

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General on a proposed United Nations conference on drug abuse control,¹⁴⁰

1. *Strongly urges* all States to summon the utmost political will to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking by generating increased political, cultural and social awareness;

2. *Calls upon* the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to give the highest attention and priority possible to international measures to combat illicit production of, trafficking in and demand for drugs;

3. *Also calls upon* all States that have not already done so to become parties to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961¹⁵¹ and the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961¹⁵² and to the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, and, in the mean time, to make serious efforts to comply with the provisions of these instruments;

4. *Decides* to convene, in 1987, an International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking at the ministerial level at the Vienna International Centre as an expression of the political will of nations to combat the drug menace, with the mandate to generate universal action to combat the drug problem in all its forms at the national, regional and international levels and to adopt a comprehensive multidisciplinary outline of future activities which focuses on concrete and substantive issues directly relevant to the problems of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, *inter alia*:

(a) To consider whether existing mechanisms, whereby experiences, methodologies and other information in law enforcement, preventive education, treatment and rehabilitation, research and development of manpower relating to the prevention and control of drug abuse can be exchanged, should be improved or, if necessary, complemented by new mechanisms;

(b) To intensify concerted efforts by governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to combat all forms of drug abuse, illicit trafficking and related criminal activities leading to the further development of national strategies that could be a basis for international action;

(c) To create heightened national and international awareness and sensitivity concerning the pernicious effects of the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, paying due attention to the demand dimension of the drug problem and to the role of the mass media, non-governmental organizations and other channels of dissemination of information about all aspects of the drug problem, especially in the prevention of drug abuse;

(d) To achieve as much harmonization as possible and to reinforce national legislation, bilateral treaties, regional arrangements and other international legal instruments, especially as they relate to enforcement and penalties against those involved in all aspects of illicit trafficking, including forfeiture of illegally acquired assets and extradition, and to develop co-operation in dealing with drug abusers, including their treatment and rehabilitation;

(e) To make further progress towards eradicating the sources of raw materials for illicit drugs through a comprehensive programme of integrated rural development, the development of alternative means of livelihood and retraining, law enforcement and, where appropriate, crop substitution;

(f) To control more effectively the production, distribution and consumption of narcotic drugs and psycho-

tropic substances with a view to limiting their use exclusively to medical and scientific purposes, in accordance with existing conventions, and, in this connection, to underline the central role of the International Narcotics Control Board;

(g) To strengthen the United Nations co-ordination of drug abuse control activities by, *inter alia*, increasing support for the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and to reinforce regional and other co-operation between Member States;

(h) To support strongly current high-priority initiatives and programmes of the United Nations, including the elaboration of a convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances which considers, in particular, those aspects of the problem not envisaged in existing international instruments;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate co-ordination and interaction between Member States and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and, in this regard, to appoint the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking at the earliest possible time;

6. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session for 1986, to invite the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to act as the preparatory body for the Conference, which shall be open to the participation of all States, and, for this purpose, to extend by one week the ninth special session of the Commission at Vienna in February 1986 in order to consider the agenda and the organizational arrangements for the Conference and, further, to submit its report on these matters to the Council at its first regular session of 1986;

7. *Reaffirms* the central role of the specialized expert input of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and calls upon all United Nations bodies to co-operate fully with the Commission and with the Secretary-General of the Conference in order to ensure effective preparations for the Conference;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, without prejudice to ongoing initiatives, programmes and work of the United Nations in the field of drugs, to cover as much as possible of the cost of holding the Conference through absorption within the regular budget for the biennium 1986-1987 and to facilitate consideration of the financial implications of the present resolution through established procedures, and further requests the Secretary-General to submit progress reports on the financial arrangements and implementation of the present resolution, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1986;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

116th plenary meeting
13 December 1985

40/123. National institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/123 of 16 December 1977, 33/46 of 14 December 1978, 34/49 of 23 November 1979, 36/134 of 14 December 1981, 38/123 of 16 December 1983 and 39/144 of 14 December 1984,

Mindful of the guidelines on the structure and functioning of national and local institutions for the promotion

¹⁵¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515, p. 204.

¹⁵² *Ibid.*, vol. 976, No. 14151, p. 4.

and protection of human rights, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/46.

Emphasizing the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁶ the International Covenants on Human Rights²⁴ and other international human rights instruments for promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Conscious of the significant role that institutions at the national level can play in protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms and in developing and enhancing public awareness and observance of those rights and freedoms,

Welcoming the organization at Geneva, under the auspices of the United Nations, of a seminar on the experience of different countries in the implementation of international standards on human rights, held from 20 June to 1 July 1983,¹⁵³ and a seminar on community relations commissions and their functions, held from 9 to 20 September 1985,¹⁵⁴

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹⁵⁵
2. *Emphasizes* the importance of developing, in accordance with national legislation, effective national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, and of maintaining their independence and integrity;
3. *Encourages* all Member States to take appropriate steps for the establishment or, where they already exist, the strengthening of national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights;
4. *Draws attention* to the constructive role that national non-governmental organizations can play in the work of such national institutions;
5. *Encourages* all Member States to take appropriate steps to promote the exchange of information and experience concerning the establishment of such national institutions;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give due attention to the role of national institutions and non-governmental organizations concerned with the protection and promotion of human rights and to provide all necessary assistance to Member States, upon their request, in the implementation of paragraphs 3 and 5 above, according high priority to the needs of developing countries;
7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide and, as appropriate, to enhance assistance in the field of human rights to Governments, at their request, within the framework of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;
8. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts of the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly, through the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council, a consolidated report, for eventual publication as a United Nations handbook, on national institutions for the use of Governments, including information on the various types and models of national and local institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, taking into account differing social and legal systems;
9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*116th plenary meeting
13 December 1985*

40/124. Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Charter of the United Nations the peoples of the United Nations declared their determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling also the purposes and principles of the Charter to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Emphasizing the significance and validity of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁶ and of the International Covenants on Human Rights²⁴ in promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling its resolution 32/130 of 16 December 1977, in which it decided that the approach to the future work within the United Nations system with respect to human rights questions should take into account the concepts set forth in that resolution,

Recalling also its resolutions 34/46 of 23 November 1979, 35/174 of 15 December 1980, 36/133 of 14 December 1981, 38/124 of 16 December 1983 and 39/145 of 14 December 1984,

Taking into account Commission on Human Rights resolution 1985/43 of 14 March 1985,³⁰

Underlining the fact that the right to development is an inalienable human right,

Recognizing that the human being is the main subject of development and that everyone has the right to participate in, as well as to benefit from, the development process,

Reiterating once again that the establishment of the new international economic order is an essential element for the effective promotion and the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Reiterating also its profound 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 and economic, social and cultural rights,

Reaffirming the importance of furthering the activities of the existing organs of the United Nations system in the field of human rights in conformity with the principles of the Charter,

Underlining the need for the creation of conditions at the national and international levels for the promotion and full protection of the human rights of individuals and peoples,

Recognizing that international peace and security are essential elements for the full realization of human rights, including the right to development,

Considering that the resources that would be released by disarmament could contribute significantly to the development of all States, in particular the developing countries,

¹⁵³ See ST/HR/SER.A/15.

¹⁵⁴ See ST/HR/SER.A/17.

³⁰ A/40.469.