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]

The Third Committee considered the item jointly with items 101, 102, 104 and 144 at its 46th to 48th, 50th, 58th and 60th meetings, from 19 to 29 November, December 1985. An account of the Committee's discussions is contained in the relevant summary records (A/46-48, 50-53, 58 and 60). For its consideration, the Committee had the following documentation:

Chapter V, section A, on human rights, of the report of the Economic and Social Council for the year 1985 (see A/40/331-332).17

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) (see para. 4).

Document submitted by Poland on the status of the negotiations on a draft convention on the rights of the child (A/40/439/3 and Corr.1).18

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, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Indonesia, Jordan, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Syrian Arab Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela and Yugoslavia, as well as Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa d'Ivoire, Greece, Guinea, Iceland, Italy, Madagascar, Nigeria, Peru, Rwanda, Spain, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

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

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,


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 Ibid., 1979, Supplement No. 6, chap. XXIV, sect. A.
19 Ibid., 1980, Supplement No. 3 and corrigendum, chap. XXVI, sect. A.
20 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,\(^\text{22}\)

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 1983/42, in which the Council authorized a meeting of an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human 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 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 the forty-first session the item entitled “Question of a convention on the rights of the child”.

\(^\text{22}\) Ibid., 1985, Supplement No. 2, chap. XIII.

DOCUMENT A/40/983

Report of the Third Committee on agenda item 104

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 forty-first 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 E (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);


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