

for the security environment and their long-term socio-economic development;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner, the specialized agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross, donor countries and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their assistance in mitigating the plight of the large number of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

5. *Expresses the hope* that additional resources will be made available for general refugee programmes to keep pace with refugee needs;

6. *Expresses its gratitude* to the international community for the humanitarian assistance it has continued to render to refugees and displaced persons and to the countries of asylum, and calls upon it to continue to provide assistance to the millions of refugees and displaced persons in Africa;

7. *Calls upon* Governments, United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations and the international community as a whole to strengthen the emergency response capacity of the Office of the High Commissioner on the basis of the experience of the emergency in Rwanda, and to continue providing needed resources and operational support to assist Rwandese refugees and the host countries until a permanent solution can be implemented;

8. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure in areas affected by refugees in countries of asylum;

9. *Calls upon* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide the necessary support and financial assistance to the High Commissioner to enhance her capacities and abilities to implement emergency operations, care and maintenance activities and repatriation and reintegration programmes for the benefit of refugees, returnees and, as appropriate, certain groups of internally displaced persons;

10. *Appeals* to Member States and international and non-governmental organizations to provide adequate financial, material and technical assistance for relief and rehabilitation programmes for the large number of refugees, voluntary returnees and displaced persons and victims of natural disasters and to the affected countries;

11. *Requests* all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to pay particular attention to meeting the special needs of refugee women and children;

12. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and United Nations humanitarian organizations to continue their efforts to mobilize humanitarian assistance for the relief, repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees, returnees and displaced persons, including those refugees in urban areas;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize adequate financial and material assistance for the full implementation of present and future projects in rural and urban areas affected by the presence of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

14. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue her efforts with the appropriate United Nations organizations, the Organization of African Unity and intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations to consolidate and increase essential services to refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

15. *Also requests* the High Commissioner to review her general programmes in Africa, taking into account the increasing requirements in that region;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive and consolidated report on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", and an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995.

94th plenary meeting
23 December 1994

49/175. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming once more the permanent validity of the principles and standards set forth in the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹¹ the International Covenants on Human Rights,¹⁷ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,² the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women¹⁸ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁴

Bearing in mind the principles and standards established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the importance of the work done in connection with migrant workers and members of their families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations,

Reiterating that, in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles and standards, there is a need to make further efforts to improve the situation and to ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Aware of the situation of migrant workers and members of their families and the marked increase in migratory movements that has occurred, especially in certain parts of the world,

Considering that in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,⁵ all States are urged to guarantee the protection of the human rights of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Underlining the importance of the creation of conditions to foster greater harmony and tolerance between migrant workers and the rest of the society of the State in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia taking place in segments of many societies and perpetrated by individuals or groups against migrant workers,

Recalling its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

Bearing in mind that in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action States are invited to consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the Convention at the earliest possible time,

Recalling that, in its resolution 48/148 of 20 December 1993, it requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its forty-ninth session a report on the status of the Convention,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the growing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman or degrading treatment directed against migrant workers in different parts of the world;

2. *Welcomes* the signature or ratification of, or accession to, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families by some Member States;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and expresses the hope that it will enter into force at an early date;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to provide all facilities and assistance necessary for the promotion of the Convention through the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

5. *Invites* the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify their efforts with a view to disseminating information on and promoting understanding of the Convention;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General¹¹⁵ and requests him to submit to it at its fiftieth session an updated report on the status of the Convention;

7. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its fiftieth session under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments".

94th plenary meeting
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49/176. United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

The General Assembly,

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹¹ 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,¹¹⁶

Reaffirming the importance of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,⁷⁵

Welcoming the recommendation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,⁵ that providing necessary resources for assistance to victims of torture should be given high priority, *inter alia*, by additional contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

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 Fund,

Alarmed at the widespread occurrence of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

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,¹¹⁷

Noting the steps taken by the Secretary-General, through the staff of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its efforts to increase public awareness of the Fund and its humanitarian work,

Recalling the statement by the Board of Trustees of the Fund on the need to receive contributions from Governments on a regular basis, which, *inter alia*, would prevent the interruption of programmes in the continuation of which the Fund plays an instrumental role,

Taking account of the fund-raising campaign launched on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees of the Fund at its eleventh session, held from 22 April to 1 May 1992, to enhance the capacity of the Fund to respond more favourably to the increasing number of requests for assistance to victims of torture,

Taking account also of the increasing number of projects and the repeated requests by the Board of Trustees of the Fund to have adequate staff for the operations of the Fund,

Noting with satisfaction the establishment of an international network of centres for the rehabilitation of torture victims, which plays an important role in providing assistance to victims of torture, and the collaboration of the Fund with the centres,

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. *Appeals* to all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for contributions to the Fund, if possible on a regular basis and annually before the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Fund and if possible also with a substantial increase in the number and level of contributions so that consideration may be given to the ever-increasing demand for assistance;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to all Governments the appeals of the General Assembly for contributions to the Fund;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments that pledged contributions to the Fund at the 1994 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include the Fund on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Board of Trustees of the Fund for the work it has accomplished;

7. *Renews its request* to 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;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of an adequate and stable level of staffing and technical equipment to ensure the efficient operation and management of the Fund;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the operations of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Victims of Torture.

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¹¹⁵ A/49/405.

¹¹⁶ Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

¹¹⁷ A/49/484 and Corr. 1 and Add.1.