

the present session and at previous sessions, together with all the reports available on this item.

*1452nd plenary meeting,
26 October 1966.*

2197 (XXI). Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees⁴ and having heard his statement,⁵

Taking note of the progress achieved in all the countries of the world where the Office of the High Commissioner is carrying out its activities, in the field of the international protection of refugees and in the search for permanent solutions to their problems through voluntary repatriation, voluntary integration in countries of asylum or resettlement in other countries,

Considering the increasing number and scope of refugee problems in Africa and in other regions of the world, and the additional responsibilities incumbent upon the High Commissioner as a result of the extension of his activities to new countries, most of which are in a developing stage,

Recalling its resolution 2040 (XX) of 7 December 1965, in which particular attention is given to the question of the assistance of refugees in Africa,

Noting with concern the serious financial crisis at present affecting the assistance programme of the High Commissioner,

1. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to provide international protection to refugees who are his concern, within the limits of his competence, and to promote permanent solutions to their problems:

(a) By facilitating their voluntary repatriation through any steps he may consider appropriate and in conformity with the humanitarian character of his mandate;

(b) By facilitating the voluntary and rapid settlement of these refugees in the countries of asylum and by making available to these countries, especially developing countries, a maximum of aid, taking into account the specific requirements existing in each country of asylum;

(c) By assuring that in developing countries the plans for the economic and social integration of refugees, pending their possible inclusion in the economic and social programmes carried out by the competent organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations, are properly co-ordinated with those programmes, and also with such other programmes as might be carried out by regional organizations;

2. *Requests* the competent organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations, when considering development plans, to take into account, at the request of the Governments concerned, the needs of the refugees;

3. *Invites* States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies to give their full support to the High Commissioner in the accom-

plishment of his humanitarian task and to place at his disposal the financial means necessary for the completion of his assistance programme.

*1495th plenary meeting,
16 December 1966.*

2198 (XXI). Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees

The General Assembly,

Considering that the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, signed at Geneva on 28 July 1951,⁶ covers only those persons who have become refugees as a result of events occurring before 1 January 1951,

Considering that new refugee situations have arisen since the Convention was adopted and that the refugees concerned may therefore not fall within the scope of the Convention,

Considering that it is desirable that equal status should be enjoyed by all refugees covered by the definition in the Convention, irrespective of the date-line of 1 January 1951,

Taking note of the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees⁷ that the draft Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees should be submitted to the General Assembly after consideration by the Economic and Social Council, in order that the Secretary-General might be authorized to open the Protocol for accession by Governments within the shortest possible time,

Considering that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1186 (XLI) of 18 November 1966, took note with approval of the draft Protocol⁸ contained in the addendum to the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and concerning measures to extend the personal scope of the Convention, and transmitted the addendum to the General Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees, the text of which⁸ is contained in the addendum to the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the Protocol to the States mentioned in article V thereof, with a view to enabling them to accede to the Protocol.

*1495th plenary meeting,
16 December 1966.*

2199 (XXI). Draft Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1921 (XVIII) of 5 December 1963, in which it requested the Economic and Social Council to invite the Commission on the Status of Women to prepare a draft declaration on the elimination of discrimination against women,

Noting with interest the text of the draft Declaration adopted unanimously by the Commission on the Status of Women on 8 March 1966 and transmitted to the General Assembly by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1131 (XLI) of 26 July 1966,

⁴ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/6311/Rev.1) and Supplement No. 11A (A/6311/Rev.1/Add.1).

⁵ Ibid., Twenty-first Session, Third Committee, 1447th meeting, paras. 1-22.

⁶ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189 (1954), No. 2545.

⁷ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Supplement No. 11A (A/6311/Rev.1/Add.1), part two, para. 38.

⁸ Ibid., part one, para. 2.

Considering that the large number of amendments submitted to the draft Declaration at the forty-first session of the Economic and Social Council and the twenty-first session of the General Assembly and the increased membership of the Commission on the Status of Women justify a re-examination of the text of the draft Declaration by the Commission,

Having been unable at the twenty-first session to give adequate consideration to the draft Declaration and the proposed amendments thereto,

1. Requests the Economic and Social Council to invite the Commission on the Status of Women to review the text of the draft Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its twentieth session in 1967, bearing in mind the amendments which have been submitted⁹ and taking into account the observations of Governments and also the discussions at the nineteenth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, at the forty-first session of the Economic and Social Council and at the twenty-first session of the General Assembly;

2. Decides that the draft Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women should be given high priority at its twenty-second session.

1495th plenary meeting,
16 December 1966.

2200 (XXI). International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

A

The General Assembly,

Considering that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Considering that in Article 56 of the Charter all Members of the United Nations have pledged themselves to take joint and separate action in co-operation with the Organization for the achievement of that purpose,

Recalling the proclamation by the General Assembly on 10 December 1948 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations,

Having considered since its ninth session the draft International Covenants on Human Rights prepared by the Commission on Human Rights and transmitted to it by Economic and Social Council resolution 545 B (XVIII) of 29 July 1954, and having completed the elaboration of the Covenants at its twenty-first session,

1. Adopts and opens for signature, ratification and accession the following international instruments, the texts of which are annexed to the present resolution:

(a) The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

(b) The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

⁹ A/6349, annex II, A/C.3/L.1341/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.1383/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.1384-1386, A/C.3/L.1400 and Corr.1, A/C.3/L.1401, A/C.3/L.1403, and A/C.3/L.1406.

(c) The Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

2. Expresses the hope that the Covenants and the Optional Protocol will be signed and ratified or acceded to without delay and come into force at an early date;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its future sessions reports concerning the state of ratifications of the Covenants and of the Optional Protocol which the Assembly will consider as a separate agenda item.

1496th plenary meeting,
16 December 1966.

ANNEX

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

PREAMBLE

The States Parties to the present Covenant,

Considering that, in accordance with the principles proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations, recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Recognizing that these rights derive from the inherent dignity of the human person,

Recognizing that, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ideal of free human beings enjoying freedom from fear and want can only be achieved if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy his economic, social and cultural rights, as well as his civil and political rights,

Considering the obligation of States under the Charter of the United Nations to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and freedoms,

Realizing that the individual, having duties to other individuals and to the community to which he belongs, is under a responsibility to strive for the promotion and observance of the rights recognized in the present Covenant,

Agree upon the following articles:

PART I

Article 1

1. All peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

2. All peoples may, for their own ends, freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international economic co-operation, based upon the principle of mutual benefit, and international law. In no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence.

3. The States Parties to the present Covenant, including those having responsibility for the administration of Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories, shall promote the realization of the right of self-determination, and shall respect that right, in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

PART II

Article 2

1. Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to take steps, individually and through international assistance and co-operation, especially economic and technical, to the maximum of its available resources, with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of the rights recognized in the present Covenant by all appropriate means, including particularly the adoption of legislative measures.

2. The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to guarantee that the rights enunciated in the present Covenant