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59 (e), 84 and 125

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE  
TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS  
ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

QUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT: UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR  
POPULATION ACTIVITIES

INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

MEASURES TO ASSIST THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND DOMINICA FOLLOWING  
THE SEVERE DISASTERS CAUSED IN THOSE COUNTRIES BY HURRICANE  
"DAVID" AND HURRICANE "FREDERIC"

Letter dated 16 October 1979 from the Permanent Representative of  
Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with the established practice of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, it is the responsibility of the host country of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference to transmit the texts of the resolutions adopted to the United Nations General Assembly. Thus, since Venezuela was the venue of the 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference, which was held at Caracas from 13 to 21 September 1979, I have pleasure in transmitting to you herewith the resolutions adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Council at the 66th Conference.

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Accordingly, I should be grateful if you would arrange for these resolutions to be circulated to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda items 18, 24, 25, 26, 42, 48, 53, 59 (e), 84 and 125.

(Signed) Germán NAVA CARRILLO  
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX I

Resolutions adopted unanimously by the Inter-Parliamentary  
Council at its 125th session

A

The human rights situation in Latin America, particularly  
in Argentina, Chile, Nicaragua and Uruguay

(adopted on 21 September 1979)

The Inter-Parliamentary Council,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation of Human Rights in Latin America, particularly in Argentina, Chile, Nicaragua and Uruguay, established by the Council at its 124th session in April 1979 and which met at Geneva from 10 to 13 July 1979,

1. Takes note of chapter I of the report, entitled "The human rights situation in Latin America", in which the general situation with regard to human rights is examined;
2. Approves chapters II, III and V of the report on the situation in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, and endorses the recommendations contained in those chapters;
3. Expresses particular concern about the fate of missing persons in Argentina in the light of the promulgation of Law No. 22088 of 12 September 1979, which enables the authorities to declare that such persons are presumed dead;
4. Takes note of chapter IV of the report on the situation in Nicaragua, as well as of the changes which have occurred in that country since the report was prepared; views with profound satisfaction the end of the dictatorial régime, salutes the people of Nicaragua at the beginning of their process of democratization and hopes to be able to count on the presence in its midst, at an early date, of parliamentarians elected at free elections expressing the will of the people of Nicaragua;
5. Recommends to the National Groups:
  - (a) To ensure the widest possible distribution of the report of the Special Committee and, in particular, to bring this document to the attention of their respective Parliaments and Governments so that they may take appropriate action and make its contents known to public opinion;
  - (b) To request their Governments to refrain from granting military or financial assistance to the Governments of Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, without prejudice to the humanitarian assistance given to the people of those countries;

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(c) To do all in their power to ensure that their respective States accede, if they have not already done so, as soon as possible and without reservations, to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto; to ensure that possible reservations are removed; and to promote, as soon as possible, domestic legislation permitting the implementation of these instruments;

(d) To sponsor exiled Latin American parliamentarians in order to ensure their return to their countries;

(e) To inform the Secretary-General regularly of the measures taken and the results achieved;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Special Committee and this resolution of the Council to the authorities of the countries concerned and to all competent organizations;

7. Requests the Special Committee to continue its work and to report on the human rights situation in Chile, Argentina and Uruguay to the forthcoming session of the Council, to be held at Oslo in April 1980.

B

International Conference of Parliamentarians  
on Population and Development

(adopted on 16 September 1979)

The Inter-Parliamentary Council,

Having studied the report of the Secretary-General on the results of the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, co-sponsored by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), which was held in Colombo from 28 August to 1 September 1979,

Considering that, in its Final Declaration, the Conference requested the Inter-Parliamentary Union to give particular attention to the problems of population and development, and to undertake and support all appropriate action in this field,

Considering that the action contemplated includes, in particular, the organization of regional and subregional interparliamentary meetings,

1. Thanks the National Group of Sri Lanka for its generous hospitality;
2. Takes note with satisfaction of the results of the Conference;

3. Considers that the Inter-Parliamentary Union should give active assistance to the implementation of the objectives defined by the Conference;

4. Recommends to the National Groups:

(a) To support, in the context of their Parliaments and Governments, the recommendations of the Final Declaration;

(b) To support the national and regional programmes of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities;

(c) To follow all population problems with particular attention;

(d) To encourage all initiatives for the study of population problems in the appropriate bodies of their Parliaments;

5. Requests the Economic and Social Committee to consider the inclusion in its agenda of the topic "Population and development" for debate at a future Inter-Parliamentary Conference;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to study with the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities the ways and means of continuing the co-operation undertaken in this field and to report to the Council at its next session.

