

approaches to enhancing the effective operation of the human rights treaty system, and requests that the Commission on Human Rights review the proposals to be submitted in the final report of the independent expert with a view to recommending further action;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give high priority to establishing a computerized database to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the functioning of the treaty bodies;

4. *Again urges* States parties to make every effort to meet their reporting obligations and to contribute, individually and through meetings of States parties, to identifying and implementing ways of further streamlining and improving reporting procedures as well as enhancing coordination and information flow between the treaty bodies and with relevant United Nations bodies, including specialized agencies;

5. *Welcomes* the emphasis placed by the meeting of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies¹⁴¹ and by the Commission on Human Rights on the importance of technical assistance and advisory services, and further to this end:

(a) Endorses the request of the Commission that the Secretary-General report regularly to the Commission on possible technical assistance projects identified by the treaty bodies;

(b) Invites the treaty bodies to give priority attention to identifying such possibilities in the regular course of their work of reviewing the periodic reports of States parties;

6. *Endorses* the recommendations of the meetings of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies on the need to ensure financing and adequate staffing resources for the operations of the treaty bodies, and with this in mind:

(a) Reiterates its request that the Secretary-General provide adequate resources in regard to the various treaty bodies;

(b) Requests that the Secretary-General report on this question to the Commission on Human Rights at its fiftieth session and to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

7. *Urges* States parties to notify the Secretary-General, as depository of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination⁵ and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,⁷⁵ of their acceptance of the amendments approved by the States parties, and by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/111, for the purpose of funding the respective committees from the regular budget;

8. *Calls upon* all States parties to fulfil without delay and in full their financial obligations, including their arrears, under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment until the amendments enter into force;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures to ensure that the two committees established under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading

Treatment or Punishment meet as scheduled until the amendments enter into force;

10. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General¹⁴⁴ on the effective implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of the fourth meeting of persons chairing human rights treaty bodies, held in October 1992, particularly the holding of the meeting of the chairpersons and those persons chairing each of the principal regional and other human rights bodies at Vienna on 15 and 16 June 1993, within the framework of the World Conference on Human Rights, at which the "Vienna statement of the international human rights treaty bodies"¹⁴⁵ was adopted;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take the appropriate steps in order to continue financing the biennial meetings of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies from the available resources of the regular budget of the United Nations;

12. *Decides* to continue giving priority consideration, at its forty-ninth session, to the conclusions and recommendations of the meetings of persons chairing human rights treaty bodies, in the light of the deliberations of the Commission on Human Rights, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993

48/121. World Conference on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/155 of 18 December 1990, in which it decided, *inter alia*, to convene at a high level a World Conference on Human Rights in 1993, and its resolutions 46/116 of 17 December 1991 and 47/122 of 18 December 1992,

Taking note with appreciation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,⁶ adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,

Bearing in mind the view of the Conference that the promotion and protection of human rights is a matter of priority for the international community,

Convinced that the Conference has made an important contribution to the cause of human rights and that its results have to be translated into effective action by States, the competent organs of the United Nations and its family of organizations and other organizations concerned, as well as non-governmental organizations,

Bearing in mind the recommendation of the Conference that the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and other organs and bodies of the United Nations system related to human rights consider ways and means for the full implementation, without delay, of the recommendations¹⁴⁶ contained in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Expressing its gratitude to the Government and people of Austria for acting as hosts to the Conference, for the excellent arrangements and for the hospitality extended to all participants,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Conference and

the members of the Secretariat for effectively preparing for and servicing the Conference,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the World Conference on Human Rights;¹⁴⁷
2. *Endorses* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the Conference on 25 June 1993;
3. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the work of the Conference, which constitutes a solid foundation for further action and initiatives by the United Nations and other interested international bodies, as well as by the States and national organizations concerned;
4. *Confirms* the views of the Conference on the urgency of eliminating denials and violations of human rights;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the distribution of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action as widely as possible and to include the text of the Declaration in the next edition of *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*;
6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the competent organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;
7. *Urges* all States to give widespread publicity to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and the work of the Conference in order to promote increased awareness of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
8. *Calls upon* all States to take further action with a view to the full realization of human rights in the light of the recommendations of the Conference;
9. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Conference that the Secretary-General, the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and other organs and bodies of the United Nations system related to human rights should take further action with a view to the full implementation of all recommendations of the Conference;
10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on the measures taken and the progress achieved in the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference;
11. *Decides* to include in the agenda of its forthcoming sessions, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", a standing sub-item entitled "Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action".

*85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993*

48/122. Human rights and terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights³ and the International Covenants on Human Rights,¹⁹

Bearing in mind that the most essential and basic human right is the right to life,

Bearing in mind also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,⁶ adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,

Reiterating that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also that every individual should strive to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance,

Seriously concerned at the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups,

Profoundly deploring the increasing number of innocent persons, including women, children and the elderly, killed, massacred and maimed by terrorists in indiscriminate and random acts of violence and terror, which cannot be justified under any circumstances,

Noting with great concern the growing connection between the terrorist groups and the illegal traffic in arms and drugs,

Mindful of the need to protect human rights of and guarantees for the individual in accordance with the relevant international human rights principles and instruments, particularly the right to life,

1. *Unequivocally condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever committed, as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States, destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, undermining pluralistic civil society and having adverse consequences on the economic and social development of States;
2. *Calls upon* States, in accordance with international standards of human rights, to take all necessary and effective measures to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism;
3. *Urges* the international community to enhance cooperation in the fight against the threat of terrorism at national, regional and international levels;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Member States and to competent specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations;
5. *Decides* to consider this question at its forty-ninth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

*85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993*

48/123. Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Charter of the United Nations the peoples of the United Nations declared their determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and