

46/138. Human rights in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁸ and the International Covenants on Human Rights,²⁶

Reaffirming that all Member States are required to promote and protect human rights and to comply with the obligations laid down in the various instruments in this field,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/77 of 6 March 1991 on the situation of human rights in Haiti,³⁸

Deeply concerned at the grave events occurring in Haiti since 29 September 1991, which abruptly and violently interrupted the democratic process in that country and have resulted in the violation of human rights and the loss of human lives,

Concerned also at the current mass exodus of Haitian nationals from the country because of the deteriorating political and economic situation since 29 September 1991,

Noting the unanimous declaration on the situation of the displaced Haitians, adopted by the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States on 22 November 1991,³⁹ and the subsequent dispatch by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of an investigating team to Haiti on 4 December 1991,

1. Reaffirms its resolution 46/7 of 11 October 1991 concerning the situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti;

2. Strongly condemns the overthrow of the constitutionally elected President, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, and the use of violence and military coercion and the subsequent violation of human rights in that country;

3. Condemns also the flagrant human rights violations committed under the illegal Government set up following the coup of 29 September 1991, particularly summary executions, arbitrary arrests and detentions, torture, searches without warrant, rape, ransacking of private and public buildings, restrictions on the freedoms of movement, expression, assembly and association and the repression of popular demonstrations calling for the return of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide;

4. Expresses its appreciation to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the work it is doing in favour of the Haitian nationals fleeing the country and invites Member States to continue giving financial and material support for these efforts;

5. Calls the attention of the international community to the fate of the Haitian nationals who are fleeing the country and requests its support for the efforts undertaken to assist them;

6. Requests the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-eighth session to consider the report of the independent expert appointed by the Secretary-General to review the situation of human rights in Haiti, and invites the independent expert to submit an updated report to the Commission in the light of the events of 29 September 1991 and subsequent developments.

*75th plenary meeting
17 December 1991*

46/139. Social development

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 1991/230 of 30 May 1991,

Bearing in mind the general debate during the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly,

Mindful of the Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, adopted on 30 September 1991, in which the Ministers reiterated the importance of social matters within the system of the United Nations, stressed the need for a concerted effort by developing countries to coordinate and harmonize their positions in this area and, in this regard, welcomed the possibility of convening a world summit for social development,¹⁹⁰

Taking into account the debate on the question in the Third Committee and the widespread support expressed for the world summit for social development and for the consultations under way,

Taking note of the statements delivered by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna and Head of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat before the Third Committee at the forty-sixth session,¹⁹¹

Recalling its resolution 42/125 of 7 December 1987, in which it endorsed the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future,⁴³

Recalling also its resolution 44/65 of 8 December 1989, in which it reaffirmed the validity of the Guiding Principles as an appropriate framework for future action in the field of social welfare and development,

Mindful of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, proclaimed by the Assembly in its resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969,

Conscious of the increasing international awareness of economic and social factors as important components of peace and security,

1. Welcomes Economic and Social Council decision 1991/230, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to carry out consultations with all Member States on the possibility of convening a world summit for social development and to report thereon to the Council at its regular session of 1992;

2. Welcomes also the decision of the Secretary-General to appoint a special representative to carry out those consultations on his behalf, and invites the Special Representative to take due note in his report to the Secretary-General of the points of view expressed in the General Assembly and in the Third Committee on the world summit for social development;

3. Calls upon Governments to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Special Representative by participating actively in those consultations;

4. Requests the concerned organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to assist the Secretary-General and his Special Representative in those consultations, as appropriate;

5. Calls upon the Economic and Social Council, after considering the report of the Secretary-General requested by Council decision 1991/230, to make an appropriate rec-