

Further recalling the principle enshrined in Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter of the United Nations, which establishes that nothing contained in the Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State or shall require the Members to submit such matters to settlement under the Charter,

Reaffirming the legitimacy of the struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa for the elimination of *apartheid* and for the establishment of a society in which all the people of South Africa as a whole, irrespective of race, colour or creed, will enjoy equal and full political and other rights and participate freely in the determination of their destiny,

Also reaffirming the legitimacy of the struggle of all peoples under colonial and foreign domination, particularly the Palestinian people, for the exercise of their inalienable right to self-determination and national independence, which will enable them to decide freely on their own future,

Recognizing that the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of any State should be respected in the holding of elections,

Also recognizing that there is no single political system or single model for electoral processes equally suited to all nations and their peoples, and that political systems and electoral processes are subject to historical, political, cultural and religious factors,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right, freely and without external interference, to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter;

2. *Affirms* that it is the concern solely of peoples to determine methods and to establish institutions regarding the electoral process, as well as to determine the ways for its implementation according to their constitution and national legislation;

3. *Also affirms* that any extraneous activities that attempt, directly or indirectly, to interfere in the free development of national electoral processes, in particular in the developing countries, or that intend to sway the results of such processes, violate the spirit and letter of the principles established in the Charter and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

4. *Urges* all States to respect the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States and the sovereign right of peoples to determine their political, economic and social system;

5. *Strongly appeals* to all States to abstain from financing or providing, directly or indirectly, any other form of overt or covert support for political parties or groups and from taking actions to undermine the electoral processes in any country;

6. *Condemns* any act of armed aggression or threat or use of force against peoples, their elected Governments or their legitimate leaders;

7. *Solemnly declares* that only the total eradication of *apartheid* and the establishment of a non-racial, democratic society based on majority rule, through the full and free exercise of adult suffrage by all the people in a united

and non-fragmented South Africa, can lead to a just and lasting solution to the explosive situation in South Africa;

8. *Reaffirms once again* the legitimacy of the struggle of all peoples under colonial and foreign domination, particularly the Palestinian people, for the exercise of their inalienable right to self-determination and national independence, which will enable them to determine their political, economic and social system, without external interference;

9. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights, at its forty-sixth session, to give priority to the review of the fundamental factors that negatively affect the observance of the principle of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes, and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council,

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections".

82nd plenary meeting
15 December 1989

44/148. Human rights based on solidarity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁴ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁵ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,⁵ and other international instruments adopted by the United Nations concerning human rights,

Stressing that respect for the inherent dignity and for the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Convinced that the severe suffering of innumerable human beings throughout the world, particularly those in conditions of extreme poverty, calls for the strengthening of a common sense of human solidarity,

1. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to obtain from States, the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, as well as from other international organizations, including non-governmental organizations, their views and to study the question,

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session an item entitled "Human rights based on solidarity".

82nd plenary meeting
15 December 1989

44/149. Assistance to refugees and displaced persons in Malawi

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/132 of 7 December 1987 and 43/148 of 8 December 1988 on assistance to refugees and displaced persons in Malawi,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁷⁴

¹⁷⁴ A/44/403.

Having examined that part of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees¹³⁰ that deals with the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Malawi,

Gravely concerned about the continuing serious social and economic impact of the massive presence of refugees and displaced persons, as well as its far-reaching consequences for the country's long-term development process,

Appreciating the important measures that the Government of Malawi is taking in order to provide shelter, protection, food, education and health and other humanitarian services to thousands of refugees and displaced persons,

Recognizing the heavy burden placed on the people and Government of Malawi and the sacrifices they are making in caring for the refugees and displaced persons, given the country's limited social services and infrastructure, and the need for adequate international assistance to enable them to continue their efforts to provide assistance to the refugees and displaced persons,

Expressing its appreciation for the assistance rendered by Member States, the various organizations of the United Nations system, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other international, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations in support of the refugee programme in Malawi,

Bearing in mind the findings and recommendations of the inter-agency mission to Malawi,¹⁷⁵ particularly on the need to strengthen the country's socio-economic infrastructure in order to enable it to provide for the immediate humanitarian relief requirements of the refugees and displaced persons, as well as the long-term national development needs of the country,

Recognizing the need to view refugee-related development projects within local and national development plans,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Commends* the measures that the Government of Malawi is taking to provide material and humanitarian assistance to refugees and displaced persons, in spite of the serious economic situation it faces, and stresses the need for additional resources to lessen the impact of the presence of refugees and displaced persons on the country's long-term development process;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, donor countries and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their efforts to assist the refugees and displaced persons in Malawi;

4. *Expresses grave concern* at the serious and far-reaching consequences of the massive presence of refugees and displaced persons in the country and its implications for the long-term socio-economic development of the whole country;

5. *Appeals* to Member States, the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international financial institutions to continue providing the Government of Malawi with the necessary resources for the implementation of development assistance projects in regions affected by the presence of refugees and displaced persons, as well as for the development programmes now being implemented;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary financial and material assistance for the full implementation of ongoing projects in the areas affected by the presence of refugees and displaced persons and for programmes now being implemented;

7. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue coordination with the appropriate specialized agencies in order to consolidate and ensure the continuation of essential services to the refugees and displaced persons in their settlements;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution.

82nd plenary meeting
15 December 1989

44/150. Humanitarian assistance to refugees and displaced persons in Djibouti

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/126 of 7 December 1987 and 43/142 of 8 December 1988 on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti, as well as all its previous resolutions on this question,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti,¹⁷⁶

Deeply concerned about the recent inflow of over thirty-five thousand externally displaced persons, which has added considerably to the burden already being carried by Djibouti in respect of refugees in the country,

Noting that Djibouti is considered one of the least developed countries and that the recent inflow of large numbers of externally displaced persons and the continued presence of refugees have severely strained the already inadequate social and economic infrastructure,

Noting also that the present situation has required the diversion of scarce resources from development to emergency relief and precautionary measures,

Appreciating the determined and sustained efforts made by the Government of Djibouti to cope with the growing needs of refugees and externally displaced persons,

Noting with appreciation the steps taken by the Government of Djibouti, in close co-operation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to implement appropriate and lasting solutions with respect to the refugees and externally displaced persons in Djibouti,

Noting with satisfaction that over six thousand refugees have been settled and integrated in Djibouti, despite the physical, social and economic obstacles that the country faces,

Appreciating the assistance provided by Member States, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and voluntary agencies to the ongoing relief and rehabilitation programmes for the refugees and externally displaced persons in Djibouti,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti and appreciates the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to keep the situation under constant review;

¹⁷⁵ See A/43/536, sect. III.

¹⁷⁶ A/44/402.