

728 (VIII). Work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the problems of refugees who are the concern of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the light of his report¹ to the General Assembly at its eighth session and of the Secretary-General's memorandum,²

Having noted with appreciation the work being done on behalf of these refugees,

Having noted with concern the precarious situation of certain groups of refugees within the High Commissioner's mandate, in particular those in need of emergency aid, the considerable number still living in camps, and those requiring special care for whom no satisfactory arrangements have yet been made,

1. *Invites* the High Commissioner to concern himself in particular with these groups of refugees in carrying out his functions as defined in the Statute of his Office and to pay special attention to them in his report to the General Assembly at its ninth session;

2. *Appeals* to the governments of States Members and non-members of the United Nations to intensify their efforts to promote, in co-operation with the High Commissioner, solutions for the problems of refugees, through repatriation, resettlement and integration in accordance with General Assembly resolution 538 B (VI) of 2 February 1952;

3. *Takes note* of the relations which the High Commissioner has established with interested organizations, expresses the hope that appropriate consultations will take place in the drawing up of all programmes of international action designed to improve the situation of refugees within his mandate and invites the High Commissioner to give an account of such consultations in his reports.

*453rd plenary meeting,
23 October 1953.*

729 (VIII). Technical assistance in promoting and safeguarding the rights of women

The General Assembly,

Noting Economic and Social Council resolution 504 J II (XVI) of 23 July 1953 concerning technical assistance in promoting and safeguarding the rights of women,

Approves the decision of the Council authorizing the Secretary-General to render, at the request of Member States, services which do not fall within the scope of existing technical assistance programmes, in order to assist these States in promoting and safeguarding the rights of women.

*453rd plenary meeting,
23 October 1953.*

730 (VIII). Technical assistance in the fields of prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities

The General Assembly,

Having considered the recommendation contained in paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council reso-

¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 11.*

² See document A/2457.

lution 502 G (XVI) of 3 August 1953 on technical assistance in the fields of prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities,

1. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to render, at the request of any State Member of the United Nations, technical advice and other services which do not fall within the scope of existing technical assistance programmes, in order to assist the government of that State within its territory in the eradication of discrimination or in the protection of minorities or both;

2. *Decides* that the services so authorized may include, but need not be restricted to, technical advice regarding the drafting of legislation and the establishment of administrative and judicial machinery and appropriate services in such matters of fundamental importance as education, subject to arrangements within existing agreements with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other competent specialized agencies.

*453rd plenary meeting,
23 October 1953.*

731 (VIII). Development of political rights of women in Territories where these rights are not fully enjoyed

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56 (I) of 11 December 1946 relating to the political rights of women, which was reaffirmed in resolution 640 (VII) of 20 December 1952,

Having considered Economic and Social Council resolution 504 F (XVI) of 23 July 1953,

Urges States to take all necessary measures, particularly educational and legislative measures, leading to the development of the political rights of women in all Territories in which women do not enjoy full political rights, including Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories.

*454th plenary meeting,
23 October 1953.*

732 (VIII). Programme of concerted practical action in the social field of the United Nations and the specialized agencies

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles contained in its resolution 535 (VI) of 2 February 1952,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts made to establish the programme of concerted practical action in the social field of the United Nations and the specialized agencies adopted in Economic and Social Council resolution 496 (XVI) of 31 July 1953;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies to keep particularly in mind, in the implementation of the projects of the programme of concerted practical action, the general principles, methods and techniques defined in Economic and Social Council resolution 496 (XVI), special consideration being given to the needs of the under-developed countries;

3. *Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council should supplement the programme of concerted practical action in the social field of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as set forth in reso-

lution 496 (XVI), by the insertion of a new paragraph 8 (i) reading as follows:

"Improve the situation with respect to health, education and social welfare in the Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories;"

4. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council:

(a) To keep the development of the programme under consideration with a view to its progressive improvement;

(b) To consider, as appropriate, further practical measures which may be undertaken in accordance with General Assembly resolution 535 (VI) and Economic and Social Council resolution 496 (XVI) with the addition thereto recommended to the Economic and Social Council by the General Assembly at its eighth session;

(c) To report to the General Assembly on the progress achieved.

*454th plenary meeting,
23 October 1953.*

733 (VIII). Studies on internal migration

The General Assembly,

Considering the close connexion existing between internal movements of population and economic and social progress in the economically less developed countries,

Noting with satisfaction that the Economic and Social Council, in examining the work of the Population Commission, has recently paid attention to the problems of internal migration (resolution 471 D (XV) of 14 April 1953) which have generally not been sufficiently studied,

1. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council, in cooperation with the International Labour Organisation and other interested agencies, to develop, within available resources, an appropriate programme of studies on internal migration, especially in the economically less developed countries, to be carried out at the request of the countries concerned;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to communicate to the Economic and Social Council, for its guidance and information, the records of the debate on this question in the General Assembly at its eighth session.

*460th plenary meeting,
28 November 1953.*

734 (VIII). Recognition and enforcement abroad of maintenance obligations

The General Assembly,

Having noted that the question of the reciprocal recognition and enforcement abroad of maintenance obligations has been before the Economic and Social Council which, at its fifteenth session, decided³ to postpone consideration until its seventeenth session,

Being aware of the urgent need to improve the situation of members of families whose legal supporters living in another country fail to comply with their maintenance obligations,

Requests the Economic and Social Council to do its utmost to complete, if possible, its work on this question in such time as to enable it to report on

³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 1, page 32.*

the results to the General Assembly at its next regular session.

*460th plenary meeting,
28 November 1953.*

735 (VIII). The Social Commission

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Articles 61 and 68 of the Charter,

Considering that one of the aims of the United Nations is to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom and to this end to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations,

Considering that the General Assembly at its present session has adopted⁴ a programme of concerted practical action in the social field,

Recalling that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 414 (XIII) of 18, 19 and 20 September 1951 decided that the Social Commission should meet biennially instead of annually,

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with its resolution 414 (XIII), the Economic and Social Council must review in 1954 the question of organization of its functional commissions,

Having considered the draft proposals⁵ made with a view to the possible revision of the pattern of meetings of the Social Commission, as well as to the expansion of its membership to provide improved representation of under-developed areas and various economic and cultural patterns,

1. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council, in its review of this question, to consider the aforementioned draft proposals, as well as the suggestions made in the discussion of this matter during the eighth session of the General Assembly;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to communicate to the Economic and Social Council the records of the debate on the question during the eighth session of the General Assembly.

*460th plenary meeting,
28 November 1953.*

736 (VIII). Freedom of information

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The General Assembly,

Recalling the decisions contained in the resolutions⁶ on freedom of information adopted at its seventh session,

Regretting that the Economic and Social Council was unable⁷ to give consideration at its sixteenth session to the subject of freedom of information, including the report⁸ of its Rapporteur,

Noting that, at its sixteenth session, the Economic and Social Council postponed consideration of the question of freedom of information to its seventeenth session and decided, in agreement with the Rapporteur, that the Rapporteur would present his report at the seventeenth session,

⁴ See resolution 732 (VIII).

⁵ See documents A/C.3/L.376, A/C.3/L.382, A/C.3/L.384 and A/C.3/L.386.

⁶ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventh Session, Supplement No. 20.*

⁷ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 1, page 25.*

⁸ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 12.