

note of Council resolution 684 (XXVI) requesting the Secretary-General to keep in mind the possibility of organizing in the future an international seminar on a subject of universal interest.

*780th plenary meeting,
14 November 1958.*

1283 (XIII). International Health and Medical Research Year

The General Assembly,

Considering that active international co-operation and the exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of health and medical research are important factors in improving the health and welfare of mankind,

Desiring to encourage further practical steps to combat widely prevalent diseases, such as malaria, tuberculosis, smallpox, cholera, cancer, cardiovascular ailments, leprosy and poliomyelitis, which still represent a serious threat to the health of the people,

Believing that these aims could be greatly furthered by the organization of an International Health and Medical Research Year,

1. *Invites* the World Health Organization to consider, in accordance with article IV of the Agreement between the United Nations and the World Health Organization,³ the recommendation to organize, primarily on a national basis, an International Health and Medical Research Year, preferably in 1961, and to adopt methods for intensifying international co-operation in this field with a view to, *inter alia*:

(a) Disseminating the knowledge gained from experience in combating these diseases;

(b) Substantially expanding, co-ordinating and organizing joint scientific research in the prevention and treatment of these diseases and in the rehabilitation of patients;

(c) Exchanging experience in the use of atomic energy in medicine;

(d) Organizing popular health education on a broad scale;

(e) Providing assistance to under-developed countries, including equipment, medicine, special literature and qualified specialists;

2. *Further invites* the World Health Organization to transmit its views on this matter to the Economic and Social Council at its twenty-eighth session and to the General Assembly at its fourteenth session.

*782nd plenary meeting,
5 December 1958.*

1284 (XIII). Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having taken note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,⁴

Bearing in mind that a substantial international effort still needs to be made in order to achieve solutions for

non-settled refugees, and in particular for those living in camps,

Having considered the decisions taken by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugee Fund⁵ at its ninth (special) session pursuant to General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957,

1. *Welcomes* the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugee Fund that the protection activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees should be increased;

2. *Takes note* of the programme recommended for 1959 by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugee Fund;

3. *Notes* that the High Commissioner has been authorized by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugee Fund to appeal for the funds required for the programme;

4. *Appeals* to Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies to support the High Commissioner's programme, either through financial contributions or through offers of resettlement or both.

*782nd plenary meeting,
5 December 1958.*

1285 (XIII). World Refugee Year

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,⁴ together with the resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugee Fund at its ninth (special) session on 26 September 1958,⁶

Convinced of the need to make a further world-wide effort to help resolve the world refugee problem,

Having considered the proposal for a World Refugee Year to begin in June 1959,

Noting that this proposal has two aims, namely:

(a) To focus interest on the refugee problem and to encourage additional financial contributions from Governments, voluntary agencies and the general public for its solution,

(b) To encourage additional opportunities for permanent refugee solutions, through voluntary repatriation, resettlement or integration, on a purely humanitarian basis and in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the refugees themselves,

1. *Urges* States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies to co-operate, in accordance with the national wishes and needs of each country and from a humanitarian point of view, in promoting a World Refugee Year as a practical means of securing increased assistance for refugees throughout the world;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take such steps as he may think fit to assist in the promotion of a World Refugee Year in accordance with the present resolution.

*782nd plenary meeting,
5 December 1958.*

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 19 (1948), No. 115.

⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/3828/Rev.1) and Supplement No. 11A (A/3828/Rev.1/Add.1).*

⁵ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 11A (A/3828/Rev.1/Add.1), para. 21.
⁶ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 11A (A/3828/Rev.1/Add.1), appendix II.