



**General Assembly**

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Item 97 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES AND WAYS AND MEANS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS  
SYSTEM FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND  
FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

National institutions for the protection and promotion  
of human rights

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 42/116 of 7 December 1987, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to transmit the updated report on national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, through the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council, to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session, for wide distribution as a United Nations handbook on national institutions.
2. The updated report was submitted to the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/1989/47 and Add.1) and is thus available to the General Assembly in accordance with paragraph 7 of its resolution 42/116.
3. The Centre for Human Rights is currently in the process of preparing the report on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, which will be issued as a publication within the framework of the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights. It will be published as a handbook in the six official languages of the United Nations and distributed worldwide.
4. The handbook will, in substance, reflect the report; its presentation and form may be modified so as to be clear and readable for a wider audience. The information on national institutions will be updated in keeping with information received from Governments.

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\* A/44/150.