

1979, 35/197 of 15 December 1980, 36/154 of 16 December 1981, 37/171 and 37/172 of 17 December 1982 and 38/97 of 16 December 1983 concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights.

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,<sup>110</sup>

*Reaffirming* that regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights may make a major contribution to the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and that the exchange of information and experience in this field among the regions, within the United Nations system, may be improved,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. *Expresses its thanks* to the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and the intergovernmental regional organizations which contributed to the preparation of that report;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the possibility of encouraging contacts between representatives of regional bodies and United Nations bodies entrusted with the promotion of human rights with a view to exchanging information and experience in this field;
4. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights, when considering the item on its agenda entitled "Advisory services in the field of human rights", to pay special attention to the most appropriate ways of assisting, at their request, the countries of the different regions under the programme of advisory services and to make, where necessary, the relevant recommendations;
5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-first session a report on the state of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights and to include therein the results of action taken in pursuance of the present resolution;
6. *Decides* to consider this question further at its forty-first session.

*101st plenary meeting  
14 December 1984*

### **39/116. Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian region**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 34/171 of 17 December 1979, 35/197 of 15 December 1980, 36/154 of 16 December 1981 and 37/171 of 17 December 1982,

*Having considered* the report of the Seminar on National, Local and Regional Arrangements for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Asian Region, held at Colombo from 21 June to 2 July 1982,<sup>111</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights;<sup>112</sup>
2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the comments received from Member States in the Asian and Pacific region on the report of the Seminar on National, Local and Regional Arrangements for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Asian Region;

<sup>110</sup> A/39/570.

<sup>111</sup> A/37/422, annex.

<sup>112</sup> A/39/174-E/1984/38 and Add.1.

<sup>113</sup> E/CN.4/1503.

<sup>114</sup> A/38/538.

<sup>115</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 3* (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

3. *Invites* States members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific that have not yet done so to communicate their comments on the report of the Seminar to the Secretary-General as early as possible so that further consultations may be held;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the responses received;

5. *Decides* to consider this question further at its forty-first session.

*101st plenary meeting  
14 December 1984*

### **39/117. Human rights and mass exoduses**

*The General Assembly,*

*Mindful* of its general humanitarian mandate under the Charter of the United Nations to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Deeply disturbed* by the continuing scale and magnitude of exoduses of refugees and displacements of population in many regions of the world and by the human suffering of millions of refugees and displaced persons,

*Conscious* of the fact that human rights violations are among the multiple and complex factors causing mass exoduses of refugees, as indicated in the study of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on this subject,<sup>113</sup>

*Considering* the efforts which have been made to address this subject within the United Nations, in particular by the Commission on Human Rights,

*Deeply preoccupied* by the increasingly heavy burden being imposed upon the international community as a whole, particularly upon developing countries with limited resources of their own, by these sudden mass exoduses and displacements of population,

*Stressing* the need for international co-operation aimed at the prevention of new massive flows of refugees along with the provision of adequate solutions to actual refugee situations,

*Taking note again* of the report of the Secretary-General on human rights and mass exoduses,<sup>114</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 35/196 of 15 December 1980, 37/186 of 17 December 1982 and 38/103 of 16 December 1983 and Commission on Human Rights resolutions 30 (XXXVI) of 11 March 1980,<sup>115</sup> 29 (XXXVII) of 11 March 1981,<sup>116</sup> 1982/32 of 11 March 1982<sup>117</sup> and 1983/35 of 8 March 1983,<sup>118</sup>

1. *Welcomes* the steps taken so far by the United Nations to examine the problem of massive outflows of refugees and displaced persons in all its aspects, including its root causes;

2. *Invites* Governments to intensify their co-operation and assistance in world-wide efforts to address the serious problem of mass exoduses of refugees and displaced persons;

3. *Welcomes* the special interest which the Secretary-General has taken in this question and reiterates its request to him to follow closely developments in the field of human rights and mass exoduses;

<sup>116</sup> *Ibid.*, 1981, *Supplement No. 5* (E/1981/25 and Corr.1), chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

<sup>117</sup> *Ibid.*, 1982, *Supplement No. 2* (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

<sup>118</sup> *Ibid.*, 1983, *Supplement No. 3* (E/1983/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVII, sect. A.

