

Reaffirming the sovereign and inalienable right of all peoples freely to determine their political status and freely to pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress;²³

2. *Calls upon* all States to give special attention in their national development plans and programmes to the social aspects of development with a view to increasing the well-being of the population on the basis of its full participation in the process of development and a fair distribution of the benefits therefrom;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to proceed with the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/32 of 29 May 1985, paying special attention to paragraphs 3 and 5 thereof;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to make arrangements for holding in 1986 the interregional seminar called for in paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 38/25, within the resources allotted to the programme for sectoral and regional advisory services;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress".

*96th plenary meeting
29 November 1985*

40/24. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,²⁴ as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of an increasing number of sovereign peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-sixth,²⁵ thirty-seventh,²⁶ thirty-eighth,²⁷ thirty-ninth,²⁸ fortieth²⁹ and forty-first³⁰ sessions,

²³ A/40/65-E/1985/7 and Add.1

²⁴ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

²⁵ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 3* (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, 1981, *Supplement No. 5* (E/1981/25 and Corr.1), chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, 1982, *Supplement No. 7* (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

Reiterating its resolutions 35/35 B of 14 November 1980, 36/10 of 28 October 1981, 37/42 of 3 December 1982, 38/16 of 22 November 1983 and 39/18 of 23 November 1984,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General.³¹

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, particularly the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of these acts against the peoples concerned.

4. *Deplores* the plight of the millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted by the aforementioned acts and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this issue to the General Assembly at its forty-first session under the item entitled "Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights".

*96th plenary meeting
29 November 1985*

40/25. Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its faith in the importance of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Reaffirming the importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, national sovereignty and territorial integrity and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples as imperatives for the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Reaffirming the obligation of all Member States to comply with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions of the United Nations regard

²⁸ *Ibid.*, 1983, *Supplement No. 3* (E/1983/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, 1984, *Supplement No. 4* (E/1984/14 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, 1985, *Supplement No. 2* (E/1985/22), chap. II, sect. A.

³¹ A/40/465 and Add.1 and 2.