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OPEN ENDED WORKING GROUP ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS BELONGING  
TO NATIONAL, ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS AND LINGUISTIC MINORITIES

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS BELONGING  
TO NATIONAL, ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS AND LINGUISTIC MINORITIES

Chairman-Rapporteur: Ms. Zagorka Ilić (Yugoslavia)

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Establishment of the Working Group

1. By resolution 1989/61 the Commission on Human Rights decided to establish at its forty-sixth session an open-ended Working Group to continue consideration of the revised draft declaration proposed by Yugoslavia (E/CN.4/Sub.2/L.734), taking into account all relevant documents.
2. The Working Group held six meetings on 12, 15, 16, 20 and 22 February and on 5 March 1990.
3. At its 1st meeting on 12 February, the Working Group unanimously elected Ms. Zagorka Ilić (Yugoslavia) as its Chairman-Rapporteur.

B. Documentation

4. The Working Group had before it the following documents:
  - (a) Provisional agenda (E/CN.4/1990/WG.5/L.1);

(b) Report of the open-ended Working Group set up by the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-fifth session to consider the drafting of a declaration on the rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities, containing in Annex I the text of that part of the draft declaration on which preliminary agreement had been reached at that and previous sessions, in Annex II a compilation of the proposals awaiting consideration by the Working Group, and in Annex III draft proposals for article 5 (E/CN.4/1989/38);

(c) Working paper on Possible Ways and Means to Facilitate the Peaceful and Constructive Resolution of Situations Involving Racial, National, Religious and Linguistic Minorities by Ms. Claire Palley (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1989/43); and

(d) Written proposal on draft article 8 by the Four Directions Council (E/CN.4/1990/WG.5/CRP.1).

5. In addition the Working Group had before it a number of written proposals for the various draft articles as put together by informal drafting groups. These texts are reproduced in the report.

## II. DRAFT ARTICLES DISCUSSED

### A. First reading of draft article 5

6. The Working Group used as its basis for discussion the texts of draft article 5 as presented at the latest session of the Working Group. These texts included the proposals by: (i) the informal drafting group covering paragraphs 1-4 of article 5; (ii) the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic for a new paragraph 4 of article 5; and (iii) the Four Directions Council covering paragraphs 1-4. These texts appeared in E/CN.4/1989/38, Annex III.

#### Paragraph 1

7. Following the initial discussion of paragraph 1 at its first meeting, an alternative text for this paragraph, prepared by an informal drafting group, was presented to the Working Group in document E/CN.4/1990/WG.5/CRP.2. The text read as follows:

"Nothing in this Declaration shall prevent the fulfilment of international obligations of States in relation to [persons belonging to] minorities. In particular, States shall fulfil in good faith the obligations and commitments they have assumed under international treaties and agreements in which they are parties."

8. A few delegations suggested that this proposal might meet the concerns expressed by keeping the wording of this paragraph as simple and concise as possible without losing its explicitness, particularly in relation to the possible collective and individual rights belonging to minorities. The text of paragraph 1 as set out above was adopted at the third meeting of the Working Group.

#### Paragraph 2

9. With regard to paragraph 2 of article 5 the Working Group discussed the possible contents of this paragraph at its 1st, 2nd and 3rd meetings.

10. Initially, the Working Group focused its attention on the proposals to be found in Annex III of E/CN.4/Sub.2/1989/38. In this regard, the inclusion of the term "international customary law" did not find unanimous favour, nor did a proposal to introduce a qualification to "the enjoyment of rights accorded by international conventions" by the addition of the phrase "to which States have acceded". The proposal that these concerns could be satisfied by simply referring to "international law" thereby deleting the phrase "international conventions and international customary law" met with general agreement. However, to ensure that all views expressed were taken into account, an informal drafting group was asked to present proposals to the Working Group.

11. On introducing a compromise text for paragraph 2 it was explained that this formulation had been offered on previous occasions and that it attempted to accommodate all concerns expressed during the first two meetings. The text read:

"This Declaration shall not prejudice the enjoyment by all persons of universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms."