4. *Encourages* the Secretary-General in his efforts to enable the United Nations to anticipate and react more adequately and speedily to cases requiring humanitarian assistance, as mentioned in his report on the work of the Organization;<sup>119</sup>

5. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights to keep the question of human rights and mass exoduses under review with the objective of making appropriate recommendations concerning further measures to be taken in this field;

6. *Decides* to review the question of human rights and mass exoduses at its fortieth session.

*101st plenary meeting  
14 December 1984*

### 39/118. Human rights in the administration of justice

*The General Assembly,*

*Mindful* of articles 3, 5, 9, 10 and 11 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>120</sup> as well as the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>121</sup> in particular article 6, which explicitly states that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life,

*Recalling* its resolutions 2858 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 and 3144 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973 on human rights in the administration of justice,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1984/47 and 1984/50 of 25 May 1984, in which, *inter alia*, the Council approved the procedures for the effective implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners<sup>122</sup> and the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty,

*Acknowledging* the important work accomplished by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its eighth session,<sup>123</sup>

*Aware* that the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held from 26 August to 6 September 1985, will consider the issues related to the formulation and application of United Nations standards and norms in the administration of justice under item 7 of its provisional agenda, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/29 of 4 May 1982,

*Convinced* of the need for further co-ordinated and concerted action in promoting respect for the principles embodied in the aforementioned articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

1. *Reaffirms* the existing prohibition under international law of every form of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and strongly condemns the practice of arbitrary and summary executions;

2. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1984/47 and 1984/50 on procedures for the effective implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and on safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty, respectively, as well as the provisions of their annexes;

<sup>119</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/39/1)*.

<sup>120</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>121</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>122</sup> *First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 1956.IV.4), annex I.A.

<sup>123</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1984, Supplement No. 6 (E/1984/16)*.

3. *Calls upon* Member States to spare no effort in providing for adequate mechanisms, procedures and resources so as to ensure the implementation of these recommendations, both in law and in practice;

4. *Requests* the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, under item 7 of its provisional agenda, to give urgent attention to the matter of devising ways and means to ensure more effective application of existing standards and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fortieth session;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to discharge fully his tasks in connection with the implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, particularly with regard to procedures 7, 8, 9 and 10 contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/47, and to employ his best endeavours in cases where the safeguards guaranteeing the protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty are violated;

6. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, through the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, to keep these matters under constant review;

7. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, to continue to co-operate with the Secretary-General in these endeavours by providing assistance, as may be appropriate, and by submitting proposals for relevant action to the Seventh Congress;

8. *Decides* to consider at its fortieth session the question of human rights in the administration of justice.

*101st plenary meeting  
14 December 1984*

### 39/119. Situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in El Salvador

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>120</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>121</sup> and by the humanitarian rules set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949<sup>124</sup> and Additional Protocols I and II thereto,<sup>125</sup>

*Aware* that the Governments of all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to carry out the responsibilities they have undertaken under various international human rights instruments,

*Recalling* that, in its resolutions 35/192 of 15 December 1980, 36/155 of 16 December 1981, 37/185 of 17 December 1982 and 38/101 of 16 December 1983, it expressed deep concern at the situation of human rights in El Salvador,

*Bearing in mind* Commission on Human Rights resolutions 32 (XXXVII) of 11 March 1981,<sup>126</sup> in which the Commission decided to appoint a Special Representative on the situation of human rights in El Salvador, 1982/28 of 11 March 1982,<sup>127</sup> 1983/29 of 8 March 1983<sup>128</sup> and

<sup>124</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

<sup>125</sup> A/32/144, annexes I and II.

<sup>126</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 5 (E/1981/25 and Corr.1)*, chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

<sup>127</sup> *Ibid.*, 1982, *Supplement No. 2 (E/1982/12 and Corr.1)*, chap. XXVI, sect. A.

<sup>128</sup> *Ibid.*, 1983, *Supplement No. 3 (E/1983/13 and Corr.1)*, chap. XXVII, sect. A.