

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

worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in the Charter, is to achieve international cooperation 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,

Emphasizing the significance and validity of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights³ and of the International Covenants on Human Rights¹⁹ in promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling further its resolution 32/130 of 16 December 1977, in which it decided that the approach to future work within the United Nations system with respect to human rights questions should take into account the concepts set forth in that resolution,

Noting with concern that many of the principles enunciated in resolution 32/130 have not yet been taken into consideration by the international community with all the necessary dynamism and objectivity,

Emphasizing the special importance of the purposes and principles proclaimed in the Declaration on the Right to Development, contained in the annex to its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

Reaffirming that the implementation of the right to development is an indispensable element in the process of creating the appropriate conditions for the full enjoyment and preservation of all human rights and fundamental liberties,

Taking into account the final documents of the Tenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Jakarta in September 1992,¹⁴⁸

Reiterating that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of development opportunities is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals within nations,

Expressing its particular concern about the progressive worsening of living conditions in the developing world and the negative impact thereof on the full enjoyment of human rights, and especially about the very serious economic situation of the African continent and the disastrous effects of the heavy burden of the external debt for the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America,

Reiterating its profound conviction that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interdependent and that equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of civil and political rights and of economic, social and cultural rights,

Deeply convinced that, today more than ever, economic and social development and human rights are complementary elements leading to the same goal, that is, the maintenance of peace and justice among nations as the foundation for the ideals of freedom and well-being to which mankind aspires,

Reiterating that cooperation among all nations on the basis of respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State, including the right of every people to choose freely its own socio-economic and political system, is essential for the promotion of peace and development,

Reiterating also that, in order to ensure the full implementation of the right to development, international cooperation should be conducive to an improvement of relations among States as well as to the commitment of States to refrain from conditioning their economic assistance to developing countries,

Considering that the efforts of the developing countries to promote their own development should be supported by an increased flow of resources and by the adoption of appropriate and substantive measures for creating an external environment conducive to such development,

1. *Reiterates its request* that the Commission on Human Rights continue its current work on overall analysis with a view to further promoting and strengthening human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the question of the programme and working methods of the Commission, and on the overall analysis of the alternative approaches and ways and means for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the provisions and ideas set forth in General Assembly resolution 32/130;

2. *Affirms* that a primary aim of international cooperation in the field of human rights is a life of freedom, dignity and peace for all peoples and for every human being, that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from promoting and protecting the others;

3. *Reaffirms* that equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of civil and political rights and of economic, social and cultural rights;

4. *Reiterates once again* that the international community should accord, or continue to accord, priority to the search for solutions to mass and flagrant violations of human rights of peoples and individuals affected by situations such as those mentioned in paragraph 1 (e) of General Assembly resolution 32/130, paying due attention also to other situations of violations of human rights;

5. *Notes* that the questions mentioned in paragraph 4 above were discussed during the World Conference on Human Rights held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993 and are referred to in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action⁶ as obstacles still prevailing to the achievement of further progress in the field of human rights;

6. *Reaffirms* that the right to development is an inalienable human right;

7. *Reaffirms also* that international peace and security are essential elements for achieving the full realization of the right to development;

8. *Recognizes* that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interdependent;

9. *Considers it necessary* for all Member States to promote international cooperation on the basis of respect for the

independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State, including the right of every people to choose freely its own socio-economic and political system, with a view to solving international economic, social and humanitarian problems;

10. *Urges* all States to cooperate with the Commission on Human Rights in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

11. *Also urges* all States to promote international cooperation which contributes to the enhancement of the promotion and preservation of human rights, unbiased by any political motivation or condition whatsoever;

12. *Decides* that the approaches to future work within the United Nations system on human rights matters should take into account the content of the Declaration on the Right to Development and the need for the implementation thereof;

13. *Decides* to consider this question at its forty-ninth session.

*85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993*

48/124. Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purpose of the United Nations 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,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling also its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, by which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling further the principle enshrined in Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter of the United Nations, which establishes that nothing contained in the Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State or shall require the Members to submit such matters to settlement under the Charter,

Reaffirming the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples for independence, territorial integrity, national unity and for liberation from colonial domination and apartheid, and for the establishment of a society in which the people, irrespective of race, colour or creed, will fully enjoy political and other rights on a basis of equality and participate freely in the determination of their destiny,

Reaffirming also the legitimacy of the struggle of all peoples under colonial and foreign domination, particularly the Palestinian people, for the exercise of their inalienable right to

self-determination and national independence, which will enable them to decide freely on their own future,

Recognizing that the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of any State should be respected in the holding of elections,

Recognizing also that there is no single political system or single model for electoral processes equally suited to all nations and their peoples, and that political systems and electoral processes are subject to historical, political, cultural and religious factors,

Convinced that the establishment of the necessary mechanisms and means to guarantee full popular participation in electoral processes corresponds to States,

Recalling its resolutions in this regard, in particular resolution 47/130 of 18 December 1992,

Welcoming 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, in which the Conference reaffirmed that the processes of promoting and protecting human rights should be conducted in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter,

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 and without external interference, to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is the concern solely of peoples to determine methods and to establish institutions regarding the electoral process, as well as to determine the ways for its implementation according to their constitution and national legislation, and that, consequently, States should establish the necessary mechanisms and means to guarantee full popular participation in those processes;

3. *Reaffirms also* that any activities that attempt, directly or indirectly, to interfere in the free development of national electoral processes, in particular in the developing countries, or that are intended to sway the results of such processes, violate the spirit and letter of the principles established in the Charter and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Reaffirms further* that there is no universal need for the United Nations to provide electoral assistance to Member States, except in special circumstances such as cases of decolonization, in the context of regional or international peace processes or at the request of specific sovereign States, by virtue of resolutions adopted by the Security Council or the General Assembly in each case, in strict conformity with the principles of sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States;

5. *Urges* all States to respect the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States and the sovereign right of peoples to determine their political, economic and social systems;