

Bearing in mind the resolution on the United Nations Development Decade,¹⁰ in which reference is made to the possibility and advisability of preparing a development charter which would serve as a guide for international co-operation to further economic, social and cultural development,

Convinced that the concerted practical action of the United Nations in the social field should be concentrated, above all, on the solution of the basic social problems, and should be aimed at creating better standards of living for man and at guaranteeing respect for his dignity,

1. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 1139 (XLI) of 29 July 1966 concerning the reappraisal of the role of the Social Commission;¹¹

2. *Affirms* the main objectives and principles of the social programme of the United Nations and of the Commission for Social Development and the methods and means to be used by the United Nations, Member States and specialized agencies in pursuit of these objectives, which are set forth in section I of Economic and Social Council resolution 1139 (XLI);

3. *Calls upon* the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission for Social Development to prepare, on the basis of the purposes and principles of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and also on the basis of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and taking into account the documentation submitted to the Third Committee¹² and the discussions in that Committee at the twenty-first session of the Assembly, a draft declaration on social development which would, in general terms, define the objectives of social development and the methods and means of achieving them, and to submit it to the General Assembly for consideration at its twenty-third session at the latest;

4. *Calls further upon the Economic and Social Council* to arrange for the specialized agencies to be consulted at appropriate stages in the preparation of the draft declaration;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council and through it the Commission for Social Development, in co-operation with the specialized agencies, to ensure that the periodic reports on the world social situation reflect the over-all social situation and social trends in different regions of the world and in countries with differing economic and social systems, taking into account the close interrelation between economic and social factors, and to submit these reports, together with practical conclusions and recommendations for the substantial improvement of the programmes related to the social situation, to the General Assembly for consideration every three years;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1139 (XLI) and of the present resolution and to submit to the Council, and to the General Assembly for consideration at its twenty-second session, this report, together with the revised programmes of the Commission for Social Development and any recom-

mendations made, in consultation with the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, for strengthening the co-ordination of the programmes of the United Nations with those of the specialized agencies in the interests of greater concentration of efforts on priority targets;

7. *Decides* to accord high priority to the consideration of the world social situation at its twenty-second session.

*1498th plenary meeting,
19 December 1966.*

2216 (XXI). Freedom of information

The General Assembly,

Considering that because of the elaboration of the International Covenants on Human Rights the Third Committee was unable to consider the draft Convention on Freedom of Information and the draft Declaration on Freedom of Information at the twenty-first session,

Reiterating that freedom of information forms an important part of the human rights and fundamental freedoms to the promotion of which the United Nations is dedicated,

Decides to take up at its twenty-second session the consideration of the item on freedom of information.

*1498th plenary meeting,
19 December 1966.*

2217 (XXI). International Year for Human Rights

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The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1961 (XVIII) of 12 December 1963 and 2081 (XX) of 20 December 1965 on the International Year for Human Rights,

1. *Approves* the further programme of measures and activities envisaged for Member States, the United Nations, the specialized agencies and national and other international organizations, which has been recommended by the Commission on Human Rights and is set out in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Invites* Member States, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and the national and international organizations concerned to devote the year 1968 to intensified efforts and undertakings in the field of human rights, including the measures set out in the above-mentioned programme, and to keep the Secretary-General informed of their plans and preparations;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to make any necessary arrangements to facilitate the co-operation of competent regional intergovernmental organizations in observing 1968 as International Year for Human Rights, as provided in General Assembly resolution 2081 (XX);

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to co-ordinate the measures and activities undertaken by Member States, the United Nations, the specialized agencies, regional organizations and the national and international organizations concerned, and in particular to collect and disseminate at regular intervals information on activities contemplated or undertaken by them in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session an interim report on the plans, preparations, arrange-

¹⁰ General Assembly resolution 2218 A (XXI) of 19 December 1966, p. 42.

¹¹ By this resolution, the Economic and Social Council, *inter alia*, decided that the Social Commission should be redesignated the Commission for Social Development.

¹² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes*, agenda item 54, documents A/6409, A/6434 and A/C.3/L.1419.