ANNEX II

Resolutions adopted by the 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,  
held at Caracas from 13 to 21 September 1979

I

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT OF THE  
10TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT**

*(Resolution adopted unanimously)*

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Bearing in mind the contribution of the 10th Special Session of the UN General Assembly, which was initiated by non-aligned countries, towards highlighting the gravity of the problems facing the international community in the field of disarmament and identifying the steps conducive to their solution,

Stressing the role of Parliaments and parliamentarians in encouraging the taking of urgent measures in order to secure the implementation of the recommendations in the Final Document of the 10th Special Session of the UN General Assembly,

Pointing to the significance of the resolution unanimously adopted at the 1978 spring session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union entitled "The Special Session of the UN General Assembly - the Role of Parliaments and Parliamentarians in Building a World Free from Weapons and War", as well as of the other documents on disarmament adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in particular, in Madrid, Sofia and Bonn,

Reaffirming that nuclear weapons pose the most serious threat to mankind and that all nuclear-weapon States, in particular those which possess the largest nuclear arsenals, or those States which have adequate technology to produce such weapons in the near future, bear a special responsibility for achieving the goals of nuclear disarmament,

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Aware of the fact that an effective disarmament strategy must be accompanied by continuing measures to eliminate tensions and injustice in the world,

Taking into account that immense quantities of arms and the greatest military troop strength are accumulated and concentrated in Europe, and considering that the building of a system of lasting security and co-operation in Europe would contribute to the maintenance of peace and the strengthening of security in the entire world,

Convinced that concrete steps towards disarmament will be facilitated by confidence-building measures contributing to prediction and assessment of political and military behaviour,

Considering the link between disarmament and the economic and social progress of the developing countries,

1. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments to contribute to the implementation of the decision reached by the Special Session of the UN General Assembly regarding the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action;
2. Welcomes the decision to convene a second Special Session of the UN General Assembly devoted to Disarmament at New York in 1982 and calls upon all member States of the United Nations to start, at an appropriate time, the preparation and establishment of the agenda of this session, taking into account the existing priorities of disarmament negotiations in the nuclear and conventional spheres and the search for possible ways leading to an effective solution of disarmament problems at the earliest possible time;
3. Appeals to all countries, in particular nuclear-weapon States, to conduct disarmament negotiations on all priority subjects in the nuclear and conventional fields by taking into consideration the link between stability, security and peace emphasized in the Final Document of the Special Session of the UN General Assembly;
4. Calls upon the nuclear-weapon States involved in the negotiations on the conclusion of a treaty on the prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests, to submit the draft

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of such a treaty to the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva as soon as possible;

5. Urges all States, in particular all nuclear-weapon States, pending the conclusion of a treaty on the general and complete prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests, to refrain from conducting any tests of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices;
6. Urges the United States of America and the USSR to ratify the SALT II agreements without undue delay;
7. Calls upon the United States of America and the USSR to start negotiations on a SALT III agreement aimed at an effective and gradual reduction of nuclear weapons;
8. Calls upon all the nuclear Powers to cease the qualitative and quantitative escalation of the nuclear arms race;
9. Recalls that, through the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 1 July 1968, these States undertook to reduce the vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons, parallel to the undertaking of other States to halt the horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons, and that, since that time, approximately one hundred of the latter have carried out their promises, but bitterly regrets that the undertakings given by the nuclear States have not been followed up and that they have continued to intensify the vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons;
10. Urges all nuclear-weapon States to proceed with negotiations towards agreements at appropriate stages and with adequate and effective measures of international verification and control for :
  - (a) The cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear weapons and means of their delivery;
  - (b). The cessation of the production of all types of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery and of the production of fissionable material for purposes of weaponry;

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- (c) A comprehensive, phased programme with agreed time frames for a progressive and balanced reduction of stockpiles of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to the ultimate and complete prohibition of their use and to their elimination;

11. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments to prevent horizontal and vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons and guarantee the non-discriminatory use of nuclear energy by all countries for peaceful purposes, under effective international safeguards administered by the International Atomic Energy Agency, taking into account both the need to prevent the diversion of nuclear technology, equipment and material to non-peaceful purposes and the special needs of the developing countries, and to consider the following steps:

- (a) The taking of further measures to develop an international consensus on the strengthening and consolidation of the nuclear non-proliferation régime, based primarily on the adherence of all States to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the urgent application of the measures outlined in the relevant paragraphs of that Treaty, as well as on the system of safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency, while ensuring access by all States on a non-discriminatory basis to the use of atomic energy and nuclear technology for peaceful purposes;
- (b) The establishment, where appropriate, of additional nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely agreed upon by the States of the regions concerned, with the co-operation of all nuclear-weapon States, guaranteeing that the latter will respect the status of such regions and renounce the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against the States of such regions;
- (c) The giving of legally binding guarantees by those nuclear-weapon States which have not yet provided them to refrain from using or threatening to use nuclear weapons in any form, under any circumstances or on any pretext whatsoever against non-nuclear-weapon States which have adhered to the Non-Proliferation Treaty or undertaken to refrain from producing and acquiring nuclear weapons and have not associated

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themselves with a nuclear-weapon State in carrying out or sustaining an attack on another State;

12. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments:

