

UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
GENERAL

A/6687  
9 August 1967

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-second session

INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS\*

Note by the Secretary-General

(a) Programme of measures and activities to be undertaken  
in connexion with the International Year for Human  
Rights: report of the Secretary-General

1. The General Assembly, in resolution 1961 (XVIII) of 12 December 1963, designated the year 1968 as International Year for Human Rights, and arranged for the preparation of a programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
2. Following the adoption in 1965 of an interim programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights, as set out in the annex to resolution 2081 (XX), the General Assembly at its twenty-first session, in resolution 2217 A (XXI) of 19 December 1966, approved the further programme of measures and activities envisaged for Member States, the United Nations, the specialized agencies and national and other international organizations, as set out in the annex to that resolution.
3. In the same resolution, the General Assembly invited Member States, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and the national and international organizations concerned to devote the year 1968 to intensified efforts and undertakings in the field of human rights, including the measures set out in the programme, and to keep the Secretary-General informed of their plans and preparations. The Assembly invited the Secretary-General to

\* Item 59 of the provisional agenda.

make any necessary arrangements to facilitate the co-operation of competent regional intergovernmental organizations in observing 1968 as International Year for Human Rights, as provided in resolution 2081 (XX). It requested the Secretary-General to co-ordinate the measures and activities undertaken by Member States, the United Nations, the specialized agencies, regional organizations and the national and international organizations concerned, and in particular to collect and disseminate at regular intervals information on activities contemplated or undertaken by them in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights. The General Assembly further requested the Secretary-General to submit an interim report on the plans, preparations, arrangements, measures and activities, referred to in the resolution, to the Assembly at its twenty-second session. The Secretary-General will submit the interim report in a separate document.

(b) Report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Human Rights

4. The General Assembly, in resolution 2081 (XX) of 20 December 1965, inter alia, decided that an International Conference on Human Rights should be convened during 1968 and established a Preparatory Committee to complete the preparation for the Conference.
5. At its twenty-first session, having considered the first progress report of the Preparatory Committee<sup>1/</sup> and related matters, the General Assembly in resolution 2217 B, C and D (XXI) of 19 December 1966 made a number of decisions concerning the Conference and the membership of the Preparatory Committee.
6. Accepting with appreciation the invitation extended by the Government of Iran, the General Assembly decided that the International Conference on Human Rights would be held at Teheran, preferably during the spring of 1968, on a date to be determined by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Preparatory Committee and the Iranian Government. In accordance with this decision it was subsequently determined by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Preparatory Committee and the Iranian Government, that the Conference would be held at Teheran from 22 April to 13 May 1968.

---

<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 63, document A/6354.

7. The General Assembly invited States Members of the United Nations, States members of the specialized agencies, States Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and States that the General Assembly decided specially to invite, to participate in the Conference and to include among their representatives eminent persons whose qualifications in the field of human rights would enable them to make valuable contributions to the work of the Conference. The competent specialized agencies were invited to send observers to the Conference.
8. The General Assembly took note of the first progress report of the Preparatory Committee and expressed its appreciation to the Committee for the work it had accomplished. It requested the Committee to continue its work in accordance with paragraph 14 of resolution 2081 (XX), taking into account such observations as it might receive from the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on the Status of Women, and bearing in mind the discussions at the twenty-first session of the General Assembly, the decisions taken in resolution 2217 (XXI) and the adoption of the International Covenants on Human Rights, and to report further on the progress of the preparation of the Conference to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session.
9. Recognizing the significance of the proposed Conference and the importance of the preparatory work to its success, the General Assembly decided to enlarge the membership of the Preparatory Committee from seventeen to twenty-three members and requested the President of the General Assembly to appoint six additional members of the Committee - two from African countries, two from Asian countries and two from Latin American countries. In pursuance of this request the President of the General Assembly appointed the following Member States: Colombia, Kenya, Lebanon, Mauritania, Pakistan and Panama. As enlarged, the Preparatory Committee is composed of the following Member States: Canada, Colombia, France, India, Iran, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Mauritania, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Somalia, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.
10. The Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Human Rights, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2217 C (XXI), continued its work in 1967. Its report to the twenty-second session of the General Assembly has been circulated in document A/6670 and Corr.1.