

Taking into account Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/36 of 10 May 1979,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report on the work relating to the over-all analysis of the United Nations approach to human rights⁴⁵ submitted to the General Assembly by the Commission on Human Rights, through the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with paragraph 2 (a) of General Assembly resolution 32/130;

2. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue at its thirty-sixth session its ongoing work on the over-all analysis with a view to further promoting and improving human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the question of the Commission's programme and working methods, and on the over-all 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 resolution 32/130;

3. *Reiterates* 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 both civil and political, and economic, social and cultural rights;

4. *Reaffirms* the absolute necessity, under all circumstances, of eliminating massive and flagrant violations of human rights and of the rights of peoples and individuals affected by situations such as those enumerated in paragraph 1 (e) of resolution 32/130;

5. *Reaffirms also* that it is of paramount importance for the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms that Member States should undertake specific obligations through accession to or ratification of international instruments in this field and that, consequently, the standard-setting work within the United Nations system in the field of human rights and the universal acceptance and implementation of the relevant international instruments should be encouraged;

6. *Emphasizes* the need to create conditions at the national and international levels for the full promotion and protection of the human rights of individuals and peoples;

7. *Recognizes* that, in order fully to guarantee human rights and complete personal dignity, it is necessary to guarantee the right to work, participation of workers in management, and the right to education, health and proper nourishment, through the adoption of measures at the national and international levels, including the establishment of the new international economic order;

8. *Emphasizes* that the right to development is a human right and that equality of opportunity for development is as much a prerogative of nations as of individuals within nations;

9. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights, at its thirty-sixth session, to consider the existing human and other resources that the Division of Human Rights of the Secretariat has at its disposal for the implementation of General Assembly resolutions, on the basis of complete data which the Secretary-General is requested to provide to it, and thereafter to make recommendations, through the Economic and Social Council, to the Assembly at its thirty-fifth session, with a view to further improving the working of the Division;

⁴⁵ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 6 (E/1979/36)*, chap. IX, sect. A.

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give, through the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, priority to the holding in 1980 of a seminar, as already decided by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1979/30, on the effect of the present unjust international economic order on the economies of developing countries and the obstacle that this constitutes for the implementation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular for the right to enjoy an adequate standard of living as stated in article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General and concerned organs and bodies of the United Nations system to implement fully the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/36;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, taking into account relevant information already available within the United Nations, and to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session a study on the nature and extent to which the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms is affected by present international conditions, with particular reference to situations resulting from *apartheid*, from all forms of racial discrimination, from colonialism, neo-colonialism and imperialism, from policies tending to divide the world into spheres of influence, from the arms race, from foreign domination and occupation, from aggression and threats against national sovereignty, national unity and territorial integrity, from refusal to recognize the fundamental rights of peoples to self-determination and of every nation to the exercise of full sovereignty over its wealth and natural resources, from intervention and interference in the internal affairs of States, particularly with reference to developing countries, as well as from the existence of the unjust system of international economic relations, taking also into account the conclusions of the seminar mentioned in paragraph 10 above;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the specialized agencies concerned and to all United Nations bodies that deal with human rights;

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-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".

76th plenary meeting
23 November 1979

34/47. Services of the Secretariat concerned with human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling the determination of the peoples of the United Nations 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,

Recalling especially that one of the most important purposes of the United Nations is 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 fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Mindful of the important contribution which the Division of Human Rights of the Secretariat has made to United Nations activities for the promotion and protection of human rights since the inception of the Organization,

Believing, however, that the activities of the human rights sector of the Secretariat should be enhanced so as better to enable it to meet the needs of the Organization and the international community, particularly after the entry into force of the International Covenants on Human Rights⁴⁶ and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*,⁴⁷ and bearing in mind policy-making decisions of the General Assembly such as resolution 32/130 of 16 December 1977,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on organizational nomenclature in the Secretariat,⁴⁸ the general direction of which was endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 32/204 of 21 December 1977,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the redesignation of the Division of Human Rights as a Centre for Human Rights, in the light of the views expressed on the proposed redesignation at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General to ensure that adequate financial and other resources are allocated to the sector of the Secretariat concerned with human rights, so as to enable it to discharge its functions, in the light of the results of the relevant study to be conducted by the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-sixth session in accordance with paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 34/46 of 23 November 1979;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*76th plenary meeting
23 November 1979*

34/48. Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for the improvement of the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling that one of the purposes of the United Nations under Article 1 of the Charter is to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁴⁹

Bearing in mind its resolution 33/105 of 16 December 1978, in which it requested the Commission on Human Rights to take into account, in continuing its work on the over-all analysis of the United Nations approach to human rights, the views expressed on the various proposals during the general debate on the item at the thirty-second and thirty-third sessions of the General Assembly, including a post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,

⁴⁶ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁴⁷ Resolution 3068 (XXVIII), annex.

⁴⁸ A/C.5/32/17.

⁴⁹ Resolution 217 A (III).

Considering that the Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights was nevertheless unable, in its consideration of the over-all analysis,⁵⁰ to make a thorough evaluation of the proposal to create a post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,

Decides to consider at its thirty-fifth session the question of the creation of a post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights 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".

*76th plenary meeting
23 November 1979*

34/49. National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/123 of 16 December 1977 and 33/46 of 14 December 1978, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolutions 23 (XXXIV) of 8 March 1978⁵¹ and 24 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979,⁵² concerning national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 34/46 of 23 November 1979, it emphasized the need to create conditions at the national and international levels for the full promotion and protection of the human rights of individuals and peoples,

Mindful of the guidelines on the structure and functioning of national and local institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights adopted by the Seminar on National and Local Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, held at Geneva from 18 to 29 September 1978,⁵³ and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/46,

Mindful also of the conclusions of the Seminar on Recourse Procedures Available to Victims of Racial Discrimination and Activities to be Undertaken at the Regional Level, held at Geneva from 9 to 20 July 1979,⁵⁴

1. *Invites* all Member States to take appropriate steps for the establishment of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, bearing in mind the guidelines referred to above;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of the integrity and independence of such national institutions, in accordance with national legislation;

3. *Draws attention* to the constructive role which national non-governmental organizations can play in the work of national institutions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in submitting to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session the report requested in paragraph 6 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 24 (XXXV), to draw also upon other relevant sources, such as the reports and documents of the Seminar on National and Local Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human

⁵⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 6 (E/1979/36)*, chap. IX, sect. A.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*, 1978, *Supplement No. 4 (E/1978/34)*, chap. XXVI, sect. A.

⁵² *Ibid.*, 1979, *Supplement No. 6 (E/1979/36)*, chap. XXIV, sect. A.

⁵³ See ST/HR/SER.A/2 and Add.1.

⁵⁴ See ST/HR/SER.A/3.