This proposal was adopted at the Working Group's 3rd meeting.

#### Paragraph 3

12. The contents of this paragraph, as reproduced in Annex III of E/CN.4/Sub.2/1990/38, were discussed at the 2nd meeting of the Working Group.

13. In the course of the debate various comments were forwarded. Several delegations expressed their preference for the wording of this paragraph as it appeared within the text proposed by last year's informal drafting group whilst other delegations drew attention to the merits of the concise yet comprehensive approach offered by the Four Directions Council's text.

14. Concerning the contents of paragraph 3 it was stated by several delegations that although a reference to activities contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations was contained in the preamble to the draft declaration, a preference for the inclusion of such a reference particularly with respect to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of States within the main text of the operative paragraphs which were regarded as holding greater legal weight and significance was emphasized.

15. Responding to these concerns, it was proposed to amend the text of the informal drafting group by deleting the phrase "or contrary to the principle of non-intervention and non-interference in domestic affairs" and the word "other". Paragraph 3 as adopted at the 2nd meeting of the Working Group is reproduced in Annex I of this report.

#### Paragraph 4

16. With respect to paragraph 4, numerous suggestions and amendments to the texts offered in Annex III of E/CN.4/1989/38 were presented at the 2nd and 3rd meetings of the Working Group.

17. Although several delegations indicated their preference for the wording of article 4 as it appeared in the texts of the informal drafting group and the Four Directions Council, which were identical in content, the focus of the

Working Group's attention rested upon the contents of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic's proposal which in its essence was based on article 7 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and article 5 of the Convention against Discrimination in Education.

18. In an attempt to meet the concerns expressed over protecting the rights of minorities as well as recognizing the obligations of minorities to respect the rights of others, various suggestions were forwarded. In this connection, the delegate of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic offered to amend his proposal, so that paragraph 4 would read:

"In exercising their rights, [persons belonging to] minorities shall respect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of others and shall promote mutual understanding, tolerance, good neighbourliness and friendship among nations and racial or ethnic groups in conformity with the purposes and principles of the United Nations."

19. In response to this proposal, it was suggested to replace the expression "the human rights and fundamental freedoms" with the phrase "universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms".

20. While these amendments received general support, several delegations expressed particular difficulties with the inclusion of additional obligations on minorities in the same paragraph. It was stressed that this approach may lead to problems in interpreting the rights of minorities in the future.

21. In view of the continued objections raised as to the contents of paragraph 4 and the possibility of dividing the paragraph into two separate parts, the Chairman-Rapporteur asked an informal drafting group to consider the comments raised in the debate on this paragraph and to offer a new compromise text to the Working Group.

22. The text proposed for paragraph 4 by the informal drafting group appeared in document E/CN.4/1990/WG.5/CRP.2. It was explained that the elements of the previous Ukrainian proposal had been separated and that the Working Group should now consider a shortened version of paragraph 4 as well as a new article. Paragraph 4 as proposed and adopted by the Working Group at its 3rd meeting is reproduced in Annex I of the present report.

#### B. First reading of new article

23. After the adoption of paragraph 4 of article 5, the Working Group turned its attention to the proposed new article, as it appeared in document E/CN.4/1990/WG.5/CRP.2, based on the discussion and adoption of paragraph 4. This proposal read:

"This Declaration shall be carried out in a spirit of mutual understanding, tolerance, good neighbourliness and friendship among nations and racial, ethnic, religious and linguistic groups in conformity with the purposes and principles of the United Nations."

General agreement was expressed as to the value and validity of the inclusion of this new article.

24. In the course of the debate on the contents and meaning of this new article several amendments were proposed. It was suggested, *inter alia*, that the word "nations" should be deleted and replaced with the phrase "States and peoples" or "States and all people"; that the term "good neighbourliness" be deleted or replaced with the phrase "good neighbourly relations"; and that the list of minorities covered by this article should correspond to the title of the declaration. Several delegations questioned the appropriateness of using the ambiguous term "peoples", despite the clarification that the term covered relations within and between States.

