

32/62. Draft convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The General Assembly,

Having regard to article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights²⁴ and article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,²⁵ both of which provide that no one may be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Recalling the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, contained in the annex to its resolution 3452 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

Believing that further international efforts are needed to ensure adequate protection for all against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Welcoming in that regard the work that has been done, or is being done, on the basis of General Assembly resolution 3453 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

Considering that a further significant step would be the adoption of an international convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

1. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to draw up a draft convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in the light of the principles embodied in the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

2. *Further requests* the Commission on Human Rights to submit a progress report on its work to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-third session the item entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment" for the purpose of reviewing the progress achieved in accordance with the present resolution.

*98th plenary meeting
8 December 1977*

32/63. Questionnaire on the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, contained in the annex to its resolution 3452 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

Recalling its resolutions 3453 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 and 31/85 of 13 December 1976,

Having regard to article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,²⁶ which provides

that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Taking note of resolution 7 (XXVII) of 20 August 1974 of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities²⁷ regarding its annual review of developments in the field of human rights of persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment,

Reiterating that the Declaration should serve as a guideline for all States and other entities exercising effective power,

Gravely concerned over continued reports from which it appears that in some countries State authorities are systematically resorting to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to draw up and circulate among Member States a questionnaire soliciting information concerning steps they have taken, including legislative and administrative measures, to put into practice the principles of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment while giving special attention to the following subjects:

(a) Publicity given to the Declaration, not only in governmental bodies and services but also among the public at large;

(b) Effective measures for the prevention of torture;

(c) Training of law enforcement personnel and other public officials responsible for persons deprived of their liberty;

(d) Any pertinent legislative or administrative action taken since the adoption of the Declaration;

(e) Effective legal remedies for victims of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit the information provided in response to the questionnaire to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session and furthermore to submit such information to the Commission on Human Rights and to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at its thirty-second session.

*98th plenary meeting
8 December 1977*

32/64. Unilateral declarations by Member States against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the principles proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the dignity and worth of the human person place upon Member States the obligation to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights²⁸ and article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,²⁹ which stipulate that

²⁴ Resolution 217 A (III).

²⁵ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ See E/CN.4/1160, chap. XIX.

²⁸ Resolution 217 A (III).

²⁹ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.