

Bearing in mind that, while an equitable geographical distribution has to a large extent been attained in the membership of other commissions, Africa remains unduly under-represented on the Commission on Human Rights,

Calls upon the Economic and Social Council, in the elections to membership in the Commission on Human Rights, to bear in mind the principle of equitable geographical distribution and, in particular, the necessity of having Africa equitably represented.

1274th plenary meeting,
5 December 1963.

1958 (XVIII). Membership of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme

The General Assembly,

Having considered Economic and Social Council resolution 965 B (XXXVI) of 25 July 1963,

Recalling its resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957, which provided for the establishment of an Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme to consist of representatives of from twenty to twenty-five States Members of the United Nations or members of any of the specialized agencies, to be elected by the Economic and Social Council on the widest possible geographical basis from those States with a demonstrated interest in, and devotion to, the solution of the refugee problem,

Recalling its resolution 1783 (XVII) of 7 December 1962 relating to the continuation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Noting that the Executive Committee has at present a membership of twenty-five,

Bearing in mind the continued interest of Member States in the work of the Office of the High Commissioner and the increase in the membership of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to enlarge the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme to thirty members so as to achieve the widest possible geographical representation;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the five additional members of the Executive Committee during its resumed thirty-sixth session.

1279th plenary meeting,
12 December 1963.

1959 (XVIII). Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees⁸ and having heard his statement,⁹

Taking note of the progress achieved in the international protection of refugees and in the search for permanent solutions to refugee problems through voluntary repatriation, integration in countries of asylum or resettlement in other countries,

⁸ Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/5511/Rev.1) and Supplement No. 11 A (A/5511/Rev.1/Add.1).

⁹ Ibid., Eighteenth Session, Third Committee, 1270th meeting.

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made by the High Commissioner, in his various fields of activity, for groups of refugees for whom he lends his good offices,

Recognizing the importance of an adequate assistance programme for the over-all effectiveness of the work of the High Commissioner,

Commending the non-governmental organizations working for refugees for their untiring activity on behalf of refugees throughout the world,

Noting with appreciation that since the seventeenth session of the General Assembly six more States have adhered to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,¹⁰ bringing to forty-two the number of States parties to the Convention;

1. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to afford international protection to refugees and to pursue his efforts on behalf of the refugees within his mandate and of those to whom he extends his good offices, by giving particular attention to new refugee groups, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the directives of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme;

2. *Invites* States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies to continue to lend their support to the alleviation of refugee problems:

(a) By facilitating the voluntary repatriation, resettlement or local integration of refugees;

(b) By improving the legal status of refugees residing in their territory, particularly in new refugee situations, *inter alia*, by acceding as appropriate to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and by treating new refugee problems in accordance with the principles and the spirit of the Convention;

(c) By providing the High Commissioner with the necessary financial means for the accomplishment of the tasks incumbent upon him and, in particular, by enabling him to reach the financial targets established with the approval of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme.

1279th plenary meeting,
12 December 1963.

1960 (XVIII). Draft International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1843 B and C (XVII) of 19 December 1962,

Having devoted its attention once again to the draft International Covenants on Human Rights and, in particular, to the issues connected with the measures of implementation, which are vital for the adoption and effectiveness of the Covenants,

Having regard to the presence of many new Member States, which have not had an opportunity to express their views on measures of implementation owing, in particular, to the date on which the Commission on Human Rights approved the draft International Covenants on Human Rights,

Considering also the many different views expressed in the debate on measures of implementation,

1. *Reaffirms its belief* that final adoption of the draft International Covenants on Human Rights is urgent

¹⁰ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189 (1954), No. 2545.