

situation to the Assembly in 1991, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind also paragraph 3 of Council resolution 1989/72,

Having considered the supplement to the 1989 Report on the World Social Situation,

Noting with satisfaction that the supplement takes into account the concerns and guidelines specified in Council resolution 1989/72.

Bearing in mind the importance of the report on the world social situation for increasing awareness of the advances made towards the goals of social progress and better standards of living, established in the Charter of the United Nations, and of the obstacles to further progress,

Concerned about the worsening economic situation in many developing countries, particularly that of the least developed countries, including the significant decline in living conditions, the persistence and increase of widespread poverty in a large number of countries and the decrease of the main social and economic indicators of those countries,

Believing that there is a need for greater efforts by the United Nations system to study and disseminate data on the existing world social situation, particularly in regard to the developing countries,

1. Decides to include in the agenda of its first regular session of 1991, bearing in mind paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 44/56, an item entitled "World social situation", for the purpose of considering, *inter alia*, the interim report on the world social situation and the report requested in paragraph 3 of Council resolution 1989/72;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in preparing the interim report, to take into account paragraph 4 of Council resolution 1989/72, in which the Secretary-General was requested, in preparing the 1993 report, to give high priority to an analysis of the main indicators of social progress and standards of living, and to make a comprehensive analysis of the main causes and circumstances that explain negative trends in those indicators; chapters devoted to the study of specific social problems were to be related to global economic and social situations, taking into account both national and international conditions.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/28  
24 May 1990 Meeting 13 Adopted without vote

Approved by Second Committee (E/1990/69) without vote, 16 May (meeting 14); draft by Bolivia for Group of 77 (E/1990/C.2/L.7), orally revised; agenda item 5.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 14 December, the General Assembly adopted resolution 45/87.

#### World social situation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1392(XIV) of 20 November 1959, 2542(XXIV) of 11 December 1969, 40/98 and 40/100 of 13 December 1985, 42/49 of 30 November 1987, 43/113 of 8 December 1988 and 44/56 of 8 December 1989 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/39, 1987/40, 1987/46 and 1987/52 of 28 May 1987, 1989/72 of 24 May 1989 and Council decision

1989/113 of 28 July 1989, and taking note of Council resolution 1990/28 of 24 May 1990.

Bearing in mind the objective of improving the well-being of the world's population on the basis of the full and equal participation of all members of society in the process of development and the fair distribution to them of the benefits therefrom,

Conscious that each country has the sovereign right freely to adopt the economic and social system that it deems the most appropriate and that each Government has the primary responsibility of ensuring the social progress and well-being of the people,

Convinced of the urgent need to eradicate policies and practices that hinder social progress, including racism and racial discrimination, in particular apartheid,

Convinced also that the pace of development in the developing countries should be accelerated substantially in order to enable them to achieve that objective, especially to meet the basic needs for food, housing, education, employment and health care and to struggle against scourges which endanger the health and well-being of their population,

Deeply concerned about the worsening economic situation in many developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries, as evidenced by the significant decline in living conditions, the persistence and increase of widespread poverty in a large number of countries and the decline of the main social and economic indicators of those countries,

Bearing in mind the importance of the 1989 Report on the World Social Situation for increasing awareness of the advances made towards the goals of social progress and better standards of living, established in the Charter of the United Nations, and of the obstacles to further progress,

Believing that there is a need for greater efforts by the United Nations system to study and disseminate data on the existing world social situation, particularly in regard to the developing countries,

Taking note of the deliberations on the question of the world social situation by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1990,

Having considered the supplement to the 1989 Report on the World Social Situation.

1. Notes with satisfaction that the supplement to the 1989 Report on the World Social Situation takes into account the concerns and guidelines specified in General Assembly resolution 44/56 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/72;

2. Recalls the 1989 Report on the World Social Situation, in particular the information on the critical situation in Africa contained in the annex to the report;

3. Notes with satisfaction the increasing awareness of the importance of formulating policy measures at all levels based on the interrelationships between economic growth, human development and social progress in the achievement of overall development;

4. Notes with deep concern the continuing deterioration of the economic and social situation in many developing countries, in particular in the least developed countries, whose numbers have increased over the years;

5. Notes also with deep concern the substantial weakening of the overall position of the developing countries in international trade and finance, which has been made worse by a long-term downward trend in com-