

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.

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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.

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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".

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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.

3. *Recommends* to Governments, in formulating such national policies and programmes, to take into account the guidelines suggested in the Secretary-General's report and to take appropriate action:

(a) To develop, as required and in accordance with their national priorities, programmes for the welfare, health and protection of older people, and their re-training in accordance with their needs, including measures aimed at maximizing their economic independence and their social integration with other segments of the population;

(b) To develop progressively social security measures to ensure that the aged, regardless of sex, receive an adequate income;

(c) To enhance the contribution of the elderly to social and economic development;

(d) To discourage, wherever and whenever the overall situation allows, discriminatory attitudes, policies and measures in employment practices based exclusively on age;

(e) To encourage the creation of employment opportunities for the elderly in accordance with their needs;

(f) To promote by all possible means the strengthening of the family unit;

(g) To stimulate bilateral and multilateral agreements of co-operation in the field of social security for the benefit of the aged;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the resources at his disposal and in co-ordinated co-operation with the specialized agencies concerned, to take appropriate action:

(a) To assist Governments, at their request, on questions of planning for the older sector of the population in the context of over-all development programmes and to help them develop the manpower needed to provide various functions in the field of aging;

(b) To continue to monitor the present and prospective changes in the numbers and proportions of the aged and their underlying demographic factors and, for this purpose, to maintain a system of collection and dissemination of information on aging;

(c) To undertake studies, drawing upon the expertise of the various competent bodies within the United Nations system and in consultation with its regional offices and with Governments, regarding the interrelationship between demographic, social and economic factors in aging;

(d) To promote research, at the international and national levels, for the further development of policies and standards, planning and evaluation methods and practical action in the field of aging;

(e) To promote scientific research on the subject of aging;

(f) To co-operate with bilateral and appropriate multilateral programmes interested in providing assistance to developing countries in the field of aging;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council in 1977, through the Commission for Social Development, a progress report on the action taken on the present resolution and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session;

6. *Requests* the organizations of the United Nations system concerned with aging, the regional economic commissions and the appropriate non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to give full support to the Secretary-General in this task;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the preparation of his report, to take into account the views expressed by Member States during the debate on the item in the Third Committee.

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3138 (XXVIII). Social security for the aged

The General Assembly,

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

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1405 (XLVI) and 1406 (XLVI) of 5 June 1969 and 1751 (LIV) of 16 May 1973,

Taking note of the corresponding reports of the Secretary-General, particularly those on the question of the elderly and the aged³⁸ and on the United Nations Interregional Seminar on Industrial Social Welfare,³⁹

Considering that social security and social welfare are integral parts of the social and economic development of society as a whole,

Recognizing that adequate social security is of the greatest importance to the aged,

Bearing in mind article 11 (a) of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,⁴⁰ which envisages the provision of comprehensive social security schemes and social welfare services, the establishment and improvement of social security and insurance schemes for all persons who, because of illness, disability or old age, are temporarily or permanently unable to earn a living, with a view to ensuring a proper standard of living for such persons and for their families and dependants,

Affirming the important role of Governments in developing effective social security programmes through concerted efforts of national and local authorities, appropriate organizations and the population itself,

Considering that the protection of the aged is an important part of any comprehensive social security scheme, that such schemes should be an integral part of the social and economic development of society as a whole and that, therefore, the protection of the aged cannot be dealt with in isolation,

1. *Considers* social security to be an integral part of national programmes for improving the well-being of the population, particularly of the aged, within the framework of the State's long-term social and economic planning;

2. *Calls upon* Governments to assume responsibility for guiding and planning social security in all sectors along with the development of legislation in the field of social security programmes;

³⁸ A/9126 and Corr.1.

³⁹ E/CN.5/484.

⁴⁰ Resolution 2542 (XXIV).