

consideration of the draft body of guidelines, principles and guarantees, so that the Commission can submit its views and recommendations, including a draft body of guidelines, principles and guarantees, to the General Assembly at its forty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council.

*101st plenary meeting
14 December 1984*

39/133. Human rights and scientific and technological developments

The General Assembly,

Noting that scientific and technological progress is one of the important factors in the development of human society,

Noting once again the great importance of the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 3384 (XXX) of 10 November 1975,

Considering that implementation of the said Declaration will contribute to the strengthening of international peace and the security of peoples and to their economic and social development, as well as to international co-operation in the field of human rights,

Seriously concerned that the results of scientific and technological progress could be used for the arms race to the detriment of international peace and security and social progress, human rights and fundamental freedoms and the dignity of the human person,

Recognizing that the establishment of the new international economic order calls in particular for an important contribution to be made by science and technology to economic and social progress,

Bearing in mind that the exchange and transfer of scientific and technological knowledge is one of the important ways to accelerate the social and economic development of the developing countries,

Taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on human rights and scientific and technological developments,¹⁶⁷

1. *Stresses the importance of the implementation by all States of the provisions and principles contained in the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind in order to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms;*

2. *Calls upon all States to make every effort to use the achievements of science and technology in order to promote peaceful social, economic and cultural development and progress;*

3. *Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take into account in their programmes and activities the provisions of the Declaration;*

4. *Invites those Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet done so to submit their information pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/130 A of 11 December 1980;*

5. *Requests the Commission on Human Rights to give special attention, in its consideration of the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments", to the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Declaration, taking into consideration the information submitted by Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/130 A;*

6. *Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments".*

*101st plenary meeting
14 December 1984*

39/134. Human rights and use of scientific and technological developments

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the determination of the peoples of the United Nations to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to reaffirm faith in the dignity and worth of the human person, to maintain international peace and security and to develop friendly relations among peoples and international co-operation in promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹⁶⁸ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights¹⁶⁹ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹⁶⁹

Recalling also the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States¹⁷⁰ and the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,¹⁷¹

Recalling further the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security,¹⁷² the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind,¹⁷³ the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace,¹⁷⁴ and the Declaration on the Prevention of Nuclear Catastrophe,¹⁷⁵ as well as General Assembly resolutions 36/92 I of 9 December 1981, on the non-use of nuclear weapons and prevention of nuclear war, and 37/100 C of 13 December 1982 and 38/73 G of 15 December 1983, on a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind that, in its resolution 38/75 of 15 December 1983, the General Assembly resolutely, unconditionally and for all time condemned nuclear war as being contrary to human conscience and reason, as the most monstrous crime against peoples and as a violation of the foremost human right — the right to life,

Recalling its appeal for the conclusion of an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons with the participation of all the nuclear-weapon States,

Taking note with appreciation of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1982/7 of 19 February 1982,¹⁷⁶

¹⁶⁷ A/39/422 and Add.1.

¹⁶⁸ Resolution 217 A (III).

¹⁶⁹ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

¹⁷⁰ Resolution 3281 (XXIX).

¹⁷¹ Resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

¹⁷² Resolution 2734 (XXV).

¹⁷³ Resolution 3384 (XXX).

¹⁷⁴ Resolution 33/73.

¹⁷⁵ Resolution 36/100.

¹⁷⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 2 (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.*

1983/43 of 9 March 1983¹⁷⁷ and 1984/28 of 12 March 1984.¹⁷⁸

Reaffirming the inherent right to life,

Profoundly concerned that international peace and security continue to be threatened by the arms race in all its aspects, particularly the nuclear arms race, as well as by violations of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and the self-determination of peoples,

Aware that all the horrors of past wars and all other calamities that have befallen people would pale in comparison with what is inherent in the use of nuclear weapons capable of destroying civilization on Earth,

Noting the pressing need for urgent measures towards general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, for the sake of life on Earth,

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, any propaganda for war shall be prohibited by law,

Recalling the historic responsibility of the Governments of all countries of the world to remove the threat of war from the lives of people, to preserve civilization and to ensure that everyone enjoys his inherent right to life,

