

Health Organization by the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

102nd plenary meeting
16 December 1976

31/126. Emergency assistance for South African refugee students

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/6 I of 9 November 1976 relating to the item entitled "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa",

Noting, in particular, that paragraph 12 of the above-mentioned resolution calls upon Member States and the specialized agencies, through emergency joint projects and financial assistance, to help Lesotho and other countries bordering South Africa to ensure the provision of educational facilities to the rapidly growing number of refugee students from South Africa,

Concerned about the continuing influx of refugees, including in particular large numbers of South African students fleeing to the bordering States of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, thus imposing a heavy burden on the limited resources and employment opportunities of these countries,

1. *Reaffirms* that humanitarian assistance by the international community to all those persecuted under repressive and discriminatory legislation in South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia is appropriate and essential;

2. *Recognizes* the urgent need to organize an effective programme of international assistance to help in dealing with the recent South African student refugee problem in countries bordering South Africa;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to consult with the Governments of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland and the liberation movements concerned with a view to taking immediate steps to organize and provide appropriate emergency financial and other forms of assistance for the care, subsistence and education of these refugee students;

4. *Urges* all States to respond generously to any appeals which the Secretary-General might make for assistance for these refugees;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa and other United Nations bodies and organs, as may be appropriate, to co-operate fully with the Secretary-General in the implementation of the programme of assistance;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the situation under review and to report to the General Assembly as and when necessary.

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31/127. Measures to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling the terms of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁴⁹ and of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,⁵⁰

Considering the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961⁵¹ and the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 1963,⁵²

Considering also the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975,⁵³ and the Recommendation concerning Migrant Workers, 1975,⁵⁴ adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,

Recalling its resolutions 2920 (XXVII) of 15 November 1972, 3224 (XXIX) of 6 November 1974 and 3449 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 concerning migrant workers, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1749 (LIV) of 16 May 1973, in which the Council affirmed the need for the United Nations to consider the situation of migrant workers in an inter-related manner and in relation to general factors which have a bearing on human rights and human dignity,

Aware that the problem of migrant workers continues to be of major importance to many States, despite the existence of international instruments and despite efforts exerted by certain States, including the adoption of bilateral agreements,

Believing that this problem is becoming more serious in certain regions for political, economic, social and cultural reasons,

Seriously concerned at the *de facto* discrimination frequently suffered by alien workers in some countries despite the legislative and other efforts exerted to prevent and punish it,

Noting with satisfaction the work done in the field of migrant workers by the specialized agencies, particularly the International Labour Organisation, and by other United Nations organs, such as the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

1. *Calls upon* all States, taking into account the provisions of the relevant instruments adopted by the International Labour Organisation and of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, to take measures to prevent and put an end to all discrimination against migrant workers and to ensure the implementation of such measures;

2. *Invites* all States:

(a) To extend to migrant workers having regular status in their territories treatment equal to that enjoyed by their own nationals with regard to the protection of human rights and to the provisions of their labour legislation and their social legislation;

⁴⁹ Resolution 217 A (III).

⁵⁰ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

⁵¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 500, No. 7310, p. 95.

⁵² *Ibid.*, vol. 596, No. 8638, p. 261.

⁵³ International Labour Office, *Official Bulletin*, vol. LVIII, 1975, Series A, No. 1, Convention No. 143.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, Recommendation No. 151.