



General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 June 1999
English
Original: English and French

Fifty-fourth session

Item 117 (b) of the preliminary list*

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the General Assembly resolution 29 C/40, entitled “International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition”, which was adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) at its twenty-ninth session and forwarded to him by the Director-General of UNESCO.

* A/54/50.

Resolution 29 C/40, entitled “International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition”, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-ninth session

The General Conference,

Bearing in mind 20 C/Resolution 4/1.2/7, adopted in 1978, which invites the Director-General to provide moral and material assistance towards the organization, each year, of a Black Peoples’ Day,

Noting with interest the support expressed for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization slave route project by the Organization of African Unity at its twenty-eighth session (Dakar, June 1992),

Recalling 27 C/Resolution 3.13, in which it approved the implementation of the intercultural and interregional project on the slave route,

Recalling also 28 C/Resolution 5.11 on the slave route and the proposal for the international commemoration of the slave trade,

1. *Endorses* the general approach and conception proposed by the Director-General in document 29 C/53 concerning the objectives and the programme for the commemoration and *approves* 150 EX/Decision 8.2;

2. *Proclaims* 23 August of every year International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition;

3. *Invites* Member States to give this international day all due prominence and to mobilize their educational, scientific, artistic and cultural communities, youth and, in general, civil society;

4. *Invites* the Director-General to ensure that the Organization is closely associated with this remembrance and that activities designed to further the values of tolerance, respect, acceptance and appreciation of the equal dignity of human beings and to promote intercultural dialogue are organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

5. *Also invites* the Director-General to transmit this resolution to the United Nations Secretary-General, with a request that he communicate it to the United Nations General Assembly with a view to the participation of United Nations Member States in this remembrance.