

Board and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to ensure this independence,

Recognizing that international cooperation against illicit trafficking should be pursued in full conformity with the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken to implement resolution 45/179 on the enhancement of the United Nations structure for drug abuse control,⁹⁵

Noting that in the consideration of the programme budget proposals submitted by the Secretary-General for the biennium 1992-1993⁹⁶ full account should be taken of the measures proposed pursuant to resolution 45/179,

Commending the United Nations International Drug Control Programme for the activities undertaken so far in the performance of the functions entrusted to it,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken to implement resolution 45/179 on the enhancement of the United Nations structure for drug abuse control;⁹⁵

2. *Welcomes* the integration of the structures and functions of the Division of Narcotic Drugs, the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control into a single international drug control programme based at Vienna;

3. *Emphasizes* the need for the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to have the necessary degree of managerial flexibility to discharge effectively and expeditiously the functions of the Programme under the terms of United Nations treaties and resolutions relating to international drug control, while recognizing that the Programme is now a part of the United Nations Secretariat;

4. *Requests* that the restructuring process envisaged in resolution 45/179 and in the present resolution be completed as soon as possible so that the United Nations International Drug Control Programme can fulfil its mandates with enhanced effectiveness and efficiency;

5. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/38, which calls on the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to give policy guidance to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and to monitor its activities;

6. *Urges* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to give special emphasis to the implementation of those issues from the Global Programme of Action identified as priorities by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in its resolution 2 (XXXIV) adopted at its thirty-fourth session;⁹⁵

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in accordance with the authority delegated to him by the Secretary-General, to coordinate and provide effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities, in order to ensure coherence of actions within the Programme as well as coordination, complementarity and non-duplication of such activities across the United Nations system, and in this context actively to seek cooperation and support for a global approach from other international organizations, non-governmental organizations, bilateral programmes and national institutions;

8. *Strongly urges* all Governments to provide the full-possible financial and political support to the United

Nations International Drug Control Programme, in particular by increasing the extrabudgetary contributions to the Programme, with a view to expanding and strengthening its operational activities and technical cooperation in particular with developing countries;

9. *Endorses* the proposal of the Secretary-General to place the financial resources of the existing United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control under the direct responsibility of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as a fund for financing operational activities, mainly in developing countries;

10. *Emphasizes* that, in accordance with established United Nations priorities as contained in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997⁹⁷ adequate resources should be allocated so as to enable the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to carry out its activities and fulfil the functions assigned to it by resolution 45/179 and by other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on measures taken to implement the present resolution.

*74th plenary meeting
16 December 1991*

46/105. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 1991/1 of 23 May 1991 and 1991/63 of 26 July 1991 on the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Taking note also of the note verbale dated 27 September 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations⁹⁸ and the note verbale dated 23 May 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations,⁹⁹ addressed to the Secretary-General, regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee,

1. *Decides* to increase the membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from forty-four to forty-six States;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the two additional members at its resumed organizational session in 1992.

*74th plenary meeting
16 December 1991*

46/106. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner,¹⁰⁰ as well as the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner on the work of its forty-second session,¹⁰¹ and

taking note of the statement made by the High Commissioner on 7 November 1991,¹⁰²

Recalling its resolutions 45/140 A and B of 14 December 1990,

Reaffirming the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner, as well as the fundamental importance of the High Commissioner's international protection function and the need for States to cooperate with the High Commissioner in the exercise of this primary and essential responsibility,

Welcoming the High Commissioner's commitment to address refugee situations through a threefold strategy consisting of the enhancement of the emergency preparedness and response mechanisms of the Office of the High Commissioner, the concerted pursuit of the preferred durable solution of voluntary repatriation and the promotion of solutions through preventive measures,

Noting with satisfaction that one hundred and nine States are now parties to the 1951 Convention¹⁰³ and/or the 1967 Protocol¹⁰⁴ relating to the Status of Refugees,

Welcoming the valuable support extended by Governments to the Office of the High Commissioner in the discharge of its humanitarian tasks,

