

rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Recalling further that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized,

Mindful of the fact that unresolved humanitarian problems may impede the effective realization of human rights and even lead to violations of these rights,

Convinced that solving humanitarian problems requires co-operation and harmonization of actions taken by Governments, international bodies, non-governmental organizations and individuals,

Mindful also of the significance of the existing workable system to promote, facilitate and co-ordinate humanitarian activities carried out by Governments, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

1. *Calls upon* Governments, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations further to develop international co-operation in the humanitarian field;

2. *Reiterates* that international co-operation in the humanitarian field will facilitate better understanding, mutual respect, confidence and tolerance among countries and peoples, thus contributing to a more just and non-violent world;

3. *Notes* the need to identify humanitarian problems of the highest priority and to develop a universal strategy of action in the humanitarian field;

4. *Invites* Governments to promote, within existing mechanisms, regular exchanges of information and of national experience in addressing humanitarian problems;

5. *Calls for* the broadening of the concept of international co-operation in the humanitarian field through effective bilateral dialogue and activities pertaining to specific humanitarian issues;

6. *Encourages* the international community to contribute substantially and regularly to international humanitarian activities;

7. *Invites* all non-governmental organizations concerned with the humanitarian issues examined by the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues and working with strictly humanitarian motives to bear in mind the recommendations and suggestions made in the report of the Independent Commission⁵⁰ in the context of their policies and actions in the field;

8. *Decides* to consider this issue at its forty-seventh session under the item entitled "New international humanitarian order".

68th plenary meeting
14 December 1990

⁵⁰ *Winning the Human Race? The Report of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues* (London and New Jersey, Zed Books Ltd., 1988).

45/103. Policies and programmes involving youth

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/135 of 16 December 1977 and 36/17 of 9 November 1981, by which it adopted guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations, and its other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also its resolution 40/14 entitled "International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace", adopted on 18 November 1985 by the General Assembly acting as the United Nations World Conference for the International Youth Year, by which the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth⁵¹ were endorsed, and its other relevant resolutions,

Recalling further its resolution 44/59 of 8 December 1989,

Noting that the year 1995 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Charter of the United Nations and the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year,

Recognizing that, in implementing the guidelines, priority should be given to the enjoyment by youth of human rights, including the right to education and to work, and to the resolution of other urgent problems faced by young people in the present-day world, such as hunger, drug abuse, diseases, including acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, and the deterioration of the environment,

Mindful of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁵² which entered into force on 2 September 1990, the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, adopted by the World Summit for Children on 30 September 1990,⁵³ and the International Year of the Family proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/82 of 8 December 1989,

1. *Calls upon* all States, all United Nations bodies, in particular the Economic and Social Council through the Commission for Social Development, the specialized agencies and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in particular youth organizations, to continue to exert all possible efforts for the implementation of the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to promote and monitor, by using the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as a focal point, the inclusion of youth-related projects and activities in the programmes of United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, specifically on such themes as communication, health, malnutrition, poverty, housing, culture, youth employment, illiteracy, juvenile delinquency, education, leisure-time activities, drug abuse and the environment;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to enable young people to obtain a modern education on such subjects as environmental issues;

⁵¹ See A/40/256, annex.

⁵² Resolution 44/25, annex.

⁵³ A/45/625, annex.

4. *Decides* to devote a plenary meeting at its fiftieth session to youth questions, as 1995 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Charter of the United Nations and the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations Postal Administration to produce commemorative United Nations stamps in 1995 to mark the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year;

6. *Emphasizes* the need for a review and appraisal of the progress achieved and obstacles encountered in the implementation of the guidelines and, on the basis of the evaluation, for preparation of a global youth programme of action towards the year 2000 and beyond, with a target orientation and within a specific time-frame;

7. *Invites* all Member States to consider preparing a national plan of action based on an analytical national evaluation of the situation and needs of youth;

8. *Calls again upon* Member States, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other governmental and intergovernmental organizations to implement fully the guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 32/135 and 36/17;

9. *Requests* the regional commissions, as appropriate, together with regional youth and youth-serving organizations, to undertake a comprehensive review of progress achieved and obstacles encountered in the regions since 1985 and to propose draft regional youth programmes of action towards the year 2000 and beyond;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a draft world youth programme of action towards the year 2000 and beyond in accordance with proposals to be submitted by Member States, the United Nations and non-governmental youth organizations and in consultation with the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and the relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

11. *Calls upon* youth mechanisms that have been set up by youth and youth organizations at the national, regional and international levels to continue to act as channels of communication between the United Nations system and youth and youth organizations and, especially, to contribute to the preparations for the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year and to the formulation of a world youth programme of action towards the year 2000 and beyond;

12. *Again invites* Governments to include youth representatives in their national delegations to the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations meetings, thus enhancing and strengthening the channels of communication through the discussion of youth-related issues, with a view to finding solutions to the problems confronting youth in the contemporary world;

13. *Invites* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the United Nations Youth Fund, in order to enable it to continue its mandated role and to contribute effectively to the needs of developing countries in the field of youth;

14. *Decides* to consider the item entitled "Policies and programmes involving youth" at its forty-sixth session on the basis of a report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution.

68th plenary meeting
14 December 1990

45/104. Convention on the Rights of the Child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council related to the question of a convention on the rights of the child,

Recalling in particular its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention on the Rights of the Child and called upon all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority,

Reaffirming that children's rights require special protection and call for continuous improvement of the situation of children all over the world, as well as for their development and education in conditions of peace and security,

Profoundly concerned that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical as a result of inadequate social conditions, natural disasters, armed conflicts, exploitation, illiteracy, hunger and disability, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

Mindful of the important role of the United Nations Children's Fund and of the United Nations in promoting the well-being of children and their development,

Convinced that the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as a standard-setting accomplishment of the United Nations in the field of human rights, makes a positive contribution to protecting children's rights and ensuring their well-being,

Welcoming with satisfaction the successful conclusion of the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990, in particular the adoption of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s,⁵⁴ and stressing the necessity to ensure follow-up to the Summit at the national and international levels,

Encouraged by the fact that an unprecedented number of States have to date become signatories and parties to the Convention, thereby demonstrating the widespread commitment that exists to strive for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;⁵⁴

2. *Welcomes with deep satisfaction* the entry into force of the Convention on 2 September 1990 as a major step in international efforts to promote universal

⁵⁴ A/45/473.