

mine, 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 cooperation 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 cooperation in this field, on the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>54</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>54</sup> and other relevant international instruments, and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with that international framework;

4. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations 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. *Requests* all human rights bodies within the United Nations system, as well as the special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups, to take duly into account the contents of the present resolution in carrying out their mandates;

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

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

9. *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, and international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights, at its fiftieth session, to continue to examine ways and means to strengthen United Nations action in this regard on the basis of the present resolution and of Commission resolution 1993/59;

11. *Decides* to consider this matter at its forty-ninth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

85th plenary meeting  
20 December 1993

#### 48/126. United Nations Year for Tolerance

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that the Charter of the United Nations affirms in its preamble that to practise tolerance is one of the principles to be applied to attain the ends pursued by the United Nations of preventing war and maintaining peace,

*Recalling also* that one of the purposes of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter is the achievement of 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,

*Mindful* of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>3</sup> and of the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>19</sup>

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

*Convinced* that tolerance - the recognition and appreciation of others, the ability to live together with and to listen to others - is the sound foundation of any civil society and of peace,

*Recalling* its resolution 47/124 of 18 December 1992, in which, *inter alia*, it invited the Economic and Social Council to consider at its substantive session of 1993 the question of proclaiming 1995 the United Nations year for tolerance and to transmit a recommendation to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session,

*Recalling also* resolution 5.6 of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, concerning the proclamation of 1995 as the United Nations year for tolerance,<sup>149</sup>

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/57 of 29 July 1993, in which the Council recommended that the General Assembly, at its forty-eighth session, proclaim 1995 the United Nations year for tolerance,

*Taking into account* the note by the Secretary-General<sup>150</sup> transmitting the report of the Director-General of the the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

*Bearing in mind* its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 concerning guidelines for international years and anniversaries,

*Noting* that the preparations for the United Nations year for tolerance will not involve any financial implications for the United Nations,

1. *Proclaims* 1995 the United Nations Year for Tolerance;

2. *Recommends* that the specialized agencies, regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system consider in their respective forums the contributions they could make to the success of the Year;

3. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to assume the role of lead organization for the Year;

4. *Calls upon* all Member States to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the preparation of the national and international programmes for the Year and to participate actively in the implementation of the activities to be organized within the framework of the Year;

5. *Invites* interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to exert efforts in their respective fields to contribute adequately to the preparation of programmes for the Year;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to prepare, in accordance with its General Conference resolution 5.6, a declaration on tolerance;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled "Preparation for and organization of the United Nations Year for Tolerance".

85th plenary meeting  
20 December 1993

#### 48/127. Decade for human rights education

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>3</sup>

*Reaffirming* article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, according to which "education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms",

*Recalling* the provisions of other international human rights instruments, such as those of article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>4</sup> and article 20 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>5</sup> that reflect the aims of the aforementioned article,

*Convinced* that human rights education is a universal priority in that it contributes to a concept of development consistent with the dignity of the human person, which must include consideration of the diversity of groups such as children, women, youths, persons with disabilities, the ageing, indigenous people, minorities and other groups,

*Aware* that human rights education involves more than providing information but rather is a comprehensive life-long process by which people at all levels of development and in all strata of society learn respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring that respect within a democratic society,

*Taking into account* the efforts made by educators and non-governmental organizations in all parts of the world, as well as by intergovernmental organizations, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Children's Fund, to promote education in accordance with the aforementioned principles,

*Considering* the World Plan of Action on Education for Human Rights and Democracy,<sup>151</sup> adopted by the International Congress on Education for Human Rights and Democracy convened by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at Montreal from 8 to 11 March 1993, according to which education for human rights and democracy is itself a human right and a prerequisite for the realization of human rights, democracy and social justice,

*Aware* of the experience in human rights education of United Nations peace-building operations, including the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador and the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia,

*Taking into account* Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/56 of 9 March 1993,<sup>33</sup> in which the Commission recommended that knowledge of human rights, both in its theoretical dimension and in its practical application, should be established as a priority in educational policies,

*Bearing in mind* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>6</sup> adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights at Vienna on 25 June 1993, in particular section II, paragraphs 78 to 82,

1. *Appeals* to all Governments to step up their efforts to eradicate illiteracy and to direct education towards the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Urges* governmental and non-governmental educational agencies to intensify their efforts to establish and implement programmes of human rights education, as recommended in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

3. *Takes note* of the World Plan of Action on Education for Human Rights and Democracy and recommends that Governments and non-governmental organizations consider it in preparing national plans for human rights education;

4. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights, in cooperation with Member States, human rights treaty-monitoring bodies, other appropriate bodies and competent non-governmental organizations, to consider proposals for a United Nations decade for human rights education, which should be incorporated by the Secretary-General into a plan of action for such a decade and submitted, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, with a view to the proclamation of a decade for human rights education;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the establishment of a voluntary fund for human rights education, with special provision for the support of the human rights education activities of non-governmental organizations, to be administered by the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat;

6. *Invites* the specialized agencies and United Nations programmes to develop suitable activities in their respective fields of competence to further the objectives of human rights education;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community and to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights and education;