25. Considering the lack of consensus over the use of the words "peoples", "all people", "national" and "good neighbourliness", it was proposed that these words be surrounded by square brackets, indicating that the Working Group should return to a careful consideration of these words at a second reading.

26. The text of the new article, as adopted at the 3rd meeting, appears in Annex I of this report.

27. It was also decided that a decision on the placement of this article would be taken at a second reading.

#### C. First reading of draft article 6

28. Draft article 6 as reproduced in Annex II of document E/CN.4/1989/38 was discussed at the 2nd and 4th meetings of the Working Group. Various delegations stated that many of the rights pertaining to this article had been taken into consideration in previously adopted draft articles.

29. Having considered the explanation that the difference between this and other articles related to its generalization rather than enumeration of specific rights, the Working Group decided at its 4th meeting that it should return to a consideration of the possible need for and contents of this article reproduced in document E/CN.4/1989/38, Annex II, at the second reading and that for the present the whole article would appear within square brackets. The text of this article appears in Annex I of this report.

#### D. First reading of draft article 7

30. This draft article was discussed at the 3rd, 4th and 5th meetings of the Working Group. The Working Group began its consideration of draft article 7 on the basis of a proposal submitted by the Four Directions Council in document E/CN.4/1986/WG.5/WP.2 and reproduced in Annex II of E/CN.4/1989/38.

31. In introductory comments to the proposed text, it was explained that the intention of this article was to focus on the principle of strengthening the participation of geographically distinct minorities at the regional as well as at the national level in an attempt to minimize the possibility of marginalization of minorities and to promote national stability.

32. In the discussion which followed, several delegations expressed understanding for the proposed article, but hesitated over certain words which in their view might be construed as giving special rights to persons belonging to minorities even when they constituted a majority within a given region and

to limited resources available for selected development projects. Several delegations expressed the view that the main ideas incorporated in draft article 7 were already contained in previous articles, namely article 3, paragraph 2, and article 1, paragraph 1. In this respect the proposal was made not to adopt such an article, but to supplement article 3, paragraph 2.

33. Taking these points into consideration, with regard to the chapeau of paragraph 1 and its subparagraphs (a) and (b), it was suggested that minorities should:

(a) have the opportunity to influence the character and direction of regional development;

(b) have the opportunity to influence decisions affecting them at the national level and wherever possible in regional institutions.

34. The text of paragraph 2, it was suggested, should highlight the idea that minorities should enjoy the same economic rights as the entire population, but not that an agrarian region, for example, should be transformed into an industrial region.

35. In connection with a possible text for paragraph 3, it was tentatively proposed that developing programmes and international economic and financial assistance should take due account of national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities.

36. Due to a lack of consensus as to the contents of draft article 7, an informal drafting group was established. At the 4th meeting of the Working Group a new text for article 7 was offered for consideration. The text read as follows:

#### Article 7

In regions where [persons belonging to] ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities form compact communities or a large part of the population, measures should be taken to ensure that:

(a) they have the right to preserve their identity and, for this purpose, that they participate effectively in the life of the society and to be involved formally in decisions concerning the development of the regions in which they live;

(b) national development policies and programmes, as well as programmes of international economic co-operation and financial assistance, are planned and implemented with due regard for their legitimate interests.

37. It was explained that the new draft restated the original proposals in more general language and that the text retained three basic ideas: (i) the preservation of the identity of minorities, (ii) effective participation of minorities in decisions affecting regional development, and (iii) the encouragement of minority interests in the process of development assistance.

38. An alternative version was subsequently presented to the Working Group. It read as follows:

1. Ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities shall have the right to preserve their identity, to participate effectively in the life of society and to be involved in decision-making regarding the development of the regions in which they live.
2. National development programmes and policies, as well as programmes of economic and social co-operation, shall be drawn up and implemented with due regard for their legitimate interests.

39. It was noted that a chapeau paragraph was not included in the second version and that the term "national" minority was missing from both texts.

