

Affirming the importance of the objectivity, independence and discretion of the special rapporteurs and representatives on thematic issues and countries, as well as of the members of the working groups, in carrying out their mandates,

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 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,¹¹⁸ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹¹⁹ 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. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights 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 of 9 March 1993;³¹

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

94th plenary meeting
23 December 1994

49/182. Respect for the universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recalling the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹¹

Stressing that, as stated in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,⁴² held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, family reunification of documented migrants is an important factor in international migration, and that financial remittances by documented migrants to their countries of origin often constitute a very important source of foreign exchange and are instrumental in improving the well-being of relatives left behind,

1. *Calls upon* all States to ensure the universally recognized freedom of travel to all foreign nationals legally residing in their territory;

2. *Reaffirms* that all Governments, particularly those of receiving countries, must recognize the vital importance of family reunification and promote its integration into their national legislation in order to ensure the protection of the unity of the families of documented migrants;

3. *Calls upon* all States to allow, in conformity with national legislation, the free flow of financial remittances by foreign nationals residing in their territory to their relatives in the country of origin;

4. *Also calls upon* all States to discourage and reverse legislation that adversely affects the family reunification of documented migrants and the transfer of financial remittances;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to consider this issue at its fifty-first session.

94th plenary meeting
23 December 1994

49/183. Right to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration on the Right to Development,¹³³ which it proclaimed at its forty-first session,

Recalling its resolutions 45/97 of 14 December 1990, 46/123 of 17 December 1991, 47/123 of 18 December 1992 and 48/130 of 20 December 1993, and those of the Commission on Human Rights relating to the right to development, and taking note of Commission resolution 1994/21 of 1 March 1994,³²

Recalling also the report on the Global Consultation on the Realization of the Right to Development as a Human Right,¹³⁴

¹³³ Resolution 41/128, annex.

¹³⁴ E/CN.4/1990/9/Rev.1.

Recalling further the principles proclaimed in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development of 14 June 1992,¹³⁵

Mindful that the Commission on Human Rights continues to consider this matter, which is directed towards the implementation and further enhancement of the right to development,

Recognizing the need to provide adequate resources to the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to support the work of the Working Group on the Right to Development,

Noting the need for coordination and cooperation throughout the United Nations system for the more effective promotion of the right to development,

Recognizing that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Centre for Human Rights have important roles to play in the promotion and protection of the right to development,

Reaffirming the need for action at the national and international levels by all Member States to realize all human rights, and the need for relevant evaluation mechanisms to ensure the promotion, encouragement and reinforcement of the principles contained in the Declaration on the Right to Development,

Welcoming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,⁵ which reaffirms the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights and reaffirms that the human person is the central subject of development,

Recalling that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action examined the relationship between democracy, development and human rights, and recognizing the importance of creating a favourable environment in which everyone may enjoy their human rights as set out in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Recalling also that, in order to promote development, equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the universality, objectivity, impartiality and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues must be ensured,

Noting that aspects of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,⁴² held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, are relevant to the universal realization of the right to development,

Welcoming the convening of the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace in 1995 and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) in 1996, and affirming that those conferences constitute important international steps towards the realization of the right to development, within the context of promoting and protecting all human rights,

Taking note with appreciation of the continuing work of the Working Group on the Right to Development during its three

sessions, held at Geneva from 8 to 19 November 1993, from 2 to 13 May 1994 and from 3 to 14 October 1994,¹³⁶

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,¹³⁷ prepared pursuant to resolution 48/130,

1. Reaffirms the importance of the right to development for every human person and all peoples in all countries, in particular the developing countries;

2. Takes note of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General;¹³⁷

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of Commission resolution 1994/21;

4. Calls upon the Commission on Human Rights to consider carefully the reports of the Working Group on the Right to Development¹³⁶ and to request the Working Group, in fulfilling its mandate, to continue to examine and sustain attention to all the various aspects of the right to development, with a view to making recommendations for enhancing the universal realization of the right to development through, *inter alia*, the implementation of the provisions of the Declaration on the Right to Development, reaffirmed by the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

