

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, from the thirty-eighth session on, a biennial progress report bringing up to date the study on international conditions and human rights;

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

97th plenary meeting
14 December 1981

36/134. National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/123 of 16 December 1977, 33/46 of 14 December 1978 and 34/49 of 23 November 1979 concerning national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Mindful of the guidelines on the structure and functioning of national and local institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/46,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,¹¹⁵

Mindful also of the need to create conditions, at the national and international levels, for the promotion and protection of the human rights of individuals and peoples,

Emphasizing the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹¹⁶ the International Covenants on Human Rights¹¹⁷ and other international human rights instruments for promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Reiterating its conviction that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interdependent, and that equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of both civil and political rights, and economic, social and cultural rights,

Noting that the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council have been giving attention to the development of public information activities in the field of human rights,

1. *Invites* all Member States to take appropriate steps for the establishment or, where they already exist, the strengthening of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of the integrity and independence of such national institutions, in accordance with national legislation;

3. *Draws attention* to the constructive role that national non-governmental organizations can play in the work of national institutions;

4. *Invites* all Member States to take appropriate steps to disseminate the texts of human rights instruments, including international covenants and conventions, in their respective national or local languages in order to give the widest possible publicity to these instruments;

5. *Recommends* that all Member States should consider including material relevant to a comprehensive understanding of human rights issues in their educational curriculum;

¹¹⁵ A/36/440.

¹¹⁶ Resolution 217 A (III).

¹¹⁷ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

6. *Recommends* that all Member States should take appropriate steps to encourage the exchange of experience in the establishment of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in carrying out public information activities in the field of human rights, to give due attention to the role of national institutions and non-governmental organizations concerned with the promotion and protection of human rights;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to Member States, upon their request, in the implementation of paragraph 4 above, high priority being accorded to the needs of developing countries;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session a report providing detailed information on the various types of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, taking into account differing social and legal systems and the contribution that national institutions can make towards the implementation of the international human rights instruments;

10. *Recommends* that Member States should bring the present resolution to the attention of representatives of their national institutions;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session a subitem entitled "National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights".

97th plenary meeting
14 December 1981

36/135. Alternative approaches and ways and means in the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/175 of 15 December 1980, in which it decided to consider at its thirty-sixth session the question of the establishment of a post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights under the item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms",

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its thirty-seventh session,¹¹⁸

Noting that the Commission on Human Rights informed the General Assembly that it had not been able to reach a decision at its thirty-seventh session on the desirability of the establishment of a post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,

Noting also that the Commission on Human Rights has been seized of this question since its thirty-fourth session under the item entitled "Further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the question of the programme and methods of work of the Commission: alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms",

1. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-eighth session to consider this question with the attention it deserves;

2. *Further requests* the Commission on Human Rights to submit a report on its deliberations and their results to

¹¹⁸ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 5 (E/1981/25 and Corr.1).