

the study requested by the Commission in its resolutions 1982/4 of 19 February 1982¹⁴ and 1984/29 of 1984;¹⁶

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments".

DOCUMENT A/40/971

Report of the Third Committee on agenda item 103

[Original: French]

[5 December 1985]

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1985, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fortieth session, as item 103, the item entitled "Question of a convention on the rights of the child" and to refer it to the Third Committee for consideration and recommendation.

The Third Committee considered the item jointly with items 101, 102, 104 and 144 at its 46th to 48th, 50th to 52nd, 58th and 60th meetings, from 19 to 29 November and 2 December 1985. An account of the Committee's work is contained in the relevant summary records (A/40/SR.46-48, 50-53, 58 and 60).

For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documentation:

Chapter V, section A, on human rights, of the report of the Economic and Social Council for the year 1985 (see E/1985/2).

Letter dated 21 May 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/331-332/Rev.1).

Document submitted by Poland on the status of negotiation of a draft convention on the rights of the child (A/40/3 and Corr.1).

At the 46th meeting, on 19 November, the Assistant Secretary-General, Centre for Human Rights, made an introductory statement.

At the 50th meeting, on 22 November, the representative of Poland introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/40/3) entitled "Question of a convention on the rights of the child", sponsored by Algeria, Argentina, Austria, the Bahamas, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Indonesia, Jordan, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela and Yugoslavia, as well as Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Colombia, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Greece, Guinea, Iceland, Italy, Madagascar, Nigeria, Peru, Rwanda, Spain, Viet Nam and Yugoslavia.

At the 60th meeting, on 2 December, the representative of Poland informed the Committee that a corrigendum to the document (A/C.3/40/3) mentioned in the last paragraph of the draft resolution had been issued, to correct the text of the draft convention had been

produced by a working group of the Commission on Human Rights and not by the Commission itself.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution (see para. 8 below) without a vote.

Recommendation of the Third Committee

8. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

QUESTION OF A CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/166 of 20 December 1978, 34/4 of 18 October 1979, 35/131 of 11 December 1980, 36/57 of 25 November 1981, 37/190 of 18 December 1982, 38/114 of 16 December 1983 and 39/135 of 14 December 1984,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolutions 20 (XXXIV) of 8 March 1978,¹⁸ 19 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979,¹⁹ 36 (XXXVI) of 12 March 1980,²⁰ 26 (XXXVII) of 10 March 1981,²¹ 1982/39 of 11 March 1982,¹⁴ 1983/52 of 10 March 1983,¹⁵ 1984/24 of 8 March 1984¹⁶ and 1985/50 of 14 March 1985,³ as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/18 of 5 May 1978, 1978/40 of 1 August 1978, 1982/37 of 7 May 1982, 1983/39 of 27 May 1983, 1984/25 of 24 May 1984 and 1985/42 of 30 May 1985 and Council decisions 1980/138 of 2 May 1980 and 1981/144 of 8 May 1981,

Reaffirming, on the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations, that children's rights require special protection and call for continuous improvement of the situation of children all over the world, as well as 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 unsatisfactory social conditions, natural disasters, armed conflicts, exploitation, 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 Children's Fund and the United Nations in promoting the well-being of children and their development,

¹⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 4*, chap. XXVI, sect. A.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 1979, *Supplement No. 6*, chap. XXIV, sect. A.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, 1980, *Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum, chap. XXVI, sect. A.

²¹ *Ibid.*, 1981, *Supplement No. 5* and corrigendum, chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

Convinced that an international convention on the rights of the child would make a positive contribution to ensuring the protection of children's rights and their well-being,

Welcoming the growing interest in the elaboration of an international convention on the rights of the child displayed by a great number of Member States representing all geographical regions and socio-political systems, as well as by governmental and non-governmental international organizations,

Noting with appreciation that further progress was made during the forty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights in the elaboration of a draft convention on the rights of the child,²²

Noting the document entitled "Status of elaboration of a draft convention on the rights of the child", submitted by Poland (A/C.3/40/3 and Corr.1),

1. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/42, in which the Council authorized a meeting of an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights

²² *Ibid.*, 1985, Supplement No. 2, chap. XIII.

man Rights for a period of one week prior to the second session of the Commission with a view to completing the work on a draft convention on the rights of the child;

2. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to give the highest priority to, and to make every effort at its forty-second session to complete, the draft convention and submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-first session;

3. *Invites* all Member States to offer their active contribution to the completion of the draft convention on the rights of the child at the forty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the working group in order to ensure its smooth and efficient work in the fulfilment of its important task;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled "Question of a convention on the rights of the child".

DOCUMENT A/40/983

Report of the Third Committee on agenda item 104

[Original: French]
[6 December 1985]

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1985, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fortieth session, as item 104, the item entitled:

"International Covenants on Human Rights:

"(a) Report of the Human Rights Committee;

"(b) Status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: report of the Secretary-General;

"(c) Reporting obligations of States parties to United Nations conventions on human rights: report of the Secretary-General"

and to allocate it to the Third Committee for consideration and report.

2. The Third Committee considered the item jointly with items 101 to 103 and 144 at its 46th to 48th, 50th to 53rd, 58th and 60th meetings, from 19 to 29 November and on 2 December 1985. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/40/SR.46-48, 50-53, 58 and 60).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documentation:

(a) Chapter III, section D (International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights), chapter VII (Question considered by the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights) and chapter IX, section F (Scheduling of the sessions of the Human Rights Committee), of the report of the Economic and Social Council for the year 1985 (see A/40/3);

(b) Report of the Human Rights Committee (A/40/40);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on reporting obligations of States parties to United Nations conventions on human rights (A/40/600 and Add.1);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/40/605);

(e) Letter dated 29 January 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/109-S/16914);

(f) Letter dated 4 March 1985 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/160);

(g) Letter dated 25 April 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/267-E/1985/69);

(h) Letter dated 19 June 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/393-E/1985/128);

(i) Letter dated 23 September 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/678-S/17492);

(j) Letter dated 14 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/750-S/17565);

(k) Letter dated 27 September 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/40/2).

4. At the 46th meeting, on 19 November, the Assistant Secretary-General, Centre for Human Rights, made an introductory statement.