Bearing in mind that the relationship between human rights and refugee flows merits further consideration,

Noting with concern that despite developments that offer hope for solutions to refugee problems, the number of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner has increased and their protection continues to be seriously jeopardized in many situations as a result of non-admission, expulsion, *refoulement* and unjustified detention, as well as other threats to their physical security, dignity and well-being, and lack of respect for fundamental human rights,

Welcoming the commitment of the Office of the High Commissioner to improving the situation of refugee women and children, who represent the majority of refugee populations and who, in many cases, are exposed to a variety of difficult situations affecting their physical and legal protection, as well as their psychological and material well-being,

Conscious of the link between international protection and resettlement as an instrument of protection and of the need for the international community to continue to provide adequate resettlement places for those refugees for whom no other durable solution is in sight,

Commending those States that, despite severe economic and development challenges of their own, continue to admit large numbers of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner into their territories, and emphasizing the need to share the burden of these States to the maximum extent possible through international assistance, including development-oriented assistance,

Commending the Office of the High Commissioner and its staff for the dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities, and paying special tribute to those staff members who have lost their lives in the course of their duties,

1. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental nature of the function of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to provide international protection

and the need for States to cooperate fully with the Office in fulfilling this function, in particular by acceding to and fully and effectively implementing the relevant international and regional refugee instruments;

2. *Recognizes* the need to keep issues related to refugees, asylum-seekers and other migratory flows firmly on the international political agenda, especially the question of solution-oriented approaches to deal with today's refugee problems;

3. *Recognizes also* that the current size and complexity of the world refugee situation require vigorous promotion of existing protection principles, as well as full and open debate on new directions for protection and on further development of the law in this area, paying particular attention to the responsibilities of States to resolve refugee situations and, especially with respect to countries of origin, to address and try to eradicate causes of refugee flows;

4. *Calls upon* all States to refrain from taking measures that jeopardize the institution of asylum, in particular by returning or expelling refugees and asylum-seekers contrary to the fundamental prohibitions against these practices, and urges States to ensure fair and efficient determination procedures and to continue to give humane treatment and to grant asylum to refugees;

5. *Condemns* all violations of the rights and safety of refugees and asylum-seekers, in particular those perpetrated by military or armed attacks against refugee camps and settlements and forced recruitment into armed forces;

6. *Recognizes* that growing misuse of asylum procedures could compromise the institution of asylum and the maintenance of fair and efficient refugee status determination procedures, and endorses the general conclusion on international protection, in particular in relation to refugee status determination, adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at its forty-second session;¹⁰⁵

7. *Endorses* the conclusion on refugee children adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner at its forty-second session,¹⁰⁶ including the decision to establish a new post of coordinator for refugee children within the Office of the High Commissioner;

8. *Commends* the High Commissioner on the Guidelines on the Protection of Refugee Women,⁷⁶ which provide a practical means of ensuring the protection of refugee women, including the delivery of appropriate assistance programmes, and calls upon States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system and other organizations, whether governmental, intergovernmental or non-governmental, to implement the Guidelines;

9. *Stresses* the overriding importance of attaining durable solutions to refugee problems and, in particular, the need to address in this process the root causes of refugee movements, and calls upon the High Commissioner actively to explore new options for preventive strategies that are consistent with protection principles, as well as ways in which State responsibility and burden-sharing mechanisms might be strengthened;

10. *Underlines strongly* State responsibility, particularly as it relates to the countries of origin, including addressing root causes, facilitating voluntary repatriation of refugees and the return, in accordance with international practice, of their nationals who are not refugees;

11. *Urges* all States and relevant organizations to support the Office of the High Commissioner in its efforts to search for durable solutions to the problem of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office, primarily through voluntary repatriation;

12. *Acknowledges* that at present there are important opportunities for resolving long-standing refugee situations and welcomes the intention of the High Commissioner to reinforce the efforts of the Office to encourage and promote voluntary repatriation of refugees and their safe reintegration in the countries of origin;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of pursuing resettlement as a last resort where no other durable solutions are available and the need for States to respond rapidly and with flexibility to evolving situations where resettlement is required to ensure the protection of the refugees concerned;

