

*Mindful* of the significant contribution to international co-operation in the humanitarian field made by organizations and agencies of the United Nations system,

*Recognizing* the positive role played by the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues,

*Recognizing*, in this connection, the importance of the contribution of governmental and non-governmental organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies,

*Recognizing* the significance of the existing workable system to promote, facilitate and co-ordinate humanitarian activities carried out by Governments, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

*Mindful* of the importance of promoting universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and of international co-operation in the humanitarian field for improving relations among States and peoples,

*Stressing* the need for the international community to continue its efforts in the field of humanitarian activities and to provide the resources to develop further activities in the humanitarian field,

*Conscious* that people want to live in a better, safer and more just world,

1. *Encourages* the international community to develop further its co-operation in the field of international humanitarian activities;

2. *Calls upon* all States to co-operate for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and to work together to promote international co-operation in order to solve existing humanitarian problems of international concern;

3. *Encourages* the international community to contribute substantially and regularly to international humanitarian activities;

4. *Considers* that international co-operation in the humanitarian field will facilitate better understanding, mutual respect, confidence and tolerance among States and peoples, thus contributing to a more just and non-violent world;

5. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to develop international co-operation in the humanitarian field on the basis of relevant international instruments;

6. *Decides* to consider the question of international co-operation in the humanitarian field under the item entitled "New international humanitarian order".

93rd plenary meeting  
7 December 1987

#### 42/122. United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>2</sup> which states that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

*Recalling also* the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>137</sup>

*Noting with satisfaction* the entry into force on 26 June 1987 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,

*Recalling* its resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, in which it noted with deep concern that acts of torture took place in various countries, recognized the need to provide assistance to the victims of torture in a purely humanitarian spirit and established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

*Convinced* that the struggle to eliminate torture includes the provision of assistance in a humanitarian spirit to the victims and members of their families,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>138</sup>

1. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation* to the Governments, organizations and individuals that have already contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;

2. *Calls upon* all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for initial as well as further contributions to the Fund;

3. *Invites* Governments to make contributions to the Fund, if possible on a regular basis, in order to enable the Fund to provide continuous support to projects that depend on recurrent grants;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Board of Trustees of the Fund for the work it has carried out;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the support given to the Board of Trustees of the Fund;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials, to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its efforts to make the Fund and its humanitarian work better known and in its appeal for contributions.

93rd plenary meeting  
7 December 1987

#### 42/123. Status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>2</sup> and article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>13</sup> both of which provide that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

*Recalling also* the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 3452 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

*Recalling further* its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and called upon all Governments to consider signing and ratifying the Convention as a matter of priority, as well as its resolutions 40/128 of 13 December 1985 and 41/134 of 4 December 1986,

<sup>137</sup> Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

<sup>138</sup> A/42/701.