40. Considering these points, it was suggested that both texts could be used as a basis for discussion if the chapeau were deleted from the first text; if the following words from that chapeau were reintroduced in paragraph (a) of that text: "[persons belonging to] ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities"; and that the word "national" be surrounded by square brackets in both versions.

41. Other amendments foresaw the replacement of the phrase "life of society" with "national affairs", "affairs of the State" or "public life"; the deletion of the phrase "for this purpose"; the retention from earlier proposals of the concept "national/regional institutions"; and the substitution of the word "formally" with "directly".

42. In the course of the discussion it was suggested that article 7 should concentrate on the specification of new points. In this regard, it was suggested that the article could refer to the right of minorities to be involved in the planning and implementation of decisions, including those related to economic matters, at the regional level but need not restate the right to the preservation of their identity. On the other hand, a preference was expressed for the article to cover the right to universal suffrage and participation in representative government. It was also suggested that article 7 could provide for the right to education.

43. In connection with these points, the following observations were made: firstly, that the rights set out in article 7 should relate to rights accorded to minorities rather than the duties of States towards minorities, therefore no repetition or conflict existed between the contents of this article and previously adopted articles in first reading; secondly, that in according these rights to minorities due account must be taken of their size so as to determine their ability to affect decision-making as envisaged; and thirdly, that it was necessary to decide whether the article should relate to political or economic matters.

44. Following this discussion, an amended text for paragraph (a) was proposed and read:

(a) [Persons belonging to] [national] ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities have the right to be involved directly in decisions concerning the development of the regions in which they live, [through national institutions and, where possible, through regional institutions].

45. The word "directly" caused concern, especially in relation to its translation into French. Unease was also expressed as to the inclusion of human rights and fundamental freedoms not yet universally accepted, therefore one delegation had difficulty with the word "development". Problems were also expressed over the retention of the notion "national and regional institutions". In response to these concerns, it was agreed that the word "development" be deleted; that the phrase "national and regional institutions" be placed within square brackets; and that an alternative expression should be found for the word "directly".

46. An alternative version of article 7, as prepared by an informal drafting group, was presented to the Working Group at its 5th meeting, taking into account the discussion held until then.

47. Draft article 7 was adopted at the 5th meeting and it is reproduced in Annex I.

#### E. First reading of draft article 8

48. At the 5th meeting of the Working Group, draft article 8 as contained in document E/CN.4/1990/WG.5/CRP.1 was introduced by the representative of the Four Directions Council. The text read as follows:

##### Article 8

The organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system shall contribute to the full realization of the rights and principles set forth in this Declaration, within their respective fields of competence.  
To this end:

- (i) the Secretary-General shall organize regional and global technical meetings to stimulate an exchange of experience in this field among governments and with the people affected by this Declaration;
- (ii) the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities shall undertake annually a review of the national and international measures which have been taken for the implementation of this Declaration, and report on the problems encountered and progress achieved;
- (iii) States shall provide, as far as possible, information on the identity, numbers, location, organization, and social and economic characteristics of minorities in their reports to bodies established under United Nations conventions in the field of human rights;
- (iv) United Nations organs and specialized agencies shall give special consideration to requests for technical co-operation and assistance that are designed to achieve the aims of this Declaration.

49. In introductory comments, it was explained that this proposal attempted to ensure that the Declaration would be implemented as effectively as possible within the agencies, organs and human rights bodies of the United Nations system. In the discussion about the draft article, the view was expressed that the text of this article should not be included in the body of the Declaration, but form part of a future resolution relating to the Declaration. On the other hand, preference was expressed for the retention of the text of the chapeau of article 8 in the Declaration and the deletion of subparagraphs (i)-(iv) as their content was regarded as too technical and inappropriate for the text of a declaration.

50. An agreement was reached by the Working Group that the chapeau of draft article 8 be included in the Declaration and that subparagraphs (i)-(iv) would form part of a future resolution. The text as adopted is to be found in Annex I.