Convinced that for no people in the world today is there a more important question than that of the preservation of peace and of ensuring the cardinal right of every human being, namely, the right to life,

1. *Reaffirms* that all peoples and all individuals have an inherent right to life and that the safeguarding of this cardinal right is an essential condition for the enjoyment of the entire range of economic, social and cultural, as well as civil and political, rights;

2. *Stresses once again* the urgent need for the international community to make every effort to strengthen peace, remove the growing threat of war, particularly nuclear war, halt the arms race and achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control and prevent violations of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and self-determination of peoples, thus contributing to ensuring the right to life;

3. *Stresses further* the foremost importance of the implementation of practical measures of disarmament for releasing substantial additional resources, which should be utilized for social and economic development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries;

4. *Calls upon* all States, appropriate organs of the United Nations, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to take the necessary measures to ensure that the results of scientific and technological progress are used exclusively in the interests of international peace, for the benefit of mankind and for promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Again calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take effective measures with a view to prohibiting any propaganda for war, in particular the formulation, propounding and dissemination of propaganda for doctrines and concepts aimed at unleashing nuclear war;

6. *Looks forward* to further efforts by the Commission on Human Rights with a view to ensuring the inherent right of all peoples and all individuals to life;

7. *Decides* to consider this question at its fortieth session under the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments".

*101st plenary meeting
14 December 1984*

39/135. Question of a convention on the rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/166 of 20 December 1978, 34/4 of 18 October 1979, 35/131 of 11 December 1980, 36/57 of 25 November 1981, 37/190 of 18 December 1982 and 38/114 of 16 December 1983,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolutions 20 (XXXIV) of 8 March 1978,¹⁷⁹ 19 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979,¹⁸⁰ 36 (XXXVI) of 12 March 1980,¹⁸¹ 26 (XXXVII) of 10 March 1981,¹⁸² 1982/39 of 11 March 1982,¹⁸³ 1983/52 of 10 March 1983¹⁷⁷ and 1984/24 of 8 March 1984,¹⁷⁸ as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/18 of 5 May 1978, 1978/40 of 1 August 1978, 1982/37 of 7 May 1982, 1983/39 of 27 May 1983 and 1984/25 of 24 May 1984 and Council decisions 1980/138 of 2 May 1980 and 1981/144 of 8 May 1981,

Reaffirming that children's rights are basic human rights and call for continuous improvement of the situation of children all over the world, as well as their development and education in conditions of peace and security,

Recalling that the year 1984 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child¹⁸⁴ which was proclaimed to the end that the child might have a happy childhood and enjoy for his own good and for the good of society the rights and freedoms set forth therein and be, in all circumstances, among the first to receive protection and relief,

Aware of the fact that, twenty-five years after the adoption of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, the situation of children in many parts of the world still continues to be far from satisfactory,

Stressing again the need to keep up the momentum of positive action for the sake of children, generated by the International Year of the Child,

Mindful of the important role of the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations in promoting the well-being of children and their development,

Convinced of the significance of an international convention on the rights of the child as a standard-setting accomplishment of the United Nations, in the fields of social development and human rights, for protecting children's rights and ensuring their well-being,

Noting with satisfaction the widespread interest in the elaboration of an international convention on the rights of the child displayed by a great number of Member States, representing all geographical regions and socio-political systems, as well as by international organizations,

Noting with appreciation that further progress was made in the elaboration of a draft convention on the rights of the

¹⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, 1983, Supplement No. 3 (E/1983/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVII, sect. A.

¹⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, 1984, Supplement No. 4 (E/1984/14 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

¹⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, 1978, Supplement No. 4 (E/1978/34), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

¹⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, 1979, Supplement No. 6 (E/1979/36), chap. XXIV, sect. A.

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*, 1980, Supplement No. 3 (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

¹⁸² *Ibid.*, 1981, Supplement No. 5 (E/1981/25 and Corr.1), chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

¹⁸³ *Ibid.*, 1982, Supplement No. 2 (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

¹⁸⁴ Resolution 1386 (XIV).