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

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Wilfried GROLIG (Federal Republic of Germany)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1989, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled:

"Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms:

"(a) National institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights;

"(b) Right to development;

"(c) Development of public information activities in the field of human rights"

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item at its 34th, 35th, 43rd and 49th meetings, on 7, 15 and 20 November 1989. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/44/SR.34, 35, 43 and 49).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights (A/44/525);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the development of public information activities in the field of human rights (A/44/660 and Add.1);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on international conditions and human rights (A/44/696);

(d) Letter dated 7 February 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/44/118);

(e) Letter dated 7 February 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/44/119);

(f) Letter dated 2 March 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/44/158);

(g) Letter dated 19 July 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/44/409-S/20743 and Corr.1 and 2);

(h) Letter dated 22 September 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/44/551-S/20870);

(i) Letter dated 31 October 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/44/700-S/20934 and Corr.1);

(j) Letter dated 3 November 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/44/710-S/20948).

4. At the 34th meeting, on 7 November, the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights made an introductory statement (see A/C.3/44/SR.34).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/44/L.37

5. At the 43rd meeting, on 15 November, the Secretary of the Committee drew attention to omissions in the text of draft resolution A/C.3/44/L.37 and orally corrected it as follows:

In operative paragraph 11, after the words "World Campaign", add the following:

"and for the United Nations to harmonize its activities in the field of human rights with those of other organizations, including the International Committee

of the Red Cross, with regard to the dissemination of information on international humanitarian law and, with regard to education for human rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization".

6. At the same meeting, the representative of Australia, on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Senegal, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia, introduced the draft resolution (A/C.3/44/L.37) entitled "Development of public information activities in the field of human rights". Subsequently, Bolivia, Samoa and Vanuatu joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

7. At its 49th meeting, on 20 November, the Committee was informed that there were no programme budget implications pertaining to operative paragraph 8 of the draft resolution (see A/C.3/44/SR.49). The Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/44/L.37 without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/44/L.38

8. At the 43rd meeting, on 15 November, the representative of Yugoslavia, on behalf of Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Iraq, Jamaica, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Peru, the Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, the Sudan, Suriname, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/44/L.38) entitled "Right to development". Subsequently, Bangladesh and Vanuatu joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

9. At its 49th meeting, on 20 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/44/L.38 without a vote ^{1/} (see para. 18, draft resolution II).

10. The representatives of Japan and the Federal Republic of Germany, spoke in explanation of vote after the vote (see A/C.3/44/SR.49).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/44/L.39

11. At the 43rd meeting, on 15 November, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Colombia, the Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Yemen, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico,

^{1/} The representative of the United States of America indicated that his delegation was not participating in the action taken on the draft resolution.

Mozambique, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced draft resolution (A/C.3/44/L.39), entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms". Subsequently, Vanuatu, Cameroon and Guyana joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

12. At the 49th meeting, on 20 November, the representative of France (on behalf of 12 States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community) spoke in explanation of vote before the vote (see A/C.3/44/SR.49).

13. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/44/L.39 by a recorded vote of 113 to 1, with 25 abstentions (see para. 18, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Chad, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

14. The representatives of Sweden (on behalf also of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Norway), New Zealand and Japan spoke in explanation of vote after the vote (see A/C.3/44/SR.49).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/44/L.43

15. At the 43rd meeting, on 15 November, the representative of India, on behalf of Australia, Finland, India, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/44/L.43) entitled "National institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights". Subsequently, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Morocco and Senegal joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

16. At its 49th meeting, on 20 November 1989, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/44/L.43 without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolution IV).

17. The representative of Japan spoke in explanation of vote after the vote (see A/C.3/44/SR.49).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

18. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Development of public information activities
in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that activities to improve public knowledge in the field of human rights are essential to the fulfilment of the purposes of the United Nations set out in Article 1, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations and that carefully designed programmes of teaching, education and information are essential to the achievement of lasting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the relevant resolutions on this subject, in particular its resolution 43/128 of 8 December 1988 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1989/53 of 7 March 1989, 2/

Recognizing the catalytic effect of initiatives of the United Nations on national and regional public information activities in the field of human rights,

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

Recognizing also the valuable role that non-governmental organizations can play in those endeavours,

Believing that the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights is a valuable complement to the activities of the United Nations further to promote and to protect human rights world wide,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the development of public information activities in the field of human rights; 3/

