

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments".

*100th plenary meeting
16 December 1983*

38/113. Human rights and use of scientific and technological developments

The General Assembly.

Reaffirming the determination of the peoples of the United Nations to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to reaffirm faith in the dignity and worth of the human person, to maintain international peace and security and to develop friendly relations among peoples and international co-operation in promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹⁴⁸ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,¹⁴⁹ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹⁴⁹

Recalling also the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States¹⁵⁰ and the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,¹⁵¹

Recalling further the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security,¹⁵² the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind,¹⁵³ the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace,¹⁵⁴ the Declaration on the Prevention of Nuclear Catastrophe¹⁵⁵ and General Assembly resolutions 36/92 I of 9 December 1981, on the non-use of nuclear weapons and prevention of nuclear war, and 37/100 C of 13 December 1982, on a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons,

Taking note with appreciation of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1982/7 of 19 February 1982¹⁵⁶ and 1983/43 of 9 March 1983,¹⁵⁷

Reaffirming the inherent right to life,

Profoundly concerned that international peace and security continue to be threatened by the arms race in all its aspects, particularly the nuclear arms race, as well as by violations of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and the self-determination of peoples,

Aware that all the horrors of past wars and all other calamities that have befallen people would pale in comparison with what is inherent in the use of nuclear weapons capable of destroying civilization on Earth,

Noting the pressing need for urgent measures towards general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, for the sake of life on Earth,

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, any propaganda for war shall be prohibited by law,

Recalling the historic responsibility of the Governments of all countries of the world to remove the threat of war

from the lives of people, to preserve civilization and ensure that everyone enjoys his inherent right to life,

Convinced that for no people in the world today is there a more important question than that of the preservation of peace and of ensuring the cardinal right of every human being, namely, the right to life,

1. *Reaffirms* that all peoples and all individuals have an inherent right to life and that the safeguarding of this cardinal right is an essential condition for the enjoyment of the entire range of economic, social and cultural, as well as civil and political, rights;

2. *Stresses once again* the urgent need for the international community to make every effort to strengthen peace, remove the growing threat of war, particularly nuclear war, halt the arms race and achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, and prevent violations of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and self-determination of peoples, thus contributing to ensuring the right to life;

3. *Stresses further* the foremost importance of the implementation of practical measures of disarmament for releasing substantial additional resources, which should be utilized for social and economic development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries;

4. *Calls upon* all States, appropriate organs of the United Nations, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to take the necessary measures to ensure that the results of scientific and technological progress are used exclusively in the interests of international peace, for the benefit of mankind and for promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Again calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take effective measures with a view to prohibiting by law any propaganda for war;

6. *Looks forward* to further efforts by the Commission on Human Rights with a view to ensuring the inherent right of all peoples and all individuals to life;

7. *Decides* to consider this question at its thirty-ninth session under the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments".

*100th plenary meeting
16 December 1983*

38/114. Question of a convention on the rights of the child

The General Assembly.

Recalling its resolutions 33/166 of 20 December 1978, 34/4 of 18 October 1979, 35/131 of 11 December 1980, 36/57 of 25 November 1981 and 37/190 of 18 December 1982,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolutions 20 (XXXIV) of 8 March 1978,¹⁵⁸ 19 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979,¹⁵⁹ 36 (XXXVI) of 12 March 1980,¹⁶⁰ 26 (XXXVII) of 10 March 1981,¹⁶¹ 1982/39 of 11 March 1982¹⁵⁶ and 1983/52 of 10 March 1983¹⁵⁷ as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/18 of 5 May

¹⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, 1983, *Supplement No. 3* (E/1983/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVII, sect. A.

¹⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, 1978, *Supplement No. 4* (E/1978/34), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

¹⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, 1979, *Supplement No. 6* (E/1979/36), chap. XXIV, sect. A.

¹⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, 1980, *Supplement No. 3* (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

¹⁶¹ *Ibid.*, 1981, *Supplement No. 5* (E/1981/25 and Corr.1), chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

¹⁴⁸ Resolution 217 A (III).

¹⁴⁹ Resolution 2200 (XXI), annex.

¹⁵⁰ Resolution 3281 (XXXIX).

¹⁵¹ Resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

¹⁵² Resolution 2734 (XXXV).

¹⁵³ Resolution 3384 (XXX).

¹⁵⁴ Resolution 33/73.

¹⁵⁵ Resolution 36/100.

¹⁵⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 2* (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.