

Convinced that the struggle to eliminate torture includes providing assistance in a humanitarian spirit to the victims and their family members,

Noting the report 74/ and the note 75/ by the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

1. Expresses its gratitude and appreciation to those Governments, organizations and individuals that have already contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;
2. Calls upon all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for contributions to the Fund;
3. Expresses its appreciation to the Board of Trustees for the work carried out;
4. Renews its request to the Secretary-General to transmit to all Governments the Commission's appeal for further contributions to the Fund;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to do all possible to assist the Board of Trustees, inter alia through the preparation, production and dissemination of information material, in its efforts to make the Voluntary Fund and its humanitarian work better known;
6. Further requests the Secretary-General to keep the Commission informed every year of the operations of the Fund.

1984/23. Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances 76/

The Commission on Human Rights,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 33/173 of 20 December 1978, in which the Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to consider the question of disappeared persons with a view to making appropriate recommendations, and all other United Nations resolutions concerning missing or disappeared persons,

Convinced that the action taken to promote the implementation of the provisions of General Assembly resolution 33/173 and other United Nations resolutions relevant to the plight of missing or disappeared persons should be continued,

Recalling its resolution 20 (XXXVI) of 29 February 1980, by which it decided to establish, for a period of one year, a working group consisting of five of its members to serve as experts in their individual capacity, to examine questions relevant to enforced or involuntary disappearances of persons, and its resolution 1983/20 of 22 February 1983,

74/ A/38/221.

75/ E/CN.4/1984/19.

76/ Adopted at the 42nd meeting, on 6 March 1984, without a vote.
See chap. X.

Recalling General Assembly resolution 38/94 of 16 December 1983, in which the Assembly welcomed the decision taken by the Commission on Human Rights to extend for one year the term of the mandate of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, as laid down in Commission resolution 1983/20 of 22 February 1983,

Profoundly concerned about the persistence, in certain cases, of the practice of enforced or involuntary disappearances,

Expressing its emotion at the anguish and sorrow of the families concerned, who should know the fate of their relatives;

Conscious of the need for the Working Group to develop further its methodology in the light of the discussions held during the present session,

Taking note of the report of the Working Group, 77/

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances for the work it has done;

2. Decides to extend for one year the Working Group's mandate, as laid down in Commission on Human Rights resolution 20 (XXXVI);

3. Requests the Working Group to submit to the Commission, at its forty-first session, a report on its work, together with its conclusions and recommendations, and to bear in mind the obligation to discharge its mandate with discretion, so as, inter alia, to protect persons providing information or to limit the dissemination of information provided by Governments;

4. Requests the Working Group, in its efforts to help eliminate the practice of enforced or involuntary disappearances, to present to the Commission all appropriate information it deems necessary and all concrete suggestions and recommendations regarding the fulfilment of its task;

5. Reminds the Working Group of the need to observe, in its humanitarian task, United Nations standards and practices concerning the receipt of communications, their consideration, their transmittal to Governments and their evaluation;

6. Renews its request to the Secretary-General to appeal to all Governments concerned, in view of the strictly humanitarian concerns of the Working Group, to extend to it, in a spirit of full confidence, their co-operation, which is indispensable for solving the cases of disappearance;

7. Encourages the Governments concerned to consider with special attention the wish of the Working Group to visit their countries, when such wish is expressed, thus enabling the Group to fulfil its mandate more effectively;

77/ E/CN.4/1984/21 and Add.1 and 2.

8. Further requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Working Group with all necessary assistance, in particular the staff and resources it requires to perform its functions in an effective and expeditious manner and, if necessary, to make the appropriate arrangements to ensure the continuity of the Secretariat's work;

9. Decides to consider this question at its forty-first session under the sub-item of the agenda entitled "Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances".

1984/24. Question of a convention on the rights of the child 78/

The Commission on Human Rights,

Bearing in mind the draft convention on the rights of the child submitted by Poland to the Commission on Human Rights on 7 February 1978, 79/ the amended version of the draft submitted to the Commission on 5 October 1979 80/ and the document submitted by Poland to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, on 7 October 1981, 81/

Recalling General Assembly 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 and 38/114 of 16 December 1983, by which the Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to give the highest priority to the question of completing the draft convention on the rights of the child,

Recalling also its resolutions 20 (XXXIV) of 8 March 1978, 19 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979, 36 (XXXVI) of 12 March 1980, 26 (XXXVII) of 10 March 1981, 1982/39 of 11 March 1982 and 1983/52 of 10 March 1983, and Economic and Social Council decisions 1980/138 of 2 May 1980 and 1981/144 of 8 May 1981 and resolutions 1978/18 of 5 May 1978, 1978/40 of 1 August 1978, 1982/37 of 7 May 1982 and 1983/39 of 27 May 1983, by which it authorized a meeting of an open-ended working group for a period of one week prior to the fortieth session of the Commission to facilitate the completion of the work on the draft convention on the rights of the child,

Mindful of the General Assembly's request that the highest priority be given to the question of completing the draft convention at the Commission's fortieth session and that every effort be made to submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session, as the Commission's tangible contribution to the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, 82/

78/ Adopted at the 46th meeting, on 8 March 1984, without a vote. See chap. XIII.

79/ Commission resolution 20 (XXXIV), annex.

80/ E/CN.4/1349.

81/ A/C.3/36/6.

82/ General Assembly resolution 1386 (XIV).