

21. *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;

22. *Calls upon* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide the necessary support and financial assistance to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 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, internally displaced persons;

23. *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;

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

25. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, United Nations humanitarian organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, regional and international financial institutions, the International Organization for Migration and non-governmental organizations to increase the capacity for coordination and delivery of humanitarian emergency assistance and disaster relief in general, with States and others concerned in respect of asylum, relief, repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees, returnees and displaced persons, including those refugees in urban areas;

26. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to review her general programmes in Africa to take account of the increasing requirements in that region and with a view to continuing her efforts and expanding her activities in close collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, regional organizations and governmental and non-governmental organizations in Africa, in order to consolidate aid and increase essential services to refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

27. *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 fifty-first 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 1996.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/150. Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 49/172 of 23 December 1994,

Aware that the majority of refugees 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 that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has developed revised Guidelines on Refugee Children, issued in May 1994,

Noting also the efforts of the High Commissioner to ensure the protection of and assistance to refugees, including children and unaccompanied minors, and that further efforts need to be exerted to this effect,

Recalling the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child⁵⁰ and the 1951 Convention⁹⁷ and the 1967 Protocol⁹⁸ relating to the Status of Refugees,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁹⁹

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

3. *Calls upon* all Governments, the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, all United Nations organizations, other international 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;

4. *Urges* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, all United Nations organizations, other international organizations and non-governmental 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;

5. *Condemns* all acts of exploitation of 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;

6. *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 and international organizations to mobilize adequate assistance to unaccompanied minors in the areas of relief, education, health and psychological rehabilitation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/151. Comprehensive consideration and review of the problems of refugees, returnees, displaced persons and related migratory movements

The General Assembly,

⁹⁷United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

⁹⁸*Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

⁹⁹A/50/555.

Noting the 1951 Convention⁹⁷ and the 1967 Protocol⁹⁸ relating to the Status of Refugees,

Recalling its resolutions 48/113 of 20 December 1993 and 49/173 of 23 December 1994,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General¹⁰⁰ and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,⁹⁵

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,

Considering the magnitude of existing and potential refugee and related migratory movements in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and relevant neighbouring States,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General, as well as the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in particular paragraph 30 of the addendum to the latter report;¹⁰¹

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

3. Expresses its appreciation to the High Commissioner for her efforts to promote and develop a transparent preparatory process for a regional conference to address the problems of refugees, displaced persons and other forms of involuntary displacement and returnees in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and relevant neighbouring States;

4. Welcomes the establishment of a common secretariat for the preparation of the conference, comprising the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and its Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights;

5. Requests the High Commissioner, in close cooperation with States and intergovernmental organizations concerned, to convene the conference in 1996;

6. Expresses its appreciation to United Nations bodies and agencies and other international organizations and institutions for their valuable contribution to the preparatory process leading to the conference;

7. Urges all States concerned and appropriate intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations to support that process;

8. Appeals to all States and regional and intergovernmental organizations to provide the necessary support and resources needed by the secretariat for the preparation and holding of the conference;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/152. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of her Office⁹⁵ and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner on the work of its forty-sixth session,¹⁰¹

Recalling its resolution 49/169 of 23 December 1994,

Reaffirming the importance of the 1951 Convention⁹⁷ and the 1967 Protocol⁹⁸ relating to the Status of Refugees as the cornerstone of the international system for the protection of refugees, and noting with satisfaction that one hundred and thirty States are now parties to one or both instruments,

Reaffirming also the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner, as well as the crucial importance of the High Commissioner's functions of providing international protection to refugees and seeking solutions to refugee problems,

Commending the High Commissioner and her staff for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities, paying tribute to those staff members who have endangered or lost their lives in the course of their duties, and emphasizing the urgent need for effective measures to ensure the security of staff engaged in humanitarian operations,

Distressed at the continued suffering of refugees, for whom a solution has yet to be found, and noting with deep concern that refugee protection continues to be jeopardized in many situations as a result of denial of admission, unlawful expulsion, refoulement, unjustified detention, other threats to their physical security, dignity and well-being and failure to respect and ensure their fundamental freedoms and human rights,

Welcoming the continuing strong commitment of States to providing protection and assistance to refugees and the valuable support extended by Governments to the High Commissioner in carrying out her humanitarian tasks, and commending those States, particularly the least developed and those hosting millions of refugees over long periods of time, which, despite severe economic, development and environmental challenges of their own, continue to admit large numbers of refugees into their territories,

Recognizing that, in certain regions, misuse by individuals of asylum procedures jeopardizes the institution of asylum and adversely affects the prompt and effective protection of refugees,

Concerned that statelessness, including the inability to establish one's nationality, may result in displacement, and stressing, in this regard, that the prevention and reduction of statelessness and the protection of stateless persons are important also in the prevention of potential refugee situations,

1. Strongly reaffirms the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees of providing international protection to refugees and seeking solutions to refugee problems, and the need for States to cooperate fully with the Office in order to facilitate the effective exercise of that function;

2. Calls upon all States which have not yet done so to

¹⁰⁰A/50/414.

¹⁰¹Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 12A (A/50/12/Add.1).