

dependence of all peoples still under colonial and foreign domination and alien subjugation, notably the peoples of Africa and the Palestinian people;

9. *Strongly condemns* the massacres of innocent and defenceless people, including women and children, by the racist minority régimes of southern Africa in their desperate attempt to thwart the legitimate demands of the people;

10. *Demands* full respect for the basic human rights of all individuals detained or imprisoned as a result of their struggle for self-determination and independence, and strict respect for article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights under which no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment,<sup>4</sup> and their immediate release;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the material and other forms of assistance that peoples under colonial and alien régimes continue to receive from Governments, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and calls for a maximization of this assistance;

12. *Keenly awaits* the conclusion of the following studies by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities:

(a) Historical and current development of the right to self-determination on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments adopted by United Nations organs, with particular reference to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(b) Implementation of United Nations resolutions relating to the right of peoples under colonial and alien domination to self-determination;

13. *Decides* to remain seized of this item at its thirty-second session on the basis of reports that Governments, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are requested to submit concerning the strengthening of assistance to colonial Territories and peoples under alien domination and foreign subjugation.

*83rd plenary meeting  
30 November 1976*

### 31/35. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,<sup>5</sup> transmitted by the Economic and Social Council under its resolution 2011 (LXI) of 2 August 1976, and having heard his statement,<sup>6</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 3454 (XXX) and 3455 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 relating to the activities of the High Commissioner for the benefit of refugees and displaced persons,

*Recognizing* the importance of the essential humanitarian tasks which the High Commissioner is called

upon to perform and for which his Office has acquired particular expertise and experience,

*Bearing in mind* the increasingly useful co-operation between the High Commissioner and other members of the United Nations system, resulting in better co-ordination of action and greater efficiency,

*Recognizing* the need for further strengthening the international protection of refugees,

1. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 2011 (LXI) on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

2. *Commends* the High Commissioner and his staff for the efficient manner in which they continue to discharge their manifold activities on behalf of refugees and displaced persons;

3. *Requests* the High Commissioner to intensify his efforts, in co-operation with Governments, United Nations bodies and voluntary agencies, to promote permanent and speedy solutions to the problems facing his Office through voluntary repatriation and assistance in rehabilitation of returnees, integration in countries of asylum or resettlement in other countries as needed;

4. *Further requests* the High Commissioner to continue his humanitarian assistance on behalf of refugees and displaced persons in Africa and urges the fullest co-operation of all concerned for this purpose;

5. *Urges* Governments to strengthen further their support for the humanitarian activities which the High Commissioner is carrying out in accordance with pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council by:

(a) Facilitating his efforts in the field of international protection by means of accession to international instruments relating to refugees and respect for the rights of refugees;

(b) Co-operating in the promotion of permanent and speedy solutions to the problems faced by his Office;

(c) Providing the necessary financial means to attain the objectives of his humanitarian assistance programmes.

*83rd plenary meeting  
30 November 1976*

### 31/36. Question of the establishment, in accordance with the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, of a body to which persons claiming the benefit of the Convention may apply

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 3274 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974,

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees<sup>7</sup> on the question of the establishment, in accordance with the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness of 1961,<sup>8</sup> of a body to which persons claiming the benefit of the Convention may apply,

*Noting* that the High Commissioner is carrying out the functions required under the Convention without any financial implications for the United Nations,

<sup>4</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>5</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/31/12), Supplement No. 12A (A/31/12/Add.1) and Supplement No. 12B (A/31/12/Add.2).*

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Third Committee, 49th meeting, paras. 1-12; and *ibid.*, Third Committee, Sessional Fascicle, corrigendum.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 12B (A/31/12/Add.2).

<sup>8</sup> A/CONF.9/15, 1961.