2. Reaffirms the need for information materials on human rights to be carefully designed in clear and accessible form, to be tailored to regional and national requirements and circumstances with specific target audiences in mind and to be effectively disseminated in national and local languages and in sufficient volume to have the desired impact, and for effective use also to be made of the mass media, in particular radio and television and audio-visual technologies, in order to reach wider audiences, with priority being given to children, other young people and the disadvantaged, including those in isolated areas;

3. Appreciates the measures taken by the Secretariat to update, increase stocks and extend the language versions of human rights information materials, especially those on the basic United Nations human rights instruments and institutions, and, in that regard, urges the Secretariat to take measures to ensure the further production and effective dissemination of such documents in national and local languages, in co-operation with regional, national and local organizations as well as with Governments, making full and effective use of the United Nations information centres;

4. Encourages all Member States to make special efforts to provide, facilitate and encourage publicity for the activities of the United Nations in the field of human rights and to accord priority to the dissemination, in their respective national and local languages, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 4/ the International Covenants on Human Rights 5/ and other international conventions, as well as to information and education on the practical ways in which the rights and freedoms enjoyed under those instruments can be exercised;

5. Urges all Member States to include in their educational curricula materials relevant to a comprehensive understanding of human rights issues and encourages all those responsible for training in law and its enforcement, the armed forces, medicine, diplomacy and other relevant fields, to include appropriate human rights components in their programmes;

3/ A/44/660 and Add.1.

4/ Resolution 217 A (III).

5/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

6. Requests the Secretary-General to draw the attention of Member States to the teaching booklet on human rights, which could serve as a broad and flexible framework adaptable to national circumstances for the structuring and development of the teaching of human rights;

7. Notes the special value, under the advisory services and technical assistance programme, of regional and national training courses and workshops, in co-operation with Governments, regional and national organizations and non-governmental organizations, in promoting practical education and awareness in the field of human rights, and welcomes the priority given to the organization of such activities by the Centre for Human Rights;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the fullest effective deployment of the skills and resources of all concerned units of the Secretariat and to make available, within existing resources, and in particular from the budget of the Department of Public Information, adequate funding for developing practical and effective human rights information activities, including those within the programme of the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights;

9. Calls upon the Centre for Human Rights, which has primary responsibility within the United Nations system in the field of human rights, to co-ordinate the substantive activities of the World Campaign pursuant to the direction of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, and to serve as liaison with Governments, regional and national institutions, non-governmental organizations and concerned individuals in the development and implementation of the activities of the Campaign;

10. Calls upon the Department of Public Information, which has primary responsibility for public information activities, to co-ordinate the public information activities of the World Campaign and, in its responsibility as secretariat to the Joint United Nations Information Committee, to promote co-ordinated system-wide information activities in the field of human rights;

11. Stresses the need for close co-operation between the Centre for Human Rights and the Department of Public Information, inter alia, in the implementation of the aims established for the World Campaign and for the United Nations to harmonize its activities in the field of human rights with those of other organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, with regard to the dissemination of information on international humanitarian law and, with regard to education for human rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

12. Requests the Secretariat, in the implementation of the World Campaign, to take advantage, as much as possible, of the collaboration of non-governmental organizations, including the dissemination of human rights material, with a view to increasing universal awareness of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

13. Requests the Commission on Human Rights, at its forty-sixth session, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General, to give priority consideration to this question with a view to providing appropriate guidance on the aims and activities of the World Campaign;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution for consideration under the item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Right to development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the proclamation by the General Assembly at its forty-first session of the Declaration on the Right to Development, 6/

Recalling also its resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights relating to the right to development, and taking note of Commission resolution 1989/45 of 6 March 1989, 7/ approved by the Economic and Social Council,

Reiterating the importance of the right to development for all countries, in particular the developing countries,

Having considered the report of the Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development 8/ and all other relevant documents submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session,

Aware of the interest in the work of the Working Group shown by several Member States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations,

1. Expresses the hope that the replies of Governments, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations, including those active in development and human rights, submitted at the request of the Secretary-General based on Commission on Human

6/ Resolution 41/128, annex.

7/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

8/ E/CN.4/1989/10.

