

came and noted with satisfaction the work being undertaken by the Sub-Commission and requested the Commission on Human Rights to continue its consideration of this question in the light of the action being taken by the Sub-Commission, with a view to submitting a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council,

*Recalling further* Commission on Human Rights resolution 1982/6 of 19 February 1982,<sup>129</sup> in which the Commission requested the Sub-Commission, at its thirty-fifth session, to consider the question as a matter of high priority, with a view to submitting its views and recommendations, including a draft body of guidelines, principles and guarantees, to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session,

*Noting* that the Commission on Human Rights will not be in a position to submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session through the Economic and Social Council, as requested in Assembly resolution 36/56 B, because it was impossible for the Sub-Commission to conclude at its thirty-fifth session its consideration of the draft body of guidelines, principles and guarantees,

*Reaffirming* its conviction that detention of persons in mental institutions on account of their political views or on other non-medical grounds is a violation of their human rights,

*Noting with satisfaction* the progress made by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in its consideration of the draft body of guidelines, principles and guarantees submitted to it,

*Urges* the Commission on Human Rights and, through it, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to continue and expedite their consideration of this question with a view to the Commission submitting its views and recommendations to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council.

111th plenary meeting  
18 December 1982

### 37/189. Human rights and scientific and technological developments

#### A

##### *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, to develop friendly relations among peoples and international co-operation in promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms,

*Recalling* the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>135</sup> according to which everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>136</sup> and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>136</sup> article 6 of which states that every human being has the inherent right to life,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

*Recalling further* the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security,<sup>137</sup> the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind,<sup>138</sup> the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace,<sup>139</sup> the Declaration on the Prevention of Nuclear Catastrophe<sup>140</sup> and General Assembly resolution 36/92 I of 9 December 1981, on the non-use of nuclear weapons and prevention of nuclear war,

*Noting with appreciation* Commission on Human Rights resolution 1982/7 of 19 February 1982,<sup>129</sup>

*Reaffirming* the inherent right to life of all peoples and all individuals,

*Deeply concerned* that international peace and security continue to be threatened by the arms race, 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 self-determination of peoples,

*Aware* that all 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,

*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 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. *Expresses its firm conviction* that all peoples and all individuals have an inherent right to life, and that the safeguarding of this foremost 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* the urgent need for all possible efforts by the international community to strengthen peace, remove the 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 assuring 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 to take effective measures with a view to prohibiting by law any propaganda for war;

5. *Again 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 in-

<sup>137</sup> Resolution 2734 (XXV).

<sup>138</sup> Resolution 3384 (XXX).

<sup>139</sup> Resolution 33/73.

<sup>140</sup> Resolution 36/100.

<sup>135</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>136</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

terests of international peace, for the benefit of mankind and for promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion;

6. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights in its future activities to stress the need to ensure the cardinal right of everyone to life, liberty and security of person, and to live in peace;

7. *Decides* to consider this matter further at its thirty-eighth session under the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments".

*111th plenary meeting  
18 December 1982*

## B

### *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,

*Noting with satisfaction* the report of the Secretary-General on human rights and scientific and technological developments,<sup>141</sup>

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

<sup>141</sup> A/37/330 and Add.1.

"Human rights and scientific and technological developments", to the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Declaration;

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

*111th plenary meeting  
18 December 1982*

## 37/190. 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 and 36/57 of 25 November 1981,

*Recalling also* Commission on Human Rights resolutions 20 (XXXIV) of 8 March 1978,<sup>142</sup> 19 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979,<sup>143</sup> 36 (XXXVI) of 12 March 1980,<sup>144</sup> 26 (XXXVII) of 10 March 1981<sup>145</sup> and 1982/39 of 11 March 1982<sup>146</sup> as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/18 of 5 May 1978, 1978/40 of 1 August 1978 and 1982/37 of 7 May 1982 and Council decisions 1980/138 of 2 May 1980 and 1981/144 of 8 May 1981,

*Conscious* of the importance of its task to contribute to the improvement of the situation of children in the world and to ensure their development and education in conditions of peace,

*Bearing in mind* the need to pursue effective action with a view to generating an international record of accomplishment such as that of the International Year of the Child,

*Noting again* the important role of the United Nations Children's Fund and the specialized agencies in promoting the well-being of children and their development,

*Aware* of the importance of an international convention on the rights of the child for more effective protection of children's rights,

*Noting with appreciation* that further progress has been made in the elaboration of a draft convention on the rights of the child prior to<sup>147</sup> and during<sup>148</sup> the thirty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights,

1. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/37, by which the Council authorized a meeting of an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights for a period of one week prior to the thirty-ninth session of the Commission in order to facilitate completion of the work on a draft convention on the rights of the child;

2. *Invites* all Member States to offer their effective contribution to the elaboration of a draft convention;

3. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to give the highest priority at its thirty-ninth session to the question of completing a draft convention;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the working group in order to ensure its smooth and efficient work;

<sup>142</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 4* (E/1978/34), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

<sup>143</sup> *Ibid.*, 1979, *Supplement No. 6* (E/1979/36), chap. XXIV, sect. A.

<sup>144</sup> *Ibid.*, 1980, *Supplement No. 3* (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

<sup>145</sup> *Ibid.*, 1981, *Supplement No. 5* (E/1981/25 and Corr.1), chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

<sup>146</sup> *Ibid.*, 1982, *Supplement No. 2* (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

<sup>147</sup> See E/1982/12/Add.1, sect. C.

<sup>148</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 2* (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XI.