

41/153. Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions, in particular resolution 39/116 of 14 December 1984, on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian region,

Recognizing that regional arrangements make a major contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights and that non-governmental organizations may have a valuable role to play in this process,

Bearing in mind that intergovernmental arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights have been established in other regions,

Noting with appreciation 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 1982,¹⁴⁹ and the comments on the report of the Seminar received from the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and from States members of the Commission,¹⁵⁰

Welcoming the designation of the Social Development Division of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific as a regional human rights focal point,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 1986/57 of 13 March 1986,³¹

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General;¹⁵¹
2. Requests the Secretary-General to assist and encourage the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to pursue the establishment of a depository centre for United Nations human rights materials within the Commission at Bangkok, the function of which would include the collection, processing and dissemination of such materials in the Asian and Pacific region;
3. Renews its invitation to States members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific that have not yet done so to communicate to the Secretary-General as soon as possible their comments on the report of the Seminar on National, Local and Regional Arrangements for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Asian Region and, in particular, to address themselves to the conclusions and recommendations in the report concerning the development of regional arrangements in Asia and the Pacific;
4. Invites the Secretary-General to finalize as expeditiously as possible preparations for a training course, to be held in the Asian and Pacific region, on the teaching of human rights;
5. Takes note of the efforts of United Nations development agencies in the Asian and Pacific region to promote the human rights dimension more actively and systematically in their development activities and invites them to pursue those efforts;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a further report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, incorporating information on progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution;

7. Decides to continue its consideration of this question at its forty-third session.

*97th plenary meeting
4 December 1986*

41/154. Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/127 of 16 December 1977, 33/167 of 20 December 1978, 34/171 of 17 December 1979, 35/197 of 15 December 1980, 36/154 of 16 December 1981, 37/171 and 37/172 of 17 December 1982, 38/97 of 16 December 1983 and 39/115 and 39/116 of 14 December 1984 concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling that, in its resolution 39/115, the General Assembly invited the Secretary-General to submit to the 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 that resolution,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1985/26 of 11 March 1985³⁰ and 1986/52 of 13 March 1986³¹ concerning advisory services in the field of human rights,

Taking note also of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1985/48 of 14 March 1985³⁰ and 1986/57 of 13 March 1986³¹ concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian-Pacific region,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,¹⁵² as well as the addendum thereto on the state of signatures and ratifications of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, the American Convention on Human Rights and the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and Protocols thereto, or accessions to those instruments,¹⁵³

Noting with satisfaction the progress achieved in the promotion and protection of human rights at the regional level and, in particular, the recent entry into force, on 21 October 1986, of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,

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. Notes with interest that contacts, of various kinds, 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, have become a regular practice and have been further strengthened through advisory services and technical assistance activities;
3. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to consider the possibility of encouraging these developments;

¹⁴⁹ A/37/422, annex.

¹⁵⁰ See A/39/174-E/1984/38 and Add.1 and E/CN.4/1986/19.

¹⁵¹ A/41/180-E/1986/20.

¹⁵² A/41/274.

¹⁵³ A/41/274/Add.1.