- (a) To contribute to the conclusion of a convention prohibiting the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and regulating their destruction and the destruction of their production facilities and a convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons;
- (b) To contribute to the negotiations in the Committee on Disarmament aimed at elaborating the text of an agreement on the prohibition of the development and production of new types of weapons of mass destruction based on new scientific principles and achievements as they are identified and new systems of such weapons and at facilitating the preparation of special agreements on individual types of these weapons;
- (c) To promote UN efforts to conclude agreements on limiting and/or prohibiting the use of certain conventional weapons through the achievement of positive results at the Conference to be held this year on Prohibitions or Restrictions of Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects;
- (d) To multiply endeavours for the deepening of political and military détente on the European continent, in particular by the efficient preparation of the Madrid Conference, and to work out effective measures for the reduction of the existing levels of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe, with strict respect for the principles of ensuring equal security for all participating States;
- (e) To emphasize the need to convene a European disarmament conference and, as soon as the international situation permits, a conference on disarmament and security in the Mediterranean;

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- (f) To work consistently for increasing mutual confidence among States and to promote actively measures aimed at preventing the increase of military tension on a European and world-wide scale and at lessening and averting the risk of war;
- (g) To contribute to the propagation of universal détente in the military sphere by seeking in particular to achieve, in the European context, objectives such as the conclusion of an agreement among the parties concerned within the framework of the negotiations on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe, and the limitation of nuclear missiles or other weapons on the basis of real parity;
- (h) To apply the same sort of initiatives to areas of America, Africa and Asia and, as a general rule, to all zones of conflict in the world;
- (i) To support consultations which should be carried out among major arms supplier and recipient countries on the limitation of all types of international transfer of conventional weapons, based in particular on the principle of undiminished security of the parties with a view to promoting or enhancing stability at a lower military level, taking into account the need of all States to protect their security, as well as the inalienable right to self-determination and independence of peoples under colonial or foreign domination and the obligations of States to respect that right, in accordance with the UN Charter;
- (j) To contribute to the initiation of negotiations for the cessation of the conventional arms race among States with the largest military arsenals and among military alliances, the prohibition of the development, production and deployment of conventional weapons of great destructive power and for exclusively offensive purposes; the limitation and gradual reduction of armaments of all States to the agreed levels, taking into account the need of States to protect their security and provide agreed manpower for the United Nations peace forces, and the dismantling of military bases on foreign territories and prohibition of building new ones or extending those already in existence;

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13. Calls upon all Parliaments and Governments to contribute to efforts for priority to be given during the debates at the UN Disarmament Commission, apart from consideration of a comprehensive programme on disarmament, to the following questions:
  - (a) Consideration of various aspects of the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament, in order to expedite negotiations aimed at an effective elimination of the danger of nuclear war;
  - (b) Harmonization of views on concrete steps to be undertaken by States regarding a gradual, agreed reduction of military budgets, troop levels and armaments, including the adoption of an appropriate percentage of reduction of military expenditure based on verified UN data, and reallocation of resources released as a result of the implementation of disarmament measures to the economic and social development of all nations contributing to the bridging of the economic gap between developed and developing countries;
14. Emphasizes that the main prerequisites in disarmament negotiations are the good political will and determination of participating parties to achieve real progress in the field of disarmament, leading to enhanced security of States, and the objective and detailed study required by the subject of arms limitations;
15. Emphasizes at the same time the need to use fully and effectively the existing mechanisms of disarmament negotiations, and particularly the forum of the Geneva Committee on Disarmament, with a view to the rapid elaboration of new disarmament agreements;
16. Stresses that, at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation;
17. Urges Parliaments and Governments:
  - (a) To declare themselves most resolutely against any form of aggression and for the exclusively peaceful and negotiated settlement of all international disputes and the elimination of hotbeds of tension and

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conflict, and to support the inclusion in legally binding international agreements of the pledge by all States to respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States without exception and not to resort to armed actions against other States, contrary to the Charter of the United Nations;

- (b) To make a sustained contribution to the success of the work of the Committee on Disarmament in its search for viable solutions;
18. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments to guarantee that test-ban, disarmament and arms control agreements provide for appropriate national and international instruments for verification and control aimed at ensuring the implementation of such agreements by all parties concerned;
19. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments to publish detailed information on the total volume of their arms production and their arms supplies to other countries;
20. Welcomes the decision taken by the UN General Assembly at its 10th Special Session to hold Disarmament Week starting 24 October, the day of the foundation of the United Nations, and recommends that the National Groups actively promote the implementation of this decision in order to foster the objectives of disarmament;
21. Urges all Parliaments and National Groups:
- (a) To conduct a large-scale campaign to mobilize public opinion all over the world with a view to halting the arms race as soon as possible;
- (b) To promote broad parliamentary contacts on a regional and sub-regional level in order to contribute to the consolidation of a climate of universal détente and confidence, and to support the steps taken in the field of disarmament;
- (c) To inform world public opinion about the true situation in the field of disarmament negotiations and the serious consequences of the arms race,

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## II

### THE MIDDLE EAST QUESTION AND THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM

*(Resolution adopted by 494 votes to 110,  
with 288 abstentions)*

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Considering that the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East is essential for all the peoples in that area, the security of the Mediterranean basin and the maintenance of world peace,