### III. ADOPTION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION AT FIRST READING AT THE 5TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP

51. The Working Group decided to adopt the draft declaration in first reading.

### IV. THE ORGANIZATION OF FUTURE WORK

52. In light of the completion of the declaration in first reading, various suggestions and comments were offered as to how the Working Group could best complete its work at the second reading. The view was raised that the complexity of the minority issue had not been fully and comprehensively addressed by the Declaration which should set out more clearly the rights and responsibilities of both States and minorities. A request was made for the submission of four proposals to be considered at the next session of the Working Group relating to the minorities' right to specific parliamentary representation; multilateral conventions respecting the cultural unity of territories; unimpeded relations between populations sharing the same culture but separated by frontiers; autonomous administration; and, for the future, the possibility of establishing an international minority council should be considered.

53. A few delegations drew the attention of the Working Group to their wish for a speedy and successful completion of the work on the Declaration in view of the many conflicts involving minorities at the present time. It was the opinion of these delegations that greater priority should be accorded to the question of minorities within human rights bodies. In this connection, it was suggested that the Working Group should meet two weeks prior to the next session of the Commission and that a technical review should be available for consideration at the next session of the Working Group.

54. A delegation drew the attention of the Working Group to the financial implications of such a proposal and expressed the view that consultations with all delegations were needed before making a formal proposal to the Commission.

55. The Chairman-Rapporteur reminded the open-ended Working Group that in the past there were cases when a working group met for longer periods either inter-sessionally (Child Convention), before the session of the Commission (Rights of the mentally ill) or during the session of the Commission (Child Convention). She asked the delegation to undertake to consult with the Centre for Human Rights to find the most suitable arrangement.

56. In conclusion the Chairman-Rapporteur expressed her appreciation to everyone for their present and future co-operation and efforts in preparing the Declaration as smoothly and quickly as possible.

#### V. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

57. At its 6th meeting, on 5 March 1990, the Working Group adopted its report.

Annex I

TEXT OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION AS ADOPTED IN FIRST READING

Draft declaration on the rights of persons belonging to  
national or ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that one of the basic aims of the United Nations, as proclaimed in its Charter, is to promote and encourage respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

[Reaffirming] [Reiterating] [Declaring] faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Desiring to promote the realization of the principles [concerning the rights of] [persons belong to] [minorities] which form the basis of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination as well as other relevant international instruments [that have been adopted at the universal or regional level and those concluded between individual States Members of the United Nations],

Inspired by [Based on] the provisions of article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights concerning the rights of persons belonging to ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities,

Considering that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to [national or] ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities contribute to the political and social stability of States in which they live,

Confirming that friendly relations and co-operation among States, which take place in the spirit of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contribute to international peace and security and to the creation of more favourable conditions for the realization and promotion of human rights, including the rights of [persons belonging to] [national or], ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities,

Emphasizing that the constant promotion and realization of the rights of persons belonging to minorities, as an integral part of the development of society as a whole and within the constitutional framework, would in turn contribute to the strengthening of friendship and co-operation among peoples and States,

Bearing in mind the work done so far within the United Nations system, in particular the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities as well as the bodies established pursuant to the International Covenants on Human Rights and other relevant

international human rights instruments on promoting and protecting the rights of persons belonging to [national or] ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities,

Recognizing the need to ensure even more effective implementation of international human rights instruments relating to the rights of persons belonging to [national or] ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities,

Proclaim this Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to [National or] Ethnic, Religious or Linguistic Minorities:

#### Article 1

1. [Persons belonging to] [national or] ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities (hereinafter referred to as minorities) have the right to respect for, and the promotion of, their ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity without any discrimination.

2. [Persons belonging to] minorities have the right to life, liberty and security of person and all other human rights and freedoms without discrimination.

#### Article 2

1. In accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and other relevant international instruments, [persons belonging to] minorities have the right to be protected against any activity, including propaganda, [directed against minorities] which:

- (i) may threaten their existence [or identity];
- (ii) [interferes with their freedom of expression or association] [or the development of their own characteristics]; or
- (iii) otherwise prevents their full enjoyment and exercise of universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms.

