

PRINCIPLE 2

The child shall enjoy special protection, and shall be given opportunities and facilities, by law and by other means, to enable him to develop physically, mentally, morally, spiritually and socially in a healthy and normal manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity. In the enactment of laws for this purpose, the best interests of the child shall be the paramount consideration.

PRINCIPLE 3

The child shall be entitled from his birth to a name and a nationality.

PRINCIPLE 4

The child shall enjoy the benefits of social security. He shall be entitled to grow and develop in health; to this end, special care and protection shall be provided both to him and to his mother, including adequate pre-natal and post-natal care. The child shall have the right to adequate nutrition, housing, recreation and medical services.

PRINCIPLE 5

The child who is physically, mentally or socially handicapped shall be given the special treatment, education and care required by his particular condition.

PRINCIPLE 6

The child, for the full and harmonious development of his personality, needs love and understanding. He shall, wherever possible, grow up in the care and under the responsibility of his parents, and, in any case, in an atmosphere of affection and of moral and material security; a child of tender years shall not, save in exceptional circumstances, be separated from his mother. Society and the public authorities shall have the duty to extend particular care to children without a family and to those without adequate means of support. Payment of State and other assistance towards the maintenance of children of large families is desirable.

PRINCIPLE 7

The child is entitled to receive education, which shall be free and compulsory, at least in the elementary stages. He shall be given an education which will promote his general culture, and enable him, on a basis of equal opportunity, to develop his abilities, his individual judgement, and his sense of moral and social responsibility, and to become a useful member of society.

The best interests of the child shall be the guiding principle of those responsible for his education and guidance; that responsibility lies in the first place with his parents.

The child shall have full opportunity for play and recreation, which should be directed to the same purposes as education; society and the public authorities shall endeavour to promote the enjoyment of this right.

PRINCIPLE 8

The child shall in all circumstances be among the first to receive protection and relief.

PRINCIPLE 9

The child shall be protected against all forms of neglect, cruelty and exploitation. He shall not be the subject of traffic, in any form.

The child shall not be admitted to employment before an appropriate minimum age; he shall in no case be caused or permitted to engage in any occupation or employment which would prejudice his health or education, or interfere with his physical, mental or moral development.

PRINCIPLE 10

The child shall be protected from practices which may foster racial, religious and any other form of discrimination. He shall be brought up in a spirit of understanding, tolerance, friendship among peoples, peace and universal brotherhood, and in full consciousness that his energy and talents should be devoted to the service of his fellow men.

*841st plenary meeting,
20 November 1959.*

1387 (XIV). Publicity to be given to the Declaration of the Rights of the Child

The General Assembly,

Considering that the Declaration of the Rights of the Child¹ calls upon parents, upon men and women as individuals, and upon voluntary organizations, local authorities and national Governments to recognize the rights set forth therein and strive for their observance,

1. *Recommends* Governments of Member States, the specialized agencies concerned and the appropriate non-governmental organizations to publicize as widely as possible the text of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to have the Declaration widely disseminated and, to that end, to use every means at his disposal to publish and distribute texts in all languages possible.

*841st plenary meeting,
20 November 1959.*

1388 (XIV). Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,²

Noting with appreciation the progress made in the implementation of the programmes of international assistance carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner,

Noting in particular the progress made, within the framework of the World Refugee Year, as regards the admission of additional numbers of refugees, including handicapped cases, to countries of resettlement, as well as the contribution to the Office of the High Commissioner of additional funds for international assistance to refugees,

Expressing the hope that no additional efforts will be spared for the repatriation of refugees who wish to return to their country of origin,

Expressing the hope also that every effort will be made for the resettlement or integration of refugees,

1. *Invites* States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies to devote, on

¹ See resolution 1386 (XIV).

² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fourteenth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/4104/Rev.1) and Supplement No. 11A (A/4104/Rev.1/Add.1).*

the occasion of the World Refugee Year, special attention to the problems of refugees coming within the competence of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and in particular to consider the possibility of:

(a) Improving the legal status of refugees living on, or to be admitted to, their territory by, *inter alia*, acceding to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees;³

(b) Increasing the facilities for permanent refugee solutions through voluntary repatriation and assimilation within new national communities, and, for resettlement of refugees, providing further opportunities through the liberalization of immigration laws and regulations and through the inclusion of refugees in resettlement schemes;

(c) Enabling the High Commissioner, through additional voluntary financial contributions, to implement the programmes of international assistance to refugees approved by the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme for 1959 and 1960;

2. *Authorizes* the High Commissioner, in respect of refugees who do not come within the competence of the United Nations, to use his good offices in the transmission of contributions designed to provide assistance to these refugees.

*841st plenary meeting,
20 November 1959.*

1389 (XIV). Refugees from Algeria in Morocco and Tunisia

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,²

Considering the efforts made by the High Commissioner and the results achieved during the World Refugee Year,

Noting with appreciation the action of the High Commissioner on behalf of refugees from Algeria in Morocco and Tunisia,

Recognizing however that the situation of these refugees, and especially of the young children who constitute the majority of them, remains precarious,

Recommends that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees should continue his efforts on behalf of these refugees pending their return to their homes.

*841st plenary meeting,
20 November 1959.*

1390 (XIV). World Refugee Year

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1285 (XIII) of 5 December 1958 on the World Refugee Year,

Noting with appreciation the support that has already been given to the World Refugee Year by Governments, non-governmental organizations and the general public, as well as the efforts of the Secretary-General in this endeavour,

Believing that the success of the World Refugee Year will be largely dependent on concrete responses yet to be made in many countries,

³ United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons, *Final Act and Convention relating to the Status of Refugees* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1951.IV.4), p. 11.

1. *Urges* States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, in accordance with the national wishes and needs of each country and in the humanitarian spirit of the World Refugee Year:

(a) To continue to focus interest on the refugee problem;

(b) To endeavour to make additional financial contributions for international assistance to refugees and to encourage in their territory increasing contributions from non-governmental organizations and the general public;

(c) 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;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to assist in the promotion of the World Refugee Year.

*841st plenary meeting,
20 November 1959.*

1391 (XIV). United Nations Children's Fund

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter VI, section III, of the report of the Economic and Social Council,⁴

Recognizing the value of the United Nations Children's Fund in focusing international and national attention on the needs of children,

Noting the growing significance of aid given through the Fund in helping countries to initiate permanent health, nutrition and welfare services for their children, and in improving the quality and effectiveness of these services,

Considering that the aid provided through the Fund constitutes a practical way of international co-operation to help countries to carry out the aims proclaimed in the Declaration of the Rights of the Child,¹

Aware of the importance of the Fund as an essential element in international efforts to help countries, and in particular under-developed ones, raise their standards of living and strengthen their capacity for economic and social progress,

Impressed however with the magnitude of the many needs as yet unfulfilled, and the opportunities which exist for the effective use of additional assistance from the Fund,

Concerned that, despite continued and, in some cases, increased support from many Governments, the Fund's income for 1959 will be lower than that of 1958, thus reversing the trend of recent years,

1. *Expresses the hope* that all Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies will contribute to the United Nations Children's Fund as generously as possible;

2. *Congratulates* the Fund on its outstanding achievements.

*841st plenary meeting,
20 November 1959.*

⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fourteenth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/4143).*