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, particularly those of the 64th and 65th Inter-Parliamentary Conferences in Sofia and Bonn, and of the 122nd session of the Inter-Parliamentary Council in Lisbon, that refer to the appropriate resolutions of the United Nations on the Middle East,

Reaffirming the inadmissibility of the occupation of territories by force,

Deeply concerned about the numerous losses of human lives and large-scale destruction suffered by civilian populations, particularly in Lebanon, about the continuous deterioration of the situation in southern Lebanon, due especially to the repeated Israeli attacks, about the non-implementation of the resolutions of the UN Security Council and about the obstacles that the UN security force encounters in carrying out its mission,

Recognizing the importance of the efforts made to establish peace in the Middle East,

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Deploring the interruption of the discussions that had been initiated with a view to the establishment of a negotiating procedure among all the parties concerned, including the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and the persistence of tensions in this region,

1. Reaffirms that any settlement of the conflict in the Middle East must respect the principles set out in resolutions 242 and 338 of the UN Security Council and resolution 3236 (XXIX) of the UN General Assembly;
2. Considers that there can only be a comprehensive settlement negotiated by all the parties concerned, including the PLO, and that this settlement must sanction the withdrawal by Israel from all the occupied Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem, recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, especially their right to self-determination, including the creation of an independent State, and guarantee the security and territorial integrity of all States in the region, including Israel, within secure, recognized and internationally guaranteed boundaries;
3. Denounces, as factors delaying the achievement of a peaceful solution, actions such as the establishment of settlements in the occupied Arab territories, condemns the repeated attacks on Lebanon, requests Israel to stop those attacks immediately, and condemns the continued acts of terrorism against the civilian populations in Lebanon as well as in Israel;
4. Calls on the members of the Union to use their best endeavours in conformity with the recommendations of resolution 450 (1979) of the UN Security Council for the re-establishment of the authority and sovereignty of the State of Lebanon over the whole of its territory;
5. Calls on all parties to the conflict to facilitate the implementation of negotiating procedures for achieving a comprehensive settlement of the conflict and ensuring a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

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### III

## THE LEGISLATIVE ASPECTS OF SPACE LAW

*(Resolution adopted by 682 votes to 39, with 65 abstentions)*

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Recalling the resolution on space law unanimously adopted by the 52nd Inter-Parliamentary Conference at Belgrade in 1963,

Confirming that the exploration and use of outer space and its celestial bodies are the common province of all mankind and its nations, and that the peaceful exploration, exploitation and use of the resources of outer space will improve the quality of life of all peoples and all nations of the world,

Noting with satisfaction the orderly development of space law through the achievements of the United Nations, and the work of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,

Recalling its commitment to the legal principles established by the 1967 Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and other Celestial Bodies, the 1968 Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, the 1972 Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects, and the 1975 Convention on the Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space,

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Expressing satisfaction with the elaboration, in 1979, of a draft Agreement governing the activities of States on the moon and other celestial bodies by the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,

Considering that the spectacular progress of space technology and the increased use of outer space require the elaboration, by means of agreement, of equitable, rational and clearly established legal regulations and of procedures which effectively ensure respect for them,

Convinced that it is in the common interest of mankind to promote the peaceful use of outer space and to advance international co-operation in the space field for the benefit of all and with due respect for the security, integrity and sovereignty of all States,

1. Reaffirms its commitment to the principles of space law and calls upon all States to respect these principles in the exploration, exploitation and use of space;
2. Invites the National Groups to take action within their respective Parliaments so that the latter continue their efforts to study and elaborate legal standards permitting the peaceful use of space, in harmony with the aims and principles contained in the treaties negotiated within the framework of the United Nations, for the benefit of all peoples of the world;
3. Welcomes the adoption in the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space of a draft Agreement governing the activities of States on the moon and other celestial bodies, and expresses the wish that this draft be considered and adopted by the UN General Assembly at its next session, so that Parliaments and Governments may be in a position to expedite the signing and ratification of this Agreement;
4. Calls on Parliaments to use their influence with their respective Governments so that they participate actively in the work of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in order to enable it, with a view to elaborating norms and principles leading to the conclusion of international agreements, to :

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- (a) Complete its efforts to elaborate draft principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting, based upon appropriate agreements and/or arrangements between the broadcasting and receiving States (or broadcasting entities duly authorized by the respective States);
  - (b) Complete its efforts to elaborate draft principles relating to the legal implications of remote sensing of the earth from space, taking account of the principle of permanent sovereignty of each country over its natural resources, so that all States have non-discriminatory access to data acquired by remote sensing satellites, without adversely affecting the interests of the countries observed - interests that should be considered preferential - and ensuring the necessary support to the developing countries which do not possess the required means for the processing of such data;
  - (c) Contribute to the eventual elaboration of necessary legal measures relating to the use of nuclear power sources in outer space;
  - (d) Seek to delimit precisely the point at which outer space begins;
  - (e) Regulate the use of the geostationary orbit, taking into account the interests of all countries, particularly the equatorial countries;
5. Supports the efforts made by the entire international community to promote international co-operation in the peaceful use of outer space, and urges Parliaments and Governments to expedite the negotiations now under way at the United Nations on outer space questions with a view to elaborating norms in conformity with the fundamental principles of inter-State relations, and procedures which effectively ensure respect for them;
6. Urges Parliaments and Governments to devote the necessary attention to the need for the widest possible application of the present international treaties adopted within the framework of the United Nations in the field of space law, and calls on all States which have not yet become parties to those treaties to ratify them or accede to them.

