

practice of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

*Welcoming* the decision of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1986/50 of 13 March 1986, to extend for one year the mandate of the Special Rapporteur to examine questions relevant to torture,<sup>31</sup>

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;<sup>120</sup>

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the number of States that have signed or ratified the Convention since it was opened for signature, ratification and accession on 4 February 1985;

3. *Requests* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority;

4. *Invites* all States, upon ratification of or accession to the Convention, to consider the possibility of making the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 of the Convention;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-third session and to the General Assembly at its forty-second session a report on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

6. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its forty-second session under the item entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

97th plenary meeting  
4 December 1986

#### 41/135. United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,<sup>2</sup>

*Again recalling* the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>121</sup>

*Recalling also* its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,

*Recalling further* its resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, in which it noted with deep concern that acts of torture took place in various countries, recognized the need to provide assistance to the victims of torture in a purely humanitarian spirit and established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

*Convinced* that the struggle to eliminate torture includes the provision of assistance in a humanitarian spirit to the victims and members of their families,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>122</sup>

1. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation* to those Governments, organizations and individuals that have al-

ready contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;

2. *Calls upon* all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for initial as well as further contributions to the Fund;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Board of Trustees of the Fund for the work it has carried out;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the support given to the Board of Trustees of the Fund;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials, to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its efforts to make the Fund and its humanitarian work better known and in its appeal for contributions.

97th plenary meeting  
4 December 1986

#### 41/136. Assistance to student refugees in southern Africa

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 40/138 of 13 December 1985, in which it, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to continue to organize and implement an effective programme of educational and other appropriate assistance for student refugees from Namibia and South Africa who have been granted asylum in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia,

*Having considered* the report of the High Commissioner on the assistance programme to student refugees from South Africa and Namibia,<sup>123</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* that some of the projects recommended in the report on assistance to student refugees in southern Africa have been successfully completed,

*Noting with concern* that the discriminatory and repressive policies which continue to be applied in South Africa and Namibia cause a continued and increasing influx of student refugees into Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia,

*Conscious* of the burden placed on the limited financial, material and administrative resources of the host countries by the increasing number of student refugees,

*Appreciating* the efforts of the host countries to deal with their student refugee populations, with the assistance of the international community,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia for granting asylum and making educational and other facilities available to the student refugees, in spite of the pressure which the continuing influx of those refugees exerts on facilities in their countries;

3. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia for the co-operation which they have extended to the High Commissioner on matters concerning the welfare of these refugees;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the financial and material support provided for the student refugees by Member

<sup>120</sup> A/41/511.

<sup>121</sup> Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

<sup>122</sup> A/41/706.

<sup>123</sup> A/41/553.

States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, other bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

5. *Requests* the High Commissioner, in co-operation with the Secretary-General, to continue to organize and implement an effective programme of educational and other appropriate assistance for student refugees from Namibia and South Africa who have been granted asylum in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia;

6. *Urges* all Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue contributing generously to the assistance programme for student refugees, through financial support of the regular programmes of the High Commissioner and of the projects and programmes, including unfunded projects, which were submitted to the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa,<sup>124</sup> held at Geneva from 9 to 11 July 1984;

7. *Also urges* all Member States and all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to assist the countries of asylum materially and otherwise to enable them to continue to discharge their humanitarian obligations towards refugees;

8. *Appeals* to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme and all other competent United Nations bodies, as well as other international and non-governmental organizations, to continue providing humanitarian and development assistance so as to facilitate and expedite the settlement of student refugees from South Africa and Namibia who have been granted asylum in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia;

9. *Calls upon* agencies and programmes of the United Nations system to continue co-operating with the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner in the implementation of humanitarian programmes of assistance for the student refugees in southern Africa;

10. *Requests* the High Commissioner, in co-operation with the Secretary-General, to continue to keep the matter under review, to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1987, of the current status of the programmes and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

97th plenary meeting  
4 December 1986

#### 41/137. Humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 40/134 of 13 December 1985 on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti, as well as all its previous resolutions on this question,

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti,<sup>125</sup>

*Deeply concerned* about the plight of the refugees and displaced persons in the country, which has been aggravated by the devastating effects of the prolonged drought,

*Aware* of the heavy economic and social burden placed on the Government and people of Djibouti as a result of the presence of refugees and of the consequent impact on the development and infrastructure of the country,

*Appreciating* the determined and sustained efforts made by the Government of Djibouti, despite its modest economic resources and limited means, to cope with the growing needs of the refugees,

*Noting with appreciation* the steps taken by the Government of Djibouti, in close co-operation with the High Commissioner, to implement appropriate and lasting solutions in respect of the refugees in Djibouti,

*Appreciating* the assistance provided by Member States, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and voluntary agencies to the relief and rehabilitation programmes for the refugees and displaced persons in Djibouti,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti and appreciates his efforts to keep their situation under constant review;

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Government of Djibouti, in close co-operation with the High Commissioner, to implement adequate and lasting solutions in respect of the refugees in Djibouti;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to Member States, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and voluntary agencies for their assistance to the relief and rehabilitation programmes for the refugees and displaced persons in Djibouti;

4. *Urges* the High Commissioner to intensify his efforts to mobilize, on an emergency basis, the necessary resources to implement lasting solutions in respect of the refugees in Djibouti;

5. *Calls upon* all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to support the determined and constant efforts made by the Government of Djibouti to cope with the urgent needs of the refugees and to implement lasting solutions in respect of their situation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution.

97th plenary meeting  
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#### 41/138. Assistance to refugees in Somalia

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 35/180 of 15 December 1980, 36/153 of 16 December 1981, 37/174 of 17 December 1982, 38/88 of 16 December 1983, 39/104 of 14 November 1984 and 40/132 of 13 December 1985 on the question of assistance to refugees in Somalia,

*Taking note* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on assistance to refugees in Somalia,<sup>126</sup> in particular section IV of that report,

*Also taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to refugees in Africa,<sup>84</sup>

<sup>124</sup> See A/CONF.125/1, para. 33.

<sup>125</sup> A/41/515.

<sup>126</sup> A/41/514.