14. *Welcomes* the initiatives taken by the High Commissioner to enhance the capacity of the Office to respond to emergencies and, taking into account current deliberations on a United Nations system-wide response, encourages the High Commissioner to continue to work closely with other United Nations agencies, as well as other organizations, whether governmental, intergovernmental or non-governmental, to assure a coordinated and effective response to emergency humanitarian situations of a complex and protracted nature, and calls upon Governments to assist in implementing these initiatives;

15. *Endorses* the decision of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner at its forty-second session concerning inter-agency cooperation¹⁰⁷ and calls upon the High Commissioner to sustain her efforts in this area so that the multifaceted needs of refugees, returnees, displaced persons and their host communities might be better addressed, in particular through development initiatives by relevant United Nations agencies and programmes;

16. *Expresses deep appreciation* for the valuable material and humanitarian response of receiving countries, in particular those developing countries that, despite limited resources, continue to admit large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers on a permanent or temporary basis;

17. *Urges* the international community, including non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the principle of international solidarity and in the spirit of burden-sharing, to continue to assist the countries referred to in paragraph 16 above and the High Commissioner in order to enable them to cope with the additional burden that the care for refugees and asylum-seekers represents;

18. *Calls upon* all Governments and other donors to contribute to the High Commissioner's programmes and, taking into account the need to achieve greater burden-sharing among donors, to assist the High Commissioner in securing additional and timely income from traditional governmental sources, other Governments and the private sector in order to ensure that the needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner are met.

74th plenary meeting
16 December 1991

46/107. International Conference on Central American Refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/1 of 7 October 1987, 42/110 of 7 December 1987, 42/204 of 11 December 1987, 42/231 of 12 May 1988, 43/118 of 8 December 1988, 44/139 of 15 December 1989 and 45/141 of 14 December 1990,

Recalling also that the International Conference on Central American Refugees is related to the initiative of the Central American Presidents expressed in the procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America concluded at the Esquipulas II summit meeting in August 1987,¹⁰⁸ as indicated in the San Salvador communiqué on the Central American refugees, of 9 September 1988,¹⁰⁹

Recognizing the importance and validity of the Declaration and the Concerted Plan of Action in favour of Central American Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons, adopted at the International Conference on Central American Refugees held at Guatemala City from 29 to 31 May 1989¹¹⁰ and the Declaration of the First International Meeting of the Follow-Up Committee of the Conference,¹¹¹ especially the framework contained in the Concerted Plan of Action,

Noting with satisfaction the concerted efforts being made by the Central American countries, Belize and Mexico to find lasting solutions to the problems of the refugees, returnees and displaced persons in implementing the aims and objectives of the Concerted Plan of Action as an integral part of efforts to achieve a stable and lasting peace and democratization of the region,

Welcoming the substantial progress in the peace process in El Salvador, whereby efforts are being made to consult with all national sectors, the peace dialogue in Guatemala and the progress being made in Nicaragua in the implementation of its national reconciliation policy and in assistance to the uprooted populations, which continues to encourage movements of voluntary repatriation and settlement of internally displaced persons,

Recognizing the substantial support that, *inter alia*, the Secretary-General, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme, the donor community and national and international non-governmental organizations have given the Conference since its inception,

Convinced that peace, liberty, development and democracy are essential in order to solve the problems of uprooted populations in the region,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,¹¹² and the relevant sections of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;¹¹³

2. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the outcome of the meetings of the Follow-Up Committee of the International Conference on Central American Refugees, held at San José on 2 and 3 April 1991, at San Pedro Sula, Honduras, from 17 to 19 June 1991, at Tegucigalpa on 13 and 14 August 1991 and at Managua on 25 and 26 October 1991;

3. *Urges* the Central American countries, Belize and Mexico to continue to implement and follow up the programmes benefiting refugees, returnees and displaced persons in accordance with their national development plans;

4. *Reaffirms its conviction* that the voluntary repatria-