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IV

**PROTECTION OF THE FAMILY AND GENERAL  
CARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN  
CONNECTION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL  
YEAR OF THE CHILD**

*(Resolution adopted unanimously)*

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Welcoming the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to proclaim 1979 the International Year of the Child,

Recalling the resolution unanimously adopted by the 65th Inter-Parliamentary Conference in Bonn on the International Year of the Child, in order to support that initiative at the international parliamentary level,

Expressing its agreement with the contents of the Declaration adopted by the 33rd session of the United Nations General Assembly on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace,

Convinced that the family is the natural unit, within a favourable legal and social order, for the creation, protection, upbringing and harmonious development of the child,

Stressing that in the interest of the harmonious development of the child, society and the public authorities have the duty, however, to compensate for the deficiencies of the family and to take particular care of children with no families,

Recognizing that in satisfying the needs of the child, we are contributing to ensuring a better future for all mankind,

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Deeply concerned at the precarious conditions of existence of millions of children in the world due to malnutrition, undernourishment, illness, use of drugs, insufficient schooling, maltreatment, lack of education, racial and other discrimination, and colonial and foreign domination,

Noting the impact of the level of development, the socio-economic and financial situation, quality of life and population policy of a country or region on the health and well-being of its children,

Aware of the special care and aid merited by certain categories of families and a very large number of children disadvantaged due to war, kidnappings, expulsions, family separation, abandonment for whatever reason, poverty, handicaps and refugee status,

Considering that, beyond the satisfaction of their basic needs, children should benefit from particular care and attention whereby their personalities may develop and evolve with a view to their harmonious entry into adult life,

Emphasizing that the younger generation can only grow and develop fully in safety, dignity, freedom, self-realization, solidarity and peace,

Bearing in mind that the exploitation of children, especially for pornographic purposes, constitutes a particularly vile way of profit-making,

Convinced that the violence, crime and terrorism which the mass media excessively display constitute a permanent danger for youth,

Considering that the acceleration of the arms race seriously jeopardizes the raising of the material and spiritual standard of living of the young people and children of the whole world,

Convinced of the need to contribute to the training and preparation of parents in their educational tasks and to assist them, as well as families, in fulfilling this role and satisfying the needs of children,

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1. Affirms its commitment to all the principles contained in the Declaration on the Rights of the Child of 1959;
2. Hopes that international organizations, within and outside the United Nations system both at regional and universal levels, will take action in accordance with the above Declaration of 1959;
3. Declares that the struggle for the feeding, health and education of the most disadvantaged children, including abandoned, handicapped and refugee children, must be a priority for international action, particularly by the competent international organizations;
4. Emphasizes the importance of the activities of the non-governmental organizations, as well as of individuals, in this field;
5. Calls on all countries to contribute more especially to the solution of the grave problems concerning refugee children;
6. Reaffirms the absolute need for the earliest implementation of the essential elements of a new international economic order capable of overcoming in a lasting manner the economic and social difficulties of the developing countries;
7. Requests the Parliaments of the countries represented in the Union to take initiatives to emphasize the need for strengthening family ties, improve the living conditions of families and ensure care and protection for children and adolescents, including children victimized following marriage breakdown and other similar developments, in particular :
  - (a) Preparation for marriage and voluntary participation in the training of parents in their educational role;
  - (b) Provision of the necessary funds and services to ensure adequate nutrition and health care for all children, including research into ways of promoting the healthy birth and growth of children and their protection against disease;

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- (c) Increased protection of pregnant women and mothers, particularly against diseases and malnutrition;
- (d) Reunification of families, especially those separated by war or military occupation;
- (e) Improvement of the social, economic and cultural situation of families and the financial assistance granted to them;
- (f) Development of centres for young children;
- (g) Protection of children, whose parents are dissidents, against discrimination;
- (h) Increased efforts for the education, vocational guidance and preparation of young people for working life;
- (i) Civic and social education of young people to enable them to participate in a responsible manner in the public life of their countries;
- (j) Increased prevention of handicaps at birth and development of establishments and methods for the education and training of handicapped children and adolescents, with a view to their integration into the family and society;
- (k) Training of personnel specialized in the care and education of children, including socially and physically handicapped children;
- (l) Reduction of military expenditures which would enable the funds thus released to be used for social and economic development, thereby improving the situation of the family and children the world over and, in particular, of those in the developing countries, taking into account the conclusions of the in-depth study presently being undertaken by the United Nations on the relationship between disarmament and development;
- (m) Elaboration of a programme of action to combat drug addiction;

