

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in preparing a study regarding the question of the extent to which the right to participation has been established and has evolved at the national level, to be submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-seventh session, to use once again all channels at his disposal to collect the relevant information and substantive views and comments on the study on popular participation;

3. Decides to consider the question of popular participation at its forty-seventh session under the agenda sub-item "Popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the full realization of all human rights".

38th meeting  
23 February 1990

[Adopted without a vote. See chap. VII.]

1990/15. Human rights and extreme poverty

The Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling that the peoples of the United Nations have reaffirmed in the Charter their faith in fundamental human rights and in the dignity and worth of the human person,

Mindful that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights provides that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family,

Recalling that, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights recognize that the ideal of free human beings enjoying freedom from fear and want can only be achieved if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy his economic, social and cultural rights, as well as his civil and political rights,

Reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of other rights,

Recalling that the elimination of widespread poverty and the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights remain interrelated goals,

Deeply concerned by the fact that, despite the progress achieved by the international community in ensuring the effective enjoyment of the rights of the person, extreme poverty continues to spread throughout the world, seriously affecting the most vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals, families and groups in all countries, who are thus hindered in the exercise of their human rights and their fundamental freedoms,

Recognizing, moreover, that respect for and promotion of human rights are essential if individuals are to participate freely and responsibly in the development of the society in which they live,

Recalling its resolution 1989/10 of 2 March 1989, in which it requested the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to give particular attention to extreme poverty and exclusion from society and to examine the feasibility of a study of this question,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/148 of 15 December 1989, entitled "Human rights based on solidarity",

Recalling resolution 1989/8, "Reaching the poorest", adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund at its first regular session of 1989, in which it is emphasized, inter alia, that a more thorough knowledge of the situation of the poorest, of their living conditions and the pre-conditions for their partnership would make it easier to reach the groups in question,

Recalling resolution 1989/20 of 31 August 1989 of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, in which the Sub-Commission endorsed the preliminary conclusions of the Special Rapporteur on the realization of economic, social and cultural rights (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1989/19, para. 94),

Bearing in mind the action already taken in the relevant forums to ensure the realization of economic, social and cultural rights,

Aware of the necessity of a better understanding of the causes of extreme poverty, including the causes connected with the problems of development, and its interaction with the enjoyment of human rights,

1. Reaffirms that extreme poverty and exclusion from society constitute a violation of human dignity and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate them;
2. Requests States, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to give the necessary attention to this problem when they make known their views on human rights based on solidarity, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/148;
3. Draws the attention of the General Assembly and all United Nations bodies to the contradiction between the existence of situations of extreme poverty and exclusion from society, which must be overcome, and the ability to enjoy human rights fully;
4. Urges the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to give the necessary attention, in its work, to the question of extreme poverty and exclusion from society;

5. Requests the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities when giving attention, in accordance with its resolution 1989/20, to problems, policies and progressive measures relating to more effective realization of economic, social and cultural rights, to examine the question of extreme poverty and exclusion from society in greater depth and to carry out a specific study of this question.

38th meeting  
23 February 1990

[Adopted without a vote. See chap. VII.]

1990/16. Question of trade union rights

The Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling that in the preambles to the International Covenants on Human Rights it is recognized that, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ideal of free human beings enjoying freedom from fear and want can only be achieved if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy his economic, social and cultural rights, as well as his civil and political rights,

Reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from protection and promotion of the other rights,

Recognizing the most important role played by trade unions in efforts to achieve social justice,

Recalling that the right of everyone to form and to join trade unions as embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Further recalling the most important role played by the International Labour Organisation in the protection and promotion of trade union rights,

Deeply concerned by the fact that in many countries persons who exercise their trade union rights in striving for a more just society and human dignity are subject to serious violations of their fundamental human rights, including the right to life,

1. Appeals to States to ensure that conditions are such that all persons under their jurisdiction can exercise their trade union rights freely and in full;

2. Requests Governments to take immediate action to put an end to existing violations of these rights;