

arbitrary and summary executions, including extra-legal executions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/65 of 24 May 1989, containing the Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/64 of 24 May 1989, entitled "Implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty" and the recommendations contained therein,

Convinced of the need for appropriate action to combat and eventually eliminate the abhorrent practice of summary or arbitrary executions, which represents a flagrant violation of the most fundamental human right, the right to life,

1. *Once again strongly condemns* the large number of summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions, that continue to take place in various parts of the world;

2. *Demands* that the practice of summary or arbitrary executions be brought to an end;

3. *Appeals urgently* to Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to take effective action to combat and eliminate summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions;

4. *Reaffirms* Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/35 of 7 May 1982, in which the Council decided to appoint a special rapporteur to consider the questions related to summary or arbitrary executions;

5. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council decision 1990/233 of 25 May 1990, in which the Council approved the decision of the Commission on Human Rights²⁶⁷ to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for another two years and also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur;

6. *Urges* all Governments, in particular those which have consistently not responded to communications transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur, and all others concerned to co-operate with and assist the Special Rapporteur so that he may carry out his mandate effectively;

7. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur, in carrying out his mandate, to respond effectively to information that comes before him, in particular when a summary or arbitrary execution is imminent or threatened, or when such an execution has recently occurred, and, furthermore, to promote exchanges of views between Governments and those who provide reliable information to the Special Rapporteur, where the Special Rapporteur considers that such exchanges of information might be useful;

8. *Welcomes* the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur in his reports²⁶⁸ to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-fourth, forty-fifth and

²⁶⁷ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1990/22 and Corr.1)*, chap. II, sect. A, resolution 1990/51.

²⁶⁸ E/CN.4/1988/22 and Add.1 and 2, E/CN.4/1989/25 and E/CN.4/1990/22 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

forty-sixth sessions with a view to eliminating summary or arbitrary executions;

9. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to organize training programmes and support projects with a view to training or educating law enforcement officers in human rights issues connected with their work, and appeals to the international community to support endeavours to that end;

10. *Considers* that the Special Rapporteur, in carrying out his mandate, should continue to seek and receive information from Governments, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as well as medical and forensic experts;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur so that he may effectively carry out his mandate;

12. *Again requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use his best endeavours in cases where the minimum standard of legal safeguards provided for in articles 6, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights appear not to have been respected;

13. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-seventh session, on the basis of the report of the Special Rapporteur to be prepared in conformity with Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/35, 1983/36, 1984/35, 1985/40, 1986/36, 1987/60 and 1988/38, to make recommendations concerning appropriate action to combat and eventually eliminate the abhorrent practice of summary or arbitrary executions.

69th plenary meeting
18 December 1990

45/163. Strengthening of United Nations action in the human rights field through the promotion of international co-operation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and its determination to promote social progress and better standards of living in greater freedom,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace,

Bearing in mind equally that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling that, in accordance with Article 55 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Organization shall promote universal respect for, and observance of,

human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, with a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being that are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and that, in accordance with Article 56, all Members pledge themselves to take joint and separate action in co-operation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55,

Reiterating that Member States should continue to act in the human rights field in conformity with the provisions of the Charter,

Desirous of achieving further progress in international co-operation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that such international co-operation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁵ the International Covenants on Human Rights³³ and other relevant instruments,

Deeply convinced that such co-operation should be based on a profound understanding of the economic, social and cultural realities and the variety of problems existing in different societies,

Recalling its resolutions 32/130 of 16 December 1977, 37/200 of 18 December 1982, 41/155 of 4 December 1986 and 43/155 of 8 December 1988,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 2131 (XX) of 21 December 1965, 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 and 36/103 of 9 December 1981,

Aware of the fact that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as legitimate concerns of the world community should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends,

Underlining the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States in co-operation with the Organization to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to base their activities for the protection and promotion of human rights, including the development of further international co-operation in this field, on the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,³³ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights³³ and other relevant international instruments and to re-

frain from activities that are inconsistent with this international legal framework;

4. *Considers* that international co-operation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights, to the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. *Affirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as legitimate concerns of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends;

6. *Expresses its conviction* that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international co-operation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Underlines*, in this context, the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

8. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, as well as international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international co-operation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

9. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights, at its forty-seventh session, to examine the content of the present resolution, including ways and means to strengthen United Nations action in this regard.

69th plenary meeting
18 December 1990

45/164. International Year for the World's Indigenous People

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations set forth in the Charter is the achievement of international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Taking note of the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council, in its decision 1990/248 of 25 May 1990, that the General Assembly proclaim 1993 as an international year for the world's indigenous people,

Taking into account the guidelines for international years and anniversaries adopted in its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980,

1. *Proclaims* 1993 as International Year for the World's Indigenous People, with a view to strengthening international co-operation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous communities in areas such as