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- (n) Enhancement of the physical and emotional security of the children of separated or divorced parents, by recognizing as binding the custody arrangements made in the courts of the countries in which they are residing at the time of separation;
8. Calls on parliamentarians to initiate and encourage all forms of action to ensure that Governments enunciate a national policy for children for each country, covering all aspects of their growth and development, and implement the policy;
9. Also calls on parliamentarians to initiate or encourage all forms of action to achieve the national and international objectives of the International Year of the Child :
- (a) By supporting the efforts of the national commissions established in their countries for the International Year of the Child;
- (b) By mobilizing public opinion in favour of the most disadvantaged or vulnerable children;
- (c) By increasing research and information in the spheres of the family, childhood and youth;
- (d) By acting with a view to the education of young people in the spirit of the great ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding among peoples;
- (e) By including in principle a family perspective in all governmental policy;
10. Calls on Governments and development assistance bodies to ensure that, in implementing all measures and projects within the context of development assistance, they take constant and more careful account than before of their implications for children and their environment;
11. Expresses the hope that the international community will rapidly succeed in the ratification of the International Labour Organisation Convention of 1973, concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, and adopt as soon as possible the Convention on the Rights of the Child which is in the process of preparation;

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12. Requests parliamentarians to urge their Governments that the International Year of the Child be an occasion to adopt as an objective the permanent promotion, in all aspects, of childhood and youth, and to increase continuously their contributions to the international organizations for child assistance.

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V

**WAYS AND MEANS OF PROMOTING  
INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING,  
CO-OPERATION AND PEACE  
IN THE AREAS OF EDUCATION,  
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

*(Resolution adopted unanimously)*

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Constituent Act of UNESCO of 1946, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, the European Agreement on Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of 1950, the Declaration of the Rights of the Child (United Nations resolution 1386/8), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 1966, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 1966, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe of 1975, the Recommendation concerning education for international understanding, co-operation and peace and education relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms (adopted by the XVIIIth session of the General Conference of UNESCO in November 1974), the Declaration on fundamental principles concerning the contribution of the mass media to strengthening peace and international understanding, the promotion of human rights and to countering racialism, apartheid and incitement to war (adopted by the XXth session of the General Conference of UNESCO on 28 November 1978) and the Declaration on the preparation of societies for life in peace (adopted by the 33rd session of the UN General Assembly on 15 December 1978),

Recalling the natural vocation of the Inter-Parliamentary Union to promote international understanding, co-operation and peace, and consequently to ensure the application of the above-mentioned instruments,

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Convinced that détente and the improvement of the political climate in the world create further favourable conditions for expanding co-operation among States and peoples,

Convinced that the fundamental exercise of the freedoms of opinion, expression and information - an integral part of human rights - must enable a profound improvement in mutual relations among States, with respect for their sovereignty and national legislation and without interference in their internal affairs,

Expressing the belief that, while respecting the diversity of the cultural heritage of peoples and the need for maintaining the specific features of the cultural life of States, it is possible and necessary to develop still further among them cultural exchanges which should serve peaceful coexistence, the improvement of the well-being of peoples and the strengthening of friendship among them without impeding the implementation of the fundamental options which those peoples have chosen for their socio-economic development,

Aware that, in their efforts to ensure wider mutual understanding and co-operation, States can usefully adopt bilateral and multilateral measures to organize in an even better manner mutually advantageous exchanges and collaboration concerning the processing, dissemination and transfer from one country to another of cultural, technical and scientific information in the spheres of education and communication, bearing in mind the individual and specific needs of the developing countries,

Taking into account that, in a world undergoing technical, social and economic change, the role and scope of international cultural links are growing considerably, and confirming that the role of education and information is linked to the emergence of new goals and, in particular, the search for an improved international situation embracing the economic, social and cultural aspects of life,

Noting with concern the existence of a great gap between the developed and the developing countries regarding their possibilities for communication, as well as the continuing imbalance in the contents and flow of information and the possibility that circumstances may arise in which developing nations can become "passive recipients of biased, inadequate and distorted information" from abroad, as stated by the Non-Aligned Summit Conference in 1976,

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Stressing the need for States to avoid using their national information systems to propagate hatred between their peoples and the peoples of neighbouring countries, thus inciting them to war,

Aware of the necessity of mobilizing all the available forces and of undertaking all possible efforts for the development of information and communication systems in developing countries, according to their needs and requests, bearing always in mind that the systems which result should be used to promote human rights,

Welcoming the fact that the XXth session of the General Conference of UNESCO recognized the merits of the conclusions of the Fifth Summit Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Countries in Colombo for a better balance of information by acknowledging the urgent need for the creation of a new balanced international order in this field,

Hoping that such a balanced international order will not involve any increase in State control over journalists or what is written, broadcast or otherwise put out by the media in any country of the world,

