

for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, particularly the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of the millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

*82nd plenary meeting  
12 December 1996*

**51/85. 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 norms set forth in the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>184</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>185</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>186</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>187</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>188</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the principles and norms 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, despite the existence of an already established body of principles and norms, there is a need to make further efforts to improve the situation and to guarantee respect for 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,<sup>189</sup> 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 and promotion 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 50/169 of 22 December 1995, it requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-first 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 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;

<sup>184</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>185</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>186</sup> Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

<sup>187</sup> Resolution 34/180, annex.

<sup>188</sup> Resolution 44/25, annex.

<sup>189</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

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-General,<sup>190</sup> and requests him to submit to it at its fifty-second session an updated report on the status of the Convention;

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

82nd plenary meeting  
12 December 1996

**51/86. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>191</sup> article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>192</sup> the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>193</sup> its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and all its subsequent relevant resolutions,

*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 in a purely humanitarian spirit and established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

*Recalling* the recommendation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,<sup>194</sup> that high priority should be given to providing the necessary resources for assistance to victims of torture and effective remedies for their physical, psychological and social rehabilitation, *inter alia*, by additional contributions to the Fund,

*Noting with satisfaction* the existence and rapid expansion 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. *Welcomes* the report of the Committee against Torture,<sup>195</sup> submitted in accordance with the provision of article 24 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

2. *Notes with appreciation* that during the present reporting period eight States have become parties to the Convention, increasing the number of States parties to one hundred;

3. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority;

4. *Invites* all States ratifying or acceding to the Convention and those States which are parties to the Convention and which have not yet done so to consider joining the States parties that have already made the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 of the Convention and to consider the possibility of withdrawing their reservations to article 20;

5. *Urges* States parties to comply strictly with their obligations under the Convention, including their obligation to submit reports in accordance with article 19 of the Convention, in view of the high number of reports not submitted;

6. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in the performance of his task, to supply all necessary information requested by him and to react appropriately to his urgent appeals;

7. *Approves* the methods of work employed by the Special Rapporteur, in particular as regards urgent appeals, reiterates his need to be able to respond effectively to credible and reliable information that comes before him, invites him to continue to seek the views and comments of all concerned, including Member States, in the elaboration of his report, and expresses its appreciation of the continuing discrete and independent way in which he carries out his work;

8. *Stresses* the need for regular exchanges of views between the Committee against Torture, the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and cooperation on issues relating to torture, *inter alia*, by improving their coordination;

9. *Commends* the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights/Centre for Human Rights for the support given to States in the preparation of national reports to the Committee;

10. *Urges* States parties to take fully into account the conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee after its consideration of their reports;

<sup>190</sup> A/51/415.

<sup>191</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>192</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>193</sup> Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

<sup>194</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>195</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 44 (A/51/44).