationship between the right to life and the right to maintain the genetic identity of the human species,

Bearing in mind that social progress and advances in science and technology have demonstrated the imperative necessity of acting to protect rights which are indispensable to the survival, dignity and well-being of mankind,

Convinced of the growing need for a further covenant on human rights which will include the new rights based on solidary principles,

1. Recognizes that the rights to peace, development, the environment, the individual and collective enjoyment of assets declared by the United Nations to be the common heritage of mankind and the right to the preservation of the genetic identity of the human species should be embodied in a new covenant on human rights;

2. Decides to study the possibility of preparing a draft covenant on solidary human rights which will include not only additional human rights of an individual character but also human rights which are simultaneously endowed with a collective character;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, in the light of the various declarations of the United Nations concerning such rights, the opinions expressed in the General Assembly by many delegations, the comments of Governments and the scientific works of international institutions of recognized authority, to prepare a report on the subject and to submit it for consideration at the forty-fourth session;

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session an item entitled "Preparation of a covenant on solidary rights".