Rights resolution 1989/45 to offer additional, updated and more specific views on the subject of the implementation and further enhancement of the Declaration on the Right to Development, will contain such views and proposals;

2. Notes the invitation of the Commission to the Secretary-General to organize, within existing resources, a global consultation on the realization of the right to development, which would involve experts with relevant experience gained at the national level and representatives of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and interested non-governmental organizations, including those active in development and human rights, and which would focus on the fundamental problems posed by the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development, the criteria that might be used to identify progress and mechanisms for evaluating and stimulating such progress;

3. Expresses its hope that the results of that global consultation, the report on which is to be presented to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-sixth session, will substantially contribute to its future work on the implementation and further enhancement of the Declaration;

4. Endorses the view of the Commission that there is a need for a continuing evaluation mechanism so as to ensure the promotion, encouragement and reinforcement of the principles set forth in the Declaration;

5. Urges all relevant bodies of the United Nations system, particularly the specialized agencies, when planning their programmes of activities, to take due account of the Declaration and to make efforts to contribute to its application;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to inform the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-sixth session and the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session of the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system on the implementation of the Declaration;

7. Calls upon the Commission to decide at its forty-sixth session on the future course of action on the question, in particular on practical measures for the implementation and enhancement of the Declaration;

8. Invites the Commission to report on the question to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council;

9. Decides to consider this question at its forty-fifth session under the item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Charter of the United Nations the peoples of the United Nations declared their determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling also the purposes and principles of the Charter to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Emphasizing the significance and validity of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 9/ and of the International Covenants on Human Rights 10/ in promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling its resolution 32/130 of 16 December 1977, in which it decided that the approach to future work within the United Nations system with respect to human rights questions should take into account the concepts set forth in that resolution,

Recalling also its resolutions 34/46 of 23 November 1979, 35/174 of 15 December 1980, 36/133 of 14 December 1981, 38/124 of 16 December 1983, 39/145 of 14 December 1984, 40/124 of 13 December 1985, 41/131 and 41/133 of 4 December 1986, 42/119 of 7 December 1987 and 43/125 of 8 December 1988,

Taking into account Commission on Human Rights resolution 1985/43 of 14 March 1985, 11/

Reiterating that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of development opportunities is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals within nations,

9/ Resolution 217 A (III).

10/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

11/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1985, Supplement No. 2 (E/1985/22), chap. II, sect. A.

Recognizing that the human being is the main subject of development and that everyone has the right to participate in, as well as to benefit from, the development process,

Bearing in mind that the grave economic situation facing the developing countries noticeably affects the effective promotion and full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Reiterating once again that the establishment of the new international economic order is an essential element for the effective promotion and full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Reiterating also its profound conviction that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interdependent and that equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of civil and political rights and of economic, social and cultural rights,

Emphasizing the need for the creation, at the national and international levels, of conditions for the promotion and full protection of the human rights of individuals and peoples,

Recognizing that international peace and security are essential elements for the full realization of human rights, including the right to development,

Convinced that the resources that would be released by disarmament could contribute significantly to the development of all States, in particular to that of the developing countries,

Reiterating that co-operation among all nations on the basis of respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State, including the right of every people to choose freely its own socio-economic and political system, is essential for the promotion of peace and development,

Convinced that the primary aim of such international co-operation must be the achievement by all human beings of a life of freedom and dignity and freedom from want,

Concerned, however, about the occurrence of violations of human rights in the world,

Reaffirming that nothing in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or in the International Covenants on Human Rights may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person the right to engage in any activity or perform any act aimed at destroying any of the rights and freedoms proclaimed therein,

Affirming that the ultimate aim of development is the steady improvement of the well-being of the entire population, on the basis of its full participation in the process of development and a fair distribution of the benefits therefrom,

Considering that the efforts of the developing countries for their own development should be supported by an increased flow of resources and by the adoption of appropriate and substantive measures for creating an external environment conducive to such development,

Taking into account the documents adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, 12/

Bearing in mind also the stipulations of the final documents of the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Harare from 17 to 19 May 1989, particularly paragraphs 10 to 13 of the Economic Declaration, 13/

Emphasizing the special importance of the purposes and principles proclaimed in its Declaration on the Right to Development, 14/

Taking into account Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1989/15 of 2 March 1989 and 1989/45 of 6 March 1989, 11/

Reaffirming the importance of furthering the activities of the organs of the United Nations in the field of human rights in conformity with the principles of the Charter,

Emphasizing that Governments have the duty to ensure respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

1. Reiterates its request that the Commission on Human Rights continue its current work on overall analysis with a view to further promoting and strengthening human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the question of the programme and working methods of the Commission, and on the overall analysis of the alternative approaches and ways and means for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in accordance with the provisions and concepts of General Assembly resolution 32/130 and other relevant texts;

2. Affirms that a primary aim of international co-operation in the field of human rights is a life of freedom, dignity and peace for all peoples and for every human being, that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from promoting and protecting the others;

12/ A/44/551-S/20870, annex.

13/ See A/44/409-S/20743 and Corr.1 and 2, annex.

14/ Resolution 41/128, annex.

