



General Assembly

UN LIBRARY

NOV 25 1983

UN/SA COLLECTION

Distr.  
LIMITED

A/C.3/38/L.31  
23 November 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-eighth session  
THIRD COMMITTEE  
Agenda item 97

TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

Australia, Austria, Greece and Netherlands: draft resolution

Principles of Medical Ethics

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 37/194 of 18 December 1982, by which it adopted the Principles of Medical Ethics relevant to the role of health personnel, particularly physicians, in the protection of prisoners and detainees against torture, and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Alarmed that not infrequently members of the medical profession or other health personnel are engaged in activities which are difficult to reconcile with the Principles of Medical Ethics,

Recognizing the need for the full application of the Principles of Medical Ethics, and desiring that they be given wide publicity,

1. Urges all Governments to take measures with a view to promoting the application of the Principles by all health personnel and Government officials, in particular those employed in institutions of detention or imprisonment;
2. Requests the Secretary-General to disseminate widely and in as many languages as possible, the Principles of Medical Ethics and to issue a pamphlet containing the text of the Principles of Medical Ethics in the six official languages of the United Nations;
3. Calls upon all Governments to give the Principles of Medical Ethics the widest possible distribution, in particular among medical and paramedical associations, and institutions of detention or imprisonment, in an official language of the State;

4. Invites all relevant intergovernmental organizations, in particular the World Health Organization, and non-governmental organizations concerned to bring the Principles of Medical Ethics to the attention of the widest possible group of individuals, especially those active in the medical and paramedical field;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly on steps taken by the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies as well as by Governments for the dissemination and implementation of the Principles of Medical Ethics.

---