5. Requests the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to continue to be forthcoming in providing adequate services and logistical support to the Working Group on the Right to Development to ensure the smooth functioning of its meetings;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue coordination of the various activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to ask the Centre for Human Rights to provide a programmatic follow-up on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development, as part of the efforts to implement the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

8. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within his mandate, to continue to take steps for the promotion and protection of the right to development by, *inter alia*, working in conjunction with the Centre for Human Rights and drawing on the expertise of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system related to the field of development;

9. Supports the current initiatives of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, within his mandate, to consult with all relevant bodies, funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system on how they may promote the right to development;

10. Invites the regional commissions and regional intergovernmental organizations to consider how they may contribute to the realization of the right to development, including through convening meetings of governmental experts and representative non-governmental and grass-roots organizations for the purpose of seeking arrangements or agreements for the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development through international cooperation;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to inform the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session and the General Assembly at its fiftieth session of the activities of the organizations, funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the

¹³⁵ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.1.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions Adopted by the Conference, resolution I, annex I.

¹³⁶ See E/CN.4/1994/21 and Corr.1, E/CN.4/1995/11 and E/CN.4/1995/27, respectively.

¹³⁷ A/49/653.

United Nations system relating to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development;

12. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to make proposals to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on the future course of action on the question, in particular on practical measures for the implementation and enhancement of the Declaration on the Right to Development, taking into account the conclusions and recommendations of the Global Consultation on the Realization of the Right to Development as a Human Right and the reports of the Working Group on the Right to Development;

13. *Reiterates its commitment* to implementing the results of the World Conference on Human Rights, at which it was reaffirmed that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing;

14. *Calls upon* States Members of the United Nations to address, within the declarations and programmes of action to be adopted by the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), the elements for the promotion and protection of the principles of the right to development, as set out in the Declaration on the Right to Development;

15. *Decides* to consider this question at its fiftieth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

94th plenary meeting
23 December 1994

49/184. United Nations 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,¹¹

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 Rights¹² and article 28 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,¹³ that reflect the aims of the aforementioned article,

Taking into account Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/56 of 9 March 1993,¹⁴ 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 education policies,

Considering Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/51 of 4 March 1994,¹⁵ in which the Commission encouraged the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to include among his specific objectives a plan of action for the United Nations decade for human rights education and invited the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a plan of action for a decade for human rights education,

Convinced that human rights education should involve more than the provision of information and should constitute a comprehensive life-long process by which people at all levels in development and in all strata of society learn respect for the

dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring that respect in all societies,

Convinced also that human rights education contributes to a concept of development consistent with the dignity of women and men of all ages that takes into account the diverse segments of society such as children, indigenous peoples, minorities and disabled persons,

Taking into account the efforts to promote human rights education 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 Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund,

Convinced that each woman, man and child, to realize their full human potential, must be made aware of all their human rights - civil, cultural, economic, political and social,

Believing that human rights education constitutes an important vehicle for the elimination of gender-based discrimination and ensuring equal opportunities through the promotion and protection of the human rights of women,

Considering the World Plan of Action on Education for Human Rights and Democracy,¹⁶ 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,

Recalling that it is the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to coordinate relevant United Nations education and public information programmes in the field of human rights,¹⁷

Taking note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,¹⁸ in paragraph 94 of which he declared that human rights education is essential for the encouragement of harmonious inter-community relations, for mutual tolerance and understanding and finally for peace,

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,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,¹⁹ in particular section II, paragraphs 78 to 82 thereof,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General¹⁴¹ on human rights education, submitted in accordance with the request contained in its resolution 48/127 of 20 December 1993;

2. *Proclaims* the ten-year period beginning on 1 January 1995 the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education;

3. *Welcomes* the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, as contained in

¹³⁸ See A/CONF.157/PC/42/Add.6.

¹³⁹ See resolution 48/141, para. 4 (e).

¹⁴⁰ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 36 (A/49/36).*

¹⁴¹ A/49/261-E/1994/110 and Add.1.