

2840 (XXVI) of 18 December 1971 and 3020 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972,

Taking into account the special need for international action in order to ensure the prosecution and punishment of persons guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity,

Having considered the draft principles of international co-operation in the detection, arrest, extradition and punishment of persons guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity,²⁴

Declares that the United Nations, in pursuance of the principles and purposes set forth in the Charter concerning the promotion of co-operation between peoples and the maintenance of international peace and security, proclaims the following principles of international co-operation in the detection, arrest, extradition and punishment of persons guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity:

1. War crimes and crimes against humanity, wherever they are committed, shall be subject to investigation and the persons against whom there is evidence that they have committed such crimes shall be subject to tracing, arrest, trial and, if found guilty, to punishment.

2. Every State has the right to try its own nationals for war crimes or crimes against humanity.

3. States shall co-operate with each other on a bilateral and multilateral basis with a view to halting and preventing war crimes and crimes against humanity, and shall take the domestic and international measures necessary for that purpose.

4. States shall assist each other in detecting, arresting and bringing to trial persons suspected of having committed such crimes and, if they are found guilty, in punishing them.

5. Persons against whom there is evidence that they have committed war crimes and crimes against humanity shall be subject to trial and, if found guilty, to punishment, as a general rule in the countries in which they committed those crimes. In that connexion, States shall co-operate on questions of extraditing such persons.

6. States shall co-operate with each other in the collection of information and evidence which would help to bring to trial the persons indicated in paragraph 5 above and shall exchange such information.

7. In accordance with article 1 of the Declaration on Territorial Asylum of 14 December 1967,²⁵ States shall not grant asylum to any person with respect to whom there are serious reasons for considering that he has committed a crime against peace, a war crime or a crime against humanity.

8. States shall not take any legislative or other measures which may be prejudicial to the international obligations they have assumed in regard to the detection, arrest, extradition and punishment of persons guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

9. In co-operating with a view to the detection, arrest and extradition of persons against whom there is evidence that they have committed war crimes and crimes against humanity and, if found guilty, their punishment, States shall act in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations

and of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.²⁶

2187th plenary meeting
3 December 1973

3134 (XXVIII). Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in its resolution 3057 (XXVIII) of 2 November 1973 on the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, the General Assembly has emphasized, in the programme for the Decade, the need for universal ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,²⁷ as well as the need for giving full effect to all the provisions of the Convention,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on the fourth year of its activities,²⁸ submitted under article 9, paragraph 2, of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,

Noting the decisions of the Committee contained in chapter X of its report,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the increasing participation of States Parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in submitting their reports to the Committee and by sending representatives to the Committee when it considers their reports;

3. *Endorses* the Committee's request in its decision 2 (VIII) of 21 August 1973 concerning specific information to be made available to the Committee by the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples under article 15 of the Convention, on Trust Territories, Non-Self-Governing Territories and all other Territories to which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 applies, and draws to the attention of these organs the conclusions and recommendations set out in the report of the Committee²⁹ concerning information submitted by them;

4. *Takes note* of the Committee's decision 4 (VII) of 25 April 1973 relating to information supplied by the Syrian Arab Republic and, in this connexion, recalls its endorsement of the Committee's decision 4 (IV) of 30 August 1971 in section III of General Assembly resolution 2784 (XXVI) of 6 December 1971;

5. *Endorses* the request of the Committee contained in its decision 5 (VII) of 4 May 1973 concerning the holding of one of its sessions in 1974 at Geneva;

²⁶ Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

²⁷ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

²⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/9018).*

²⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 335.

²⁴ See A/9136.

²⁵ Resolution 2312 (XXII).

6. *Expresses the conviction* that the Committee, by fulfilling its responsibilities under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, will contribute to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3057 (XXVIII) relating to the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

7. *Urgently requests* all States which are not yet parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to ratify or accede to the Convention as soon as possible.

2201st plenary meeting
14 December 1973

3135 (XXVIII). Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in its resolution 3060 (XXVIII) of 2 November 1973 relating to the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the General Assembly invited States which had not yet done so to ratify, *inter alia*, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,³⁰

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;³¹

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to submit to the General Assembly annual reports concerning the state of ratifications of the Convention in accordance with its resolution 2106 A (XX) of 21 December 1965.

2201st plenary meeting
14 December 1973

3136 (XXVIII). Creation of the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2841 (XXVI) of 18 December 1971 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1237 (XLII) of 6 June 1967,

Taking note of the deliberations of the General Assembly, since its twentieth session, on the item entitled "Creation of the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights",

Taking note also of the note by the Secretary-General on the question,³²

Bearing in mind the Proclamation of Teheran of 13 May 1968,³³

Having regard to the existing machinery and procedures within the United Nations system for the implementation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, to the proceedings of the various organs and bodies of

the United Nations and to the various modalities suggested in the course of the deliberations of those bodies for the more effective implementation of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Expressing the hope that the International Covenants on Human Rights³⁴ will enter into force in the near future,

1. *Reaffirms* its conviction that further measures should be considered to ensure universal realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind;

2. *Decides* to keep under review the consideration of alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3. *Decides* accordingly to include in the provisional agenda of its thirtieth session an item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

2201st plenary meeting
14 December 1973

3137 (XXVIII). Question of the elderly and the aged

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2842 (XXVI) of 18 December 1971 on the question of the elderly and the aged,

Noting Economic and Social Council resolution 1751 (LIV) of 16 May 1973 on the aged and social security,

Bearing in mind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which emphasizes respect for the dignity and worth of the human person, especially article 25 thereof,

Bearing in mind also that the protection of the rights and welfare of the aged is one of the main goals of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,³⁵

Recognizing the growing interest for developing and developed societies alike in the fuller participation of the elderly in the mainstream of national societies,

Noting that the status of the elderly in society varies from country to country,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the question of the elderly and the aged³⁶ and the recommendations contained therein,

Concerned about the growing magnitude of the problems of the aged accompanied by changes in the age structure of societies and the consequent increase in the proportion of the older sector of populations in a growing number of countries,

1. *Expresses appreciation* for the report of the Secretary-General on the question of the elderly and the aged³⁶ and the note prepared by the World Health Organization on the health concerns of the elderly and the aged;³⁷

2. *Draws the attention* of Member States affected by the problem to the need for short-term and long-term policies and programmes for the elderly;

³⁰ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

³¹ A/9139.

³² A/9074.

³³ *Final Act of the International Conference on Human Rights* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.XIV.2), p. 3.

³⁴ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³⁵ Resolution 2542 (XXIV).

³⁶ A/9126 and Corr.1.

³⁷ *Ibid.*, annex III.