1. Recommends to all parliamentarians that they encourage efforts to improve the quality and objectivity of news and media programming available within their own countries, and particularly that which is disseminated to other countries, so that the media achieve their fullest potential in enhancing mutual understanding and promoting peace;
2. Recommends to Parliaments and Governments:
  - (a) To support the efforts made by the United Nations, UNESCO and other international organizations dealing with problems of education, information and communication;
  - (b) To initiate and encourage all forms of action to ensure that educational institutions in their countries give more attention to comparative studies on social sciences as a means for better communication and understanding;

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- (c) To promote bilateral and multilateral co-operation in the fields of education and training, bearing in mind the individual and specific needs of developing countries;
  - (d) To make special efforts in the struggle against illiteracy which in many countries of the world still represents a special problem of priority significance and one of the major obstacles to national development;
  - (e) To promote the improvement and expansion of education for international understanding and peace, and the furtherance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, particularly through the improvement of school curricula and text books, in the light of the Recommendation adopted by the XVIIIth session of the General Conference of UNESCO in November 1974;
  - (f) To initiate and support incentives at the national and international levels to improve the quality and objectivity of information and to achieve a more balanced flow thereof;
  - (g) To provide assistance to the non-aligned and developing countries, at their request, for the creation of material conditions and training facilities for the development of their national information systems, in conformity with the needs of each individual country under conditions which will contribute to overcoming existing differences between developed and developing countries in this field;
  - (h) To utilize the achievements of technological progress effected in this sphere, with the goal of encouraging in every possible way the mass media to contribute to the promotion of peaceful co-operation, democratic development and general progress of the international community, in conformity with the 1978 UNESCO Declaration on the mass media;
  - (i) To support special efforts at the national and international levels to lower the cost of operation of information and communication technologies;
3. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments to make continuous and active efforts to give practical substance to the letter and spirit of the various Recommendations, Resolutions, Covenants and Declarations mentioned in the preamble,

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for the good of the present and future generations;

4. Stresses the importance of the Declaration on fundamental principles concerning the contribution of the mass media to strengthening peace and international understanding, the promotion of human rights and to counteracting racialism, apartheid and incitement to war (adopted by the XXth session of the General Conference of UNESCO on 28 November 1978), and recommends to Parliaments and Governments to work for the implementation of and respect for the fundamental elements of this document within the framework of national legislation;
5. Invites Parliaments and Governments to make available to less developed countries technology at low cost and the means for the training of staff so as to enable them to acquire an adequate communication infrastructure;
6. Urges National Groups to take action within their Parliaments and through their Governments so as to guarantee to journalists, communicators and others involved in the information process such protection as will ensure the best possible conditions for the performance of their work in a responsible, objective and lawful manner;
7. Views with concern any efforts to protect journalists and other agents of the information media by Governments and Parliaments that would involve any restrictive or discriminatory practices against them;
8. Calls on Parliaments and National Groups to promote freedom of speech and of the media, both within States and across international frontiers.

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VI

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN  
RECOMMENDATIONS ON DECOLONIZATION**

*(Resolution adopted by 564 votes to 25,  
with 245 abstentions)*

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Recalling the commendable efforts of the United Nations which has adopted several resolutions on decolonization, particularly resolution 1514 (XV) of the General Assembly of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Reaffirming its support for the exercise, by the peoples under colonial domination or under racial oppression, of their right to self-determination in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Considering the serious threat to international peace caused by the policies and aggressive practices of the racist domination régimes in southern Africa,

Aware of the secret support given to those racist régimes, which enables them to resist international pressure,

Firmly convinced that only the complete elimination of the remaining vestiges of colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid - a condition for international peace and détente - can ensure the advent of a humane, just and truly prosperous world,

Reaffirming the legitimate right of all the peoples under colonial domination and all the peoples under racial oppression, in particular those in southern Africa, to fight by all the necessary means at their disposal to exercise

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their inalienable right to self-determination and independence and their right to choose a path of development in accordance with their interests,

Deeply concerned at the increase in acts of aggression committed by the racist and apartheid régimes in southern Africa and at the massive preparations for war against sovereign African States, particularly Mozambique, Zambia, Botswana and Angola, which constitute a danger to peace and security,

Considering the relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations on Western Sahara, particularly resolution 33/31 of 13 December 1978 which reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Western Sahara to self-determination and independence,

Considering the resolutions adopted by the XVth summit of the Organization of African Unity held at Monrovia in July 1979 and by the VIth summit of the non-aligned countries held at Havana in September 1979,

Considering the resolution adopted by the United Nations on East Timor (resolution 33/39 of 13 December 1978), which reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of East Timor to self-determination and independence,

Recalling all the resolutions relating to the achievement of independence by all peoples still under colonial domination or racial oppression adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, particularly the resolution adopted by the 65th Inter-Parliamentary Conference on the complete elimination of colonialism in the world,

Stressing the danger for peace and understanding posed by the existence of areas of tension which are caused and maintained by colonialism, racists and their agents, and also by the establishment, under pressure from the latter, of puppet régimes in Southern Rhodesia and Namibia or by any other form of domination and hegemony directed against the independence and sovereignty of the African and Asian peoples and peoples in other parts of the world, as well as their territorial integrity,

