

activities, especially in countries to which refugees are returning voluntarily, and calls upon the Economic and Social Council to review the complementarities of relevant United Nations organizations in this regard;

16. *Emphasizes* the need, particularly in complex emergencies that include humanitarian and peace-keeping operations, to ensure respect for the High Commissioner's protection mandate and to preserve the impartial and purely humanitarian nature of the activities of the Office;

17. *Expresses profound concern* at conditions in a number of countries and regions that seriously endanger the security of the staff of the Office of the High Commissioner and other relief workers, deplores the loss of lives among such personnel, urges support for initiatives taken by the High Commissioner and within the General Assembly and the Security Council concerning the safety of United Nations and associated personnel, in particular the consideration of new measures to enhance the safety of such personnel, and calls upon States and all parties to conflicts to take all necessary measures to ensure the security of international and local staff undertaking humanitarian work in the countries concerned;

18. *Urges* the High Commissioner, Governments and other relevant organizations to intensify efforts to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugee children, particularly those of unaccompanied minors, and calls upon States to safeguard the security of refugee children and to ensure that they are not recruited into the military or other armed groups;

19. *Encourages* the High Commissioner to continue to undertake initiatives for refugee women in the areas of leadership and skills training, legal awareness and education and, in particular, in the area of reproductive health, with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of the refugees, in conformity with universally recognized human rights;

20. *Calls upon* States to assist the High Commissioner to fulfil her responsibilities, under General Assembly resolution 3274 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, with respect to the reduction of statelessness, including the promotion of accessions to and full implementation of international instruments relating to statelessness;

21. *Notes* the relationship between safeguarding human rights and preventing refugee situations, and welcomes the High Commissioner's growing cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and her continued cooperation with the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat and the Commission on Human Rights;

22. *Reaffirms* the importance of incorporating environmental considerations into the programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner, especially in the least developed and developing countries which have hosted refugees over long periods of time, in view of the impact on the environment of the large numbers of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner;

23. *Welcomes* efforts to strengthen collaboration among Governments, the Office of the High Commissioner and non-governmental organizations, including through the Partnership in Action process, and encourages non-governmental organizations, Governments and the Office of the High Commissioner to identify areas for further cooperation;

24. *Calls upon* all Governments and other donors to contribute to the programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the effect on host countries of the increasing requirements of large refugee populations and the need to widen the donor base and to achieve greater burden-sharing among donors, to assist the High Commissioner in securing additional and timely income from traditional governmental sources, other

Governments and the private sector in order to ensure that the needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner are met.

94th plenary meeting
23 December 1994

49/170. New international humanitarian order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/106 of 16 December 1992 and other pertinent resolutions¹⁰⁰ relating to the promotion of a new international humanitarian order and of international cooperation in the humanitarian field,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General¹⁰¹ and the previous reports¹⁰² containing the comments and views of Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations,

Noting that a number of Governments have not yet submitted their comments in regard to the above-mentioned resolutions,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continuing support for the efforts to promote a new international humanitarian order;

2. *Urges* Governments and governmental and non-governmental organizations that have not yet done so to provide their comments and views to the Secretary-General regarding the promotion of the new international humanitarian order;

3. *Requests* Governments to make available to the Secretary-General, on a voluntary basis, information and expertise on humanitarian issues of special concern to them within their own countries, in order to identify opportunities for future action;

4. *Invites* the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues to continue and further strengthen its activities in cooperation with the Governments and the governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain in contact with Governments and non-governmental organizations and the Humanitarian Issues in order to report on the progress made by them to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

6. *Decides* to review at its fifty-first session the question of a new international humanitarian order.

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23 December 1994

49/171. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 1994/235 of 21 July 1994 concerning the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

¹⁰⁰ Resolutions 36/136 of 14 December 1981, 37/201 of 18 December 1982, 38/125 of 16 December 1983, 40/126 of 13 December 1985, 42/120 and 42/121 of 7 December 1987, 43/129 and 43/130 of 8 December 1988 and 45/101 and 45/102 of 14 December 1990.

¹⁰¹ A/49/577 and Corr.1.

¹⁰² A/37/145, A/38/450, A/40/358 and Add.1 and 2, A/41/472, A/43/734 and Add.1, A/45/524 and A/47/352.

Taking note also of the notes verbales dated 28 June 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations,¹⁰³ 23 December 1993 from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations¹⁰⁴ and 28 December 1993 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations,¹⁰⁵ addressed to the Secretary-General, relating to the enlargement of the Executive Committee,

1. *Decides to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from forty-seven to fifty States;*

2. *Requests the Economic and Social Council to elect the three additional members at its resumed organizational session of 1995.*

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23 December 1994*

49/172. Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors

The General Assembly,

Having considered the note¹⁰⁶ and the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁰⁷ and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,¹⁰⁸

Aware that the majority of the refugee population are children and women,

Bearing in mind that unaccompanied refugee minors are among the most vulnerable refugees and require special assistance and care,

Mindful of the fact that the ultimate solution to the plight of those unaccompanied minors is their return to and reunification with their families,

Noting with satisfaction that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has developed revised Guidelines on Refugee Children, issued in May 1994,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the High Commissioner to ensure the protection and assistance of refugees, including refugee children and unaccompanied minors,

Recalling the provisions concerning the protection of refugee minors of the Convention on the Rights of the Child⁴⁴ and the 1951 Convention⁴⁵ and the 1967 Protocol⁴⁶ relating to the Status of Refugees,

1. *Expresses its deep concern at the plight of unaccompanied refugee minors and emphasizes the need for their early identification and for timely, detailed and accurate information on their number and whereabouts;*

2. *Calls upon all Governments, the Secretary-General, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and all other United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned to exert the maximum effort to assist and*

protect refugee minors and to expedite the return to and reunification with their families of unaccompanied refugee minors;

3. *Requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other United Nations organizations concerned to take appropriate steps to mobilize resources commensurate to the needs and interests of the unaccompanied refugee minors and for their reunification with their families;*

4. *Condemns all acts of exploitation of the unaccompanied refugee minors, including their use as soldiers or human shields in armed conflict and their recruitment in military forces, and any other acts that endanger their safety and personal security;*

5. *Calls upon the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund and other United Nations organizations to mobilize, within existing resources, adequate assistance to unaccompanied minors in the areas of relief, education, health and psychological rehabilitation;*

6. *Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.*

*94th plenary meeting
23 December 1994*

49/173. Comprehensive consideration and review of the problems of refugees, returnees, displaced persons and related migratory movements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/113 of 20 December 1993,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General¹⁰⁹ and the concerns expressed therein about the magnitude of existing and potential refugee and related migratory movements in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and relevant neighbouring States,

Reaffirming the need for the international community to consider comprehensive approaches for the coordination of action with regard to refugees, returnees, displaced persons and related migratory movements,

1. *Calls upon the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in consultation with concerned States and in coordination with relevant intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations, to continue to consider comprehensive regional approaches to the problems of refugees and displaced persons;*

2. *Also calls upon the High Commissioner to continue her efforts to promote and develop a preparatory process, leading to the convening, not later than 1996, of a regional conference to address the problems of refugees, displaced persons, other forms of involuntary displacement and returnees in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and relevant neighbouring States, and urges States and the intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations concerned to support that process, including follow-up measures;*

3. *Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.*

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¹⁰³ E/1994/7.

¹⁰⁴ E/1994/8.

¹⁰⁵ E/1994/9.

¹⁰⁶ A/49/411.

¹⁰⁷ A/49/643.

¹⁰⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/49/12); and ibid., Supplement No. 12A (A/49/12/Add.1).*

¹⁰⁹ A/49/533.