

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

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629 (VII). Draft protocol relating to the status of stateless persons

The General Assembly,

Desiring to improve the situation of stateless persons as soon as possible,

Considering that the draft protocol¹ prepared by the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Statelessness and Re-

lated Problems established by the Economic and Social Council offers a useful basis for the attainment of this objective,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to communicate the provisions of the draft protocol to all the governments invited to the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons held at Geneva in July 1951,² with a request for their comments, in particular on those provisions of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees which they would be prepared to apply to

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eleventh Session, Annexes*, agenda item 32, document E/1618 and Corr. 1, annex III, p. 17.

² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 58, document A/1913.

the various categories of stateless persons, and to submit these comments, with his observations, to the Economic and Social Council;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to study, if possible at its sixteenth session, the text of the draft protocol and the comments received from interested governments and, in the light of these comments, to take whatever action seems useful in order that a text may be opened for signature after the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees has entered into force.

391st plenary meeting,
6 November 1952.

630 (VII). Convention on the International Right of Correction

The General Assembly,

Considering that establishment of the right of correction on an international basis would help to curb the dissemination of false news and to strengthen peace,

1. *Urges* all Members of the United Nations and the other States which were invited to the United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information³ to become parties to the Convention on the International Right of Correction, the text of which is annexed hereto and consists of the provisions relating to the right of correction contained in the preamble and articles of the draft Convention on the International Transmission of News and the Right of Correction approved by the General Assembly in resolution 277 C (III) of 13 May 1949 with the deletion of articles XVIII, XIX paragraph 2, and XXII paragraph (d), of the latter draft Convention and with the introduction as a new article (article IX), replacing the former article XVIII, of the following text: "The provisions of the present Convention shall extend to or be applicable equally to a contracting metropolitan State and to all the territories, be they Non-Self-Governing, Trust or Colonial Territories, which are being administered or governed by such metropolitan State.";

2. *Decides* that the said Convention shall be opened for signature at the close of the present session of the General Assembly.

403rd plenary meeting,
16 December 1952.

ANNEX

Convention on the International Right of Correction

PREAMBLE

The Contracting States,

Desiring to implement the right of their peoples to be fully and reliably informed,

³ See United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information, held at Geneva, Switzerland, from 23 March to 21 April, 1948, Final Act, United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 1948.XIV.2.

Desiring to improve understanding between their peoples through the free flow of information and opinion,

Desiring thereby to protect mankind from the scourge of war, to prevent the recurrence of aggression from any source, and to combat all propaganda which is either designed or likely to provoke or encourage any threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression,

Considering the danger to the maintenance of friendly relations between peoples and to the preservation of peace, arising from the publication of inaccurate reports,

Considering that at its second regular session the General Assembly of the United Nations recommended the adoption of measures designed to combat the dissemination of false or distorted reports likely to injure friendly relations between States,

Considering, however, that it is not at present practicable to institute, on the international level, a procedure for verifying the accuracy of a report which might lead to the imposition of penalties for the publication of false or distorted reports,

Considering, moreover, that to prevent the publication of reports of this nature or to reduce their pernicious effects, it is above all necessary to promote a wide circulation of news and to heighten the sense of responsibility of those regularly engaged in the dissemination of news,

Considering that an effective means to these ends is to give States directly affected by a report, which they consider false or distorted and which is disseminated by an information agency, the possibility of securing commensurate publicity for their corrections,

Considering that the legislation of certain States does not provide for a right of correction of which foreign governments may avail themselves, and that it is therefore desirable to institute such a right on the international level, and

Having resolved to conclude a Convention for these purposes,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

For the purposes of the present Convention:

1. "News dispatch" means news material transmitted in writing or by means of telecommunications, in the form customarily employed by information agencies in transmitting such news material, before publication, to newspapers, news periodicals and broadcasting organizations.

2. "Information agency" means a Press, broadcasting, film, television or facsimile organization, public or private, regularly engaged in the collection and dissemination of news material, created and organized under the laws and regulations of the Contracting State in which the central organization is domiciled and which, in each Contracting State where it operates, functions under the laws and regulations of that State.

3. "Correspondent" means a national of a Contracting State or an individual employed by an information agency of a Contracting State, who in either case is regularly engaged in the collection and the reporting of news material, and who when outside his State is identified as a correspondent by a valid passport or by a similar document internationally acceptable.

ARTICLE II

1. Recognizing that the professional responsibility of correspondents and information agencies requires them to report facts without discrimination and in their proper context and thereby to promote respect for human rights and fundamental