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Reaffirming the urgent need to increase the struggle against the vestiges of colonialism in Africa, to refrain from any interference in the internal affairs of States, to abolish any use of force in inter-African relations and to make every effort to settle the conflicts between States by peaceful means and within the framework of the Organization of African Unity (OAU),

Reaffirming the need to call on all Governments and Parliaments to ensure scrupulous respect for the principles of the non-violation of States borders, the settlement of disputes by peaceful means and the cessation of any threat of the use of force and the use of military force to prejudice the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States,

Deeply concerned at the escalation of violence in the world and more especially in those areas where the elementary rights of the majority of the population are denied for the benefit of the interests of a racist minority,

1. Urges Governments, Parliaments, international organizations, business circles, as well as persons in an individual capacity, to contribute to the elimination of colonialism and its by-products;
2. Calls upon all Governments and Parliaments to withhold assistance of any kind from the apartheid régime in South Africa and from the illegal puppet régimes in Southern Rhodesia and Namibia; and to take legislative and other measures in order to prevent new investments in, the transfer of capital to and trade with South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia;
3. Denounces and considers null and void the unilateral elections organized by the Pretoria régime in Namibia, and reaffirms the role of the United Nations Council for Namibia as the political and administrative organ of Namibia until independence;
4. Stresses that the problem of the independence of Zimbabwe cannot be resolved by internal settlements or elections organized by the racist régime in Salisbury and without the participation of the Patriotic Front;

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5. Takes note of the conversations which are taking place in London following the decisions of the meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of State recently held in Lusaka (Zambia) regarding the independence of Zimbabwe;
6. Calls on the liberation movements in those countries under foreign domination to present a united front, transcending internal quarrels which weaken them and enable the colonizing powers easily to strengthen their positions;
7. Calls on Parliaments to take action directed towards their Governments for the full and rapid implementation of the United Nations resolutions on decolonization and the combatting of apartheid;
8. Recalls the responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the decolonization of Western Sahara, in accordance with the principles of the Charter and relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and calls upon all parties concerned in the Western Sahara problem on the one hand to refrain from using force and on the other hand to co-operate with the OAU, the United Nations and the League of Arab States in reaching an acceptable political and peaceful solution;
9. Takes note of the Algiers Agreement signed on 5 August 1979 and invites all the parties concerned to enter into a fraternal dialogue to achieve peace in that region;
10. Recalls the responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the decolonization of East Timor, in accordance with the principles of the Charter and relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and calls upon all parties concerned in the East Timor problem to refrain from using force and to co-operate in reaching acceptable solutions;
11. Urges all Governments and Parliaments to take legislative and other measures in order to prohibit in their territories the recruiting, financing and training of mercenaries, as well as the transit of mercenaries through their territories, and to prevent their nationals from serving as mercenaries;
12. Reaffirms the responsibility of the international community for the speediest possible elimination of the few remaining vestiges of colonialism and of the policy of

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neo-colonialist exploitation, and for the eradication of national and racial oppression;

13. Invites Governments, Parliaments and international organizations to provide increased assistance to the peoples under colonial and racist oppression, in particular in southern Africa, and to give multiform support and material assistance to the liberation movements of South Africa, SWAPO and the Patriotic Front which are recognized by the OAU as the authentic representatives of their peoples;
14. Expresses its appreciation to the front-line countries for the responsibilities they have assumed as supporters of the liberation movements, and appeals to Governments, Parliaments and national and international organizations to give them all moral and material support designed to strengthen their defence capacity;
15. Calls on all Governments and Parliaments to ensure scrupulous respect for the principle of the non-violation of States' borders, the settlement of disputes by peaceful means and the cessation of any threat of the use of force and the use of military or other force to prejudice the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, and to take action on the one hand to prevent acts likely to modify the demographic component of occupied territories through the expulsion of indigenous populations and the establishment of settlements, and on the other hand to put an end to foreign occupation;
16. Notes with deep concern that recourse is had to violence, kidnapping of civilians, the taking of hostages and torture and, in particular, that interference by foreign forces on the African continent is increasing and spreading, thus threatening its stability and economic and social development.

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VII

APPEAL FOR SOLIDARITY WITH THE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES  
AFFECTED BY THE RECENT HURRICANES

*(Resolution adopted unanimously)*

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Considering that the Caribbean region is suffering a veritable public disaster due to the numerous serious material and human losses incurred there as a result of hurricanes David and Frederick,

Considering that there are thousands of dead, that hundreds of thousands of persons have been made homeless and that a famine and epidemics are to be feared,

Considering that agriculture is devastated, and that industry and public services installations have been considerably damaged, particularly in the Dominican Republic,

Appeals to the solidarity of all the Governments of the world so that they participate in a movement of international co-operation, which, through the supply of medicines, medical assistance and equipment, would make it possible to ensure the economic recovery of the countries concerned and would meet the immediate needs of the region.

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