

situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of serious concern;

2. *Expresses its thanks* to the Commissioner-General and to all the staff of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, recognizing that the Agency is doing all it can within the limits of available resources, and also expresses its thanks to the specialized agencies and private organizations for their valuable work in assisting the refugees;

3. *Reiterates its request* that the headquarters of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East should be relocated to its former site within its area of operations as soon as practicable;

4. *Notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III) and requests the Commission to exert continued efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly as appropriate, but not later than 1 October 1983;

5. *Directs attention* to the continuing seriousness of the financial position of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as outlined in the report of the Commissioner-General;

6. *Notes with concern* that, despite the commendable and successful efforts of the Commissioner-General to collect additional contributions, this increased level of income to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East is still insufficient to cover essential budget requirements in the present year and that, at currently foreseen levels of giving, deficits will recur each year;

7. *Calls upon* all Governments as a matter of urgency to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, particularly in the light of the budgetary deficit projected in the report of the Commissioner-General, and therefore urges non-contributing Governments to contribute regularly and contributing Governments to consider increasing their regular contributions.

*108th plenary meeting
16 December 1982*

37/121. International co-operation to avert new flows of refugees

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,⁴⁷

Taking note of the comments and suggestions submitted by Member States, organs and organizations of the United Nations and specialized agencies in response to General Assembly resolutions 35/124 of 11 December 1980 and 36/148 of 16 December 1981,

Stressing the importance of adopting a constructive and future-oriented approach in considering the question of international co-operation to avert new massive flows of refugees,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Reaffirms* its resolution 36/148 on international co-operation to avert new flows of refugees;

3. *Welcomes* the comments and suggestions submitted in response to General Assembly resolutions 35/124 and 36/148 by Member States, organs and organizations of the United Nations and specialized agencies;

4. *Decides* to enlarge the Group of Governmental Experts on International Co-operation to Avert New Flows of Refugees, established in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 36/148, from seventeen to twenty-four members;⁴⁸

5. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Group of Governmental Experts as defined by resolution 36/148 by stressing the need for members of the Group to embark upon the study in question in the framework of a constructive, future-oriented approach and in conformity with the spirit which must form the basis of friendly relations and close co-operation among Member States;

6. *Requests* the Group of Governmental Experts to be mindful of the importance of reaching general agreement whenever that has significance for the outcome of its work;

7. *Renews its call* upon Member States that have not yet conveyed to the Secretary-General their comments and suggestions on this item to do so as soon as possible;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a compilation of the replies received in accordance with paragraph 7 above and to provide the Group of Governmental Experts with all necessary assistance and facilities for the completion of its task;

9. *Calls upon* the Group of Governmental Experts to hold, as soon as possible, the meetings which had already been arranged and to submit a report to the Secretary-General in time for deliberation by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "International co-operation to avert new flows of refugees".

*108th plenary meeting
16 December 1982*

37/122. Israel's decision to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 36/150 of 16 December 1981,

Recalling the rules and principles of international law relative to the fundamental rights and duties of States,

Bearing in mind the principles of international law relative to belligerent occupation of land, including the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,⁴⁹ and reaffirming their applicability to all Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,⁴⁹

Recognizing that the proposed canal, to be constructed partly through the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian territory occupied in 1967, would violate the principles of international law and affect the interests of the Palestinian people,

Confident that the canal linking the Mediterranean Sea with the Dead Sea, if constructed by Israel, will cause direct, serious and irreparable damage to Jordan's rights and legitimate vital interests in the economic, agricultural, demographic and ecological fields,

Noting with regret the non-compliance by Israel with General Assembly resolution 36/150,

1. *Deplores* Israel's non-compliance with General Assembly resolution 36/150;

⁴⁸ One additional seat is to be rotated between the Latin American, African and Asian regions.

⁴⁹ A/37/328-S/15277 and Corr.1. For the printed text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-seventh Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1982*, document S/15277.

⁴⁷ A/37/416 and Add.1.