3. Reaffirms that equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of civil and political rights and of economic, social and cultural rights;
4. Reaffirms that it is of paramount importance for the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms that Member States should assume specific obligations by acceding to or ratifying international instruments in this field and, consequently, that the work within the United Nations system of setting standards in the field of human rights and universal acceptance and implementation of the relevant international instruments should be encouraged;
5. Reiterates once again that the international community should accord, or continue to accord, priority to the search for solutions to mass and flagrant violations of human rights of peoples and individuals affected by situations such as those mentioned in paragraph 1 (e) of General Assembly resolution 32/130, paying due attention also to other situations of violations of human rights;
6. Reaffirms its responsibility for achieving international co-operation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, and expresses its concern at serious violations of human rights, in particular mass and flagrant violations of those rights, wherever they occur;
7. Expresses concern at the present situation as regards the achievement of the objectives and goals for the establishment of the new international economic order, and at its adverse effects on the full realization of human rights, in particular the right to development;
8. Reaffirms that the right to development is an inalienable human right;
9. Reaffirms also that international peace and security are essential elements for achieving full realization of the right to development;
10. Recognizes that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interdependent;
11. Considers that all Member States must promote international co-operation on the basis of respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State, including the right of every people to choose freely its own socio-economic and political system, with a view to solving international economic, social and humanitarian problems;
12. Expresses concern at the disparity existing between established norms and principles and the actual situation of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the world;
13. Urges all States to co-operate with the Commission on Human Rights in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

14. Reiterates the need to create, at the national and international levels, conditions for the full promotion and protection of the human rights of individuals and peoples;

15. Reaffirms once again that, in order to facilitate the full enjoyment of all human rights without diminishing personal dignity, it is necessary to promote the rights to education, work, health and proper nourishment through the adoption of measures at the national level, including those that provide for the right of workers to participate in management, as well as the adoption of measures at the international level, including the establishment of the new international economic order;

16. Decides that the approach to future work within the United Nations system on human rights matters should also take into account the content of the Declaration on the Right to Development and the need for the implementation thereof;

17. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

National institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant resolutions concerning national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, notably its resolution 41/129 of 4 December 1986 and Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1987/40 of 10 March 1987, 15/ 1988/72 of 10 March 1988 16/ and 1989/52 of 7 March 1989, 17/

Emphasizing the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 18/ the International Covenants on Human Rights 19/ and other

15/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 5 (E/1987/18 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

16/ Ibid., 1988, Supplement No. 2 (E/1988/12 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

17/ Ibid., 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

18/ Resolution 217 A (III).

19/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

international instruments for promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Affirming that priority should be accorded to the development of appropriate arrangements at the national level to ensure the effective implementation of international human rights standards,

Conscious of the significant role that institutions at the national level can play in protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms and in developing and enhancing public awareness of those rights and freedoms,

Recognizing that the United Nations can play a catalytic role in assisting the development of national institutions by acting as a clearing house for the exchange of information and experience,

Mindful in this regard of the guidelines on the structure and functioning of national and local institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/46 of 14 December 1978,

Noting the diverse approaches adopted throughout the world for the protection and promotion of human rights at the national level and recognizing the value of such approaches,

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General; 20/
2. Reaffirms the importance of developing, in accordance with national legislation, effective national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights and of maintaining their independence and integrity;
3. Encourages Member States to establish or, where they already exist, to strengthen national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights and to incorporate those elements in national development plans;
4. Welcomes the increase in the number of national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights in various countries around the world;
5. Encourages initiatives on the part of Governments, regional, international and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations intended to strengthen existing national institutions and to establish such institutions where they do not exist;
6. Takes note with appreciation of the action taken by the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to co-operate with regional and national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights;

7. Encourages all Member States to take appropriate steps to promote the exchange of information and experience concerning the establishment and operation of such national institutions;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of experts, if necessary, and including materials submitted by Governments, a report containing conceptual models of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, to be submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-seventh session;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to respond favourably to requests from Member States for assistance in the establishment and strengthening of national institutions as part of the Programme for Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights;

10. Invites the Secretary-General to include in his updated report all the information provided by Governments and any additional information that Governments may wish to provide, with particular emphasis on the functioning of various models of national institutions in implementing international standards on human rights, as well as a list of existing national institutions with contact points and a bibliography of relevant materials;

11. Affirms the role of national institutions as agencies for the dissemination of human rights materials and other public information activities under the auspices of the United Nations;

12. Recognizes the constructive role that non-governmental organizations can play in relation to national institutions;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.
