



General Assembly

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2011

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/66/462/Add.2)]

66/151. The universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing nature of all human rights and fundamental freedoms

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations, including developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and achieving international cooperation 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,

Acknowledging that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being, and recognizing that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,² and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,³ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights³ and other human rights instruments,

Recognizing that, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ideal of free human beings enjoying civil and political freedom and freedom from fear and want can be achieved only if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy her or his civil and political rights as well as her or his economic, social and cultural rights,

Recalling that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action reaffirmed the right to development, as established in the Declaration on the Right to Development,⁴ as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

³ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁴ Resolution 41/128, annex.



fundamental human rights, and the human person as the central subject of development, and recognizing that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights,

Recalling also that the work of the Human Rights Council is to be guided by the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, constructive international dialogue and cooperation, with a view to enhancing the promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development,

Recognizing the efforts of the international community to ensure the universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing nature of, and to give equal and fair treatment to, all human rights and fundamental freedoms, while acknowledging the important role played by enhanced international cooperation in the field of human rights in this regard,

1. *Reaffirms* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis;

2. *Recalls*, in this regard, the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues;

3. *Stresses* that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing;

4. *Acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger;

5. *Stresses* that the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights, and reaffirms that States should take steps to eliminate obstacles to development resulting from failure to observe civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights;

6. *Encourages* States to take into account the universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing nature of all human rights when integrating the promotion and protection of all human rights into relevant national policies and when promoting international cooperation in the field of human rights, while recalling that the primary responsibility for promoting and protecting human rights rests with the State;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to improve its efforts to take into account the universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing nature of all human rights when mainstreaming human rights into its activities, with a view to contributing to the full enjoyment of, universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Recognizes* the positive contribution of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, to promoting the universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing nature of all human rights, and encourages the continuation of efforts in this regard, as appropriate to their activities;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, treaty bodies, special procedures of the Human Rights Council and other mandate holders to continue to improve their efforts to take into account the universal,

indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing nature of all human rights in the fulfilment of their mandates;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*89th plenary meeting
19 December 2011*