2. In accordance with their respective constitutional processes [and in accordance with the relevant international treaties to which they are parties], all States shall undertake to adopt legislative or other appropriate measures to prevent and combat such activities, with due regard to the principles embodied in this Declaration and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

#### Article 3

1. [Persons belonging to] minorities have the right, individually or in community with the other members of their group, to enjoy their own culture, to profess and practice their own religion, and to use their own language, freely and without interference or any form of discrimination.

2. All States [which have not yet done so] shall [take measures to create favourable conditions to enable [persons belonging to] minorities to freely]/[ensure that [persons belonging to] minorities are freely able to]

express their characteristics, to develop their [education,] culture, language, religion, traditions and customs, and to participate on an equitable basis in the cultural, religious, social, economic and political life in the country where they live.

3. To the same ends, persons belonging to minorities shall enjoy, without any discrimination, the right to establish and maintain contacts with other members of their group [and with other minorities], especially by exercise of residence within the borders of each State, and the right to leave any country, including their own, and to return to their countries. [This right shall be exercised in accordance with national legislation and relevant international human rights instruments.]

#### Article 4

1. All States shall take legislative or other appropriate and effective measures, especially in the fields of teaching, education, culture and information, to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of [persons belonging to] minorities.

2. Such measures shall include facilitation of the enjoyment by [persons belonging to] minorities of their freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, in particular through utilization of all forms of communication. [This freedom shall be exercised in accordance with national legislation and relevant international human rights instruments.]

3. Such measures should also include the exchange of information [and experience] among States in the aforementioned fields, with a view to strengthening mutual understanding, tolerance and friendship among all people, including [persons belonging to] minorities, [as well as to develop further friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.]/[as well as to develop further international co-operation in the spirit of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.]

#### Article 5

1. Nothing in this Declaration shall prevent the fulfilment of international obligations of States in relation to [persons belonging to] minorities. In particular, States shall fulfil in good faith the obligations and commitments they have assumed under international treaties and agreements to which they are parties.

2. This Declaration shall not prejudice the enjoyment by all persons of universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms.

3. Nothing in the present Declaration may be construed as permitting any activity contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations and, in particular, contrary to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States.

4. In exercising their rights [persons belonging to] minorities shall respect the universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms of others.

[Article 6

Member States of the United Nations shall endeavour, depending on their specific conditions, to create favourable political, educational, cultural and other conditions and to adopt adequate measures for the protection and promotion of the rights of minorities proclaimed in this Declaration.]

Article 7

(a) [Persons belonging to] [national,] ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities have the right to preserve their identity, and to participate effectively in the affairs of the State, and in decisions concerning the regions in which they live [through national institutions and, where possible, regional institutions].

(b) National policies and programmes, as well as programmes of international co-operation and assistance, shall be planned and implemented with due regard for their legitimate interests.

Article 8

The organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system shall contribute to the full realization of the rights and principles set forth in this Declaration, within their respective fields of competence.

New article

This Declaration shall be carried out in a spirit of mutual understanding, tolerance, [good neighbourliness] and friendship among States and [all peoples]/[peoples] and [national], racial, ethnic, religious and linguistic groups in conformity with the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

To be included within a resolution accompanying the Declaration

- (i) The Secretary-General shall organize regional and global technical meetings to stimulate an exchange of experience in this field among governments and with the people affected by this Declaration;
- (ii) The Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities shall undertake annually a review of the national and international measures which have been taken for the implementation of this Declaration, and report on the problems encountered and progress achieved;
- (iii) States shall provide, as far as possible, information on the identity, numbers, location, organization, and social and economic characteristics of minorities in their reports to bodies established under United Nations conventions in the field of human rights;
- (iv) United Nations organs and specialized agencies shall give special consideration to requests for technical co-operation and assistance that are designed to achieve the aims of this Declaration.