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Agenda item 82

TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

Australia, Austria, Costa Rica, Greece, Netherlands, Panama,  
Sweden and the United States of America: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 3452 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

Bearing in mind Article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Recalling once again its resolutions 32/62 of 8 December 1977, in which it requested the Commission on Human Rights to draw up a draft convention on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in the light of the principles embodied in the Declaration; 32/63 of 8 December 1977, in which it requested the Secretary-General to draw up and circulate among Member States a questionnaire soliciting information concerning steps they had taken, including legislative and administrative measures, to put into practice the principles of the Declaration; and 32/64 of 8 December 1977, in which it calls upon Member States to reinforce their support of the Declaration by making unilateral declarations against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Welcoming resolution 11 of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, in which the belief was expressed that the draft convention should be finalized at the earliest possible time,

1. Welcomes resolution 1980/32 of the Economic and Social Council, by which the Council authorized an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights to meet for a period of one week prior to the thirty-seventh session of the Commission to complete the work on a draft convention;

2. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to complete as a matter of urgency at its thirty-seventh session the drafting of a convention on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, with a view to submitting a draft, including provisions for the effective implementation of the future convention, to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to forward the replies of Governments to the questionnaire on torture to the Human Rights Committee for the use of Committee members when dealing with questions relating to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

4. Invites Member States which have not yet done so to deposit the unilateral declarations with the Secretary-General, as called for under General Assembly resolutions 32/64 and 33/178;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-fifth session the item entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

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