

6. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General of 20 September 1994 on concrete measures taken to alleviate the situation of children in armed conflicts;¹⁰⁶

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the concrete measures which have been taken to alleviate the situation of children in armed conflicts, based on the information to be provided by Member States and United Nations bodies and organizations, as well as by other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on its fifth session and the recommendations contained therein concerning the situation of children affected by armed conflicts;²¹¹

9. *Welcomes* the appointment of an expert to undertake a comprehensive study of this question, with the mandate established by the General Assembly in resolution 48/157;

10. *Takes note* of the progress report of the Secretary-General of 4 November 1994 on the work of the above-mentioned expert;¹⁰⁷

11. *Notes* that support is provided to the expert jointly by the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat and the United Nations Children's Fund;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Centre for Human Rights is provided, within existing resources, with the staff and other resources it requires to assist the expert in the effective discharge of her mandate;

13. *Requests* Member States and United Nations bodies and organizations, as well as other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Health Organization and the International Committee of the Red Cross, to contribute to the study referred to in paragraph 9 of the present resolution;

14. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights to consider the study at its fifty-first session;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the study to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

16. *Decides* to consider this question at its fiftieth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children".

94th plenary meeting
23 December 1994

49/210. Need to adopt efficient international measures for the prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human rights at Vienna on 25 June 1993,² which requires effective measures against female infanticide, harmful child labour, the sale of children and their organs, child prostitution, child pornography and other forms of sexual abuse,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989,

Recalling also the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children⁴⁵ and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s,⁴⁵ adopted by the World Summit for Children in New York in September 1990,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/74 of 5 March 1992,³⁰ by which the Commission adopted the Programme of Action for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography,

Recalling its resolution 48/156 of 20 December 1993,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/90 of 9 March 1994,³²

Recognizing the enormous efforts made in this field by the United Nations, particularly the United Nations Children's Fund, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,

Deeply concerned by the persistence of the practice of the use of children for prostitution, sexual abuse and other activities, which may also often constitute exploitation of child labour,

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of the practice of the sale of children and other practices, which may be linked to related disappearances, illegal adoptions, abandonment, kidnapping and abductions for commercial purposes,

Bearing in mind the different causes that influence the emergence and persistence of these special circumstances, including in particular poverty, unemployment, hunger, natural disaster, intolerance, exploitation of child labour and armed conflicts, and their harmful effects on the rights of the child,

Recognizing the existence of a market which encourages the increase of such criminal practices against children,

Taking into account the necessity that the Special Rapporteur be assisted by the cooperation of Governments and provided with information on this matter,

Considering that it is necessary to redouble efforts at the national and international levels to promote and protect the rights of children all over the world,

1. *Welcomes* the provisional report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;²¹²

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the alarming increase in violations of the rights of the child worldwide, in particular the growing number of incidents related to the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;

3. *Urges* Governments to continue searching for solutions, as well as ways and means of enhancing international cooperation to eradicate such aberrant practices;

4. *Expresses its support* for the work of the Special Rapporteur appointed by the Commission on Human Rights to examine all over the world the question of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and urges him to continue his efforts in the discharge of his mandate;

²¹¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/49/41), chap. I, sect. J.

²¹² A/49/478.

5. *Urges* all Governments to collaborate with the Special Rapporteur and to assist him by providing him with all the requested information;

6. *Calls upon* those States that have not done so to become parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and calls upon the States parties to the Convention to implement national measures aimed at fulfilling the provisions of the Convention;

7. *Notes* the establishment by the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1994/90 of 9 March 1994,³² of an open-ended working group responsible for elaborating, as a matter of priority and in close cooperation with the Special Rapporteur and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, guidelines for a possible draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as establishing the basic measures needed for the prevention and eradication of those abnormal practices,

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the working group to Governments, the Special Rapporteur and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned;

9. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur, within the framework of his mandate, to continue giving attention to the economic, social, legal and cultural factors affecting these phenomena;

10. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit a provisional report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat is provided, within existing resources, with the staff and other resources it requires to assist the Special Rapporteur and the working group in the effective discharge of their mandates;

12. *Decides* to consider this question at its fiftieth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children".

94th plenary meeting
23 December 1994

49/211. Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, by which it adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

Recalling also its resolution 47/112 of 16 December 1992 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/91 of 9 March 1994,³²

Taking note of the report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on its second to fifth sessions,²¹⁰ and the meeting of the States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, held in New York on 10 October 1994,

Reaffirming that the rights of children require special protection and call for continuous improvement of the situation of children all over the world, as well as for their development and education in conditions of peace and security,

Profoundly concerned that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical as a result of inadequate social and economic conditions, natural disasters, armed conflicts, exploitation, illiteracy, hunger and disability, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

Mindful of the important role of the United Nations and of the United Nations Children's Fund in promoting the well-being of children and their development,

Encouraged by the fact that an unprecedented number of States have to date become signatories and parties to the Convention, thereby demonstrating the widespread political commitment that exists to strive for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child,

Convinced that the Convention, as a standard-setting accomplishment of the United Nations in the field of human rights, makes a positive contribution to protecting the rights of children and ensuring their well-being,

Recalling the recommendation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights at Vienna on 25 June 1993,⁵ that measures be taken to achieve by 1995 universal ratification of the Convention, and the universal signing of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children⁴⁵ and Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s,⁴⁵ adopted by the World Summit for Children in New York in September 1990, as well as their effective implementation,

Seriously concerned about those reservations to the Convention that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise contrary to international treaty law, and recalling that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action urges States to withdraw such reservations,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 20 September 1994 on the status of the Convention,²¹³

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

2. *Recalls with deep satisfaction* the entry into force of the Convention on 2 September 1990 as a major step in international efforts to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the number of States that have signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention since it was opened for signature, ratification and accession on 26 January 1990;

4. *Urges* all States that have not done so to sign, ratify or accede to the Convention as a matter of priority, with a view to reaching universal ratification by 1995;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full implementation by States parties of the provisions of the Convention;

6. *Urges* States parties to the Convention that have made reservations to review the compatibility of their reservations with article 51 of the Convention and other relevant rules of international law, with the aim of withdrawing them;

7. *Calls upon* States parties to submit their reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child on time, in accordance with the guidelines elaborated for that purpose;

8. *Welcomes* the constructive and useful results achieved by the Committee on the Rights of the Child during its first seven sessions;

9. *Also welcomes* the consideration by the Committee on the Rights of the Child of the reservations and declarations entered by States parties to the Convention as a part of its important functions in overseeing the effective implementation of the Convention;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the elaboration by the Committee on the Rights of the Child of a preliminary draft optional protocol to the Convention on involvement of children in armed conflicts.²⁰⁹