

mentation of measures addressed to the welfare of the family as a whole, in order to achieve goals and objectives within the framework of national priorities and interests and the development process;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance awareness among decision makers and the public of the problems and needs of the family, as well as effective ways of meeting those needs;

4. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue studies and field-oriented activities, within the limits of available resources, aimed at enhancing the role of the family in development;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to study the data available in the reports and action plans developed in the course of recent United Nations activities such as the International Year of the Child and the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, as well as the World Assembly on Aging, the International Year of Disabled Persons and others, taking into account the need to strengthen policies for the welfare of the entire society;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to study further the impact of development on the family as a fundamental unit of society and to submit a progress report to the Council at its first regular session of 1985, through the Commission for Social Development at its twenty-ninth session, in consultation with the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, containing an analysis of policies influencing the role and nature of the family and its members in the context of development and, in particular, an examination of the changing forms and roles of families.

*14th plenary meeting
26 May 1983*

1983/24. Arbitrary or summary executions

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 35/172 of 15 December 1980, in which the Secretary-General was requested to report to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its seventh session on arbitrary or summary executions, and 36/22 of 9 November 1981, in which the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control was requested to examine the problem with a view to making recommendations,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 35/172,⁴⁶

Having regard to the provisions bearing on capital punishment in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁴⁷ in particular paragraph 1 of article 2 and articles 6, 14 and 15,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2393 (XXIII) of 26 November 1968, in which the Assembly invited Governments of Member States, *inter alia*, to ensure the most careful legal procedures and the greatest possible safeguards for the accused in capital cases in countries where the death penalty obtains,

Mindful that a substantive relationship exists between the issue of human rights, on the one hand, and criminal

justice, on the other, which should be further recognized and promoted within the United Nations system,

Concerned about the statement made in the 1980 quinquennial report of the Secretary-General on the question of capital punishment,⁴⁸ indicating that extrajudicial executions were increasing in certain countries, retentionist and abolitionist alike,

Taking note of resolution 5 of 5 September 1980 of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, in which the Congress deplored and condemned extra-legal executions,⁴⁹

Further recalling the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,⁵⁰ the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials⁵¹ and the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and related recommendations adopted by the United Nations,⁵²

Taking account of the work done by the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in the areas of summary or arbitrary executions, and disappearances of persons, and the more general question of the human rights and protection of persons held under any form of detention and subjected to torture or any other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment,

Hopeful that work currently undertaken by competent bodies of the United Nations with a view to drafting a convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, a draft body of principles for the protection of all persons under any form of detention or imprisonment and a draft code of medical ethics can be expedited,

1. *Strongly condemns and deplores* the brutal practice of summary executions in various parts of the world, and its apparent increase;

2. *Equally strongly condemns and deplores* the lack or non-observance in certain cases of the minimum legal guarantees and safeguards in respect of the use of capital punishment, which can lead to sham trials and arbitrary executions;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its eighth session a report on the progress of the work done by the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities;

4. *Decides* that the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control should further study the question of death penalties that do not meet the acknowledged minimum legal guarantees and safeguards, as contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other international instruments, and welcomes the Committee's intention that the issue should be discussed at the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of

⁴⁸ E/1980/9 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1-3.

⁴⁹ See *Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IV.4), part one.

⁵⁰ General Assembly resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

⁵¹ General Assembly resolution 34/169, annex.

⁵² See *First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Geneva, 22 August-3 September 1955: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 1956.IV.4), annex 1.

⁴⁶ E/AC.57/1982/4 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

⁴⁷ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, under the appropriate item;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to obtain information, from Member States and other available sources, on the development of legal provisions, the actual practice relating to the death penalty and the arbitrary character of some executions, and to make his next report on capital punishment available to the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for consideration.

*14th plenary meeting
26 May 1983*

1983/25. Functions and long-term programme of work of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1584 (L) of 21 May 1971 on criminality and social change, in which, *inter alia*, it decided that the members of the Advisory Committee of Experts on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders should be appointed by the Economic and Social Council on the recommendation of the Secretary-General, that the Committee should be renamed the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control and that it should report to the Commission for Social Development and, as appropriate on particular aspects, to the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling also, however, General Assembly resolution 32/60 of 8 December 1977, in which, *inter alia*, the Assembly decided that the members of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control should be elected by the Economic and Social Council for a term of four years, with half the membership being elected every two years, on the basis of the principle of equitable geographical distribution, from among experts who possess the necessary qualifications and professional or scientific knowledge in the field and are nominated by Member States, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1979/19 and 1979/30 of 9 May 1979 on the functions and long-term programme of work and on the enlargement of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control,

Recalling further its decision 1981/122 of 6 May 1981 and General Assembly resolution 36/21 of 9 November 1981,

Mindful of General Assembly resolution 32/60 and of resolution 35/171 of 15 December 1980, in which the Assembly endorsed the Caracas Declaration adopted by the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, annexed to that resolution, and the recommendations of the Congress relating to the new perspectives for international co-operation in respect of crime prevention,

Considering that in the Caracas Declaration the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council were invited to ensure that appropriate measures be taken to strengthen, as necessary, the activities of the competent United Nations organs concerned with crime prevention and the treatment of offenders,

Deeply concerned that crime continues to spread in many parts of the world, requiring continuing and ever-increasing attention on the part of the world community,

as demonstrated by the concern expressed by the General Assembly in resolutions 35/171 and 36/21,

Taking note of the important contributions of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control in elaborating the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials,⁵³ the report on methods and ways likely to be most effective in preventing crime and improving the treatment of offenders,⁵⁴ and its recommendations on capital punishment and arbitrary or summary executions,⁵⁵

Taking into account the fact that, in paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 32/60, the Committee was entrusted with the function of submitting to the Economic and Social Council appropriate proposals concerning the preparation of United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, and that the composition and the appointment procedures of the Committee were modified in paragraph 4 of the same resolution,

Bearing in mind that the United Nations congress on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders have a comprehensive scope and that their agenda normally cover the main subjects within the functions and programme of the Committee,

Convinced that the magnitude and fundamental importance of the functions entrusted to the Committee require not only the most informed, thoughtful and deliberate consideration by the Committee, but also the timely submission of its recommendations to, and action thereon by, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly,

1. *Decides* that henceforth the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control shall report directly to the Council;

2. *Decides also* that the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control will send its report to the Commission for Social Development and, where appropriate, to other relevant United Nations organs.

*14th plenary meeting
26 May 1983*

1983/26. Co-ordination and information in the field of youth

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1979/27 of 9 May 1979, 1980/25 of 2 May 1980, 1981/25 of 6 May 1981 and 1982/28 of 4 May 1982 on co-ordination and information in the field of youth,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 34/151 of 17 December 1979, 36/28 of 13 November 1981 and 37/48 of 3 December 1982 on the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace,

Noting that the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year will hold its third session at Vienna during the first half of 1984,

Considering that the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year, as well as the recommendations endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/48, will contribute to intensifying and improving the co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations and specialized agencies relating to youth,

⁵³ General Assembly resolution 34/169, annex.

⁵⁴ E/CN.5/536, annex IV.

⁵⁵ See E/CN.5/1983/2.