Human rights

1. Once again strongly condemns the crime of genocide; 2. Reaffirms the necessity of international co-operation

in order to liberate mankind from such an odious crime; 3. Notes with satisfaction that many States have ratified the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide or have acceded thereto;

4. Expresses its conviction that implementation of the provisions of the Convention by all States is necessary for the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide;

5. Urges those States that have not yet become parties to the Convention to ratify it or accede thereto without further delay;

6. Invites the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session a report on the status of the Convention.

General Assembly resolution 44/158

15 December 1989 Meeting 82 Adopted without vote Approved by Third Committee (A/44/848) without vote, 29 November (meeting

60); 2-nation draft (A/C.3/44/L.79); agenda item 12. Sponsors: Byelorussian SSR. Poland.

Meeting numbers. GA 44th session: 3rd Committee 48, 50-60; plenary 82.

Other aspects of human rights violations

Protection of journalists

In a resolution(93) adopted by secret ballot on 31 August by 15 votes to 6, with 2 abstentions, the Sub-Commission called on journalists and other mass media personnel to carry out their mission to expose gross human rights violations and to inform public opinion with maximum neutrality, fairness and objectivity, and requested Governments to protect their human rights and support their efforts to reveal human rights violations. It also requested Waleed Sadi (Jordan) to prepare for Sub-Commission consideration in 1990 a report on the feasibility of a study on ways of extending additional protection and assistance to journalists and mass media personnel.

Compensation for human rights violations

On 31 August, the Sub-Commission recommended(94) that the Commission recommend to the Economic and Social Council a resolution authorizing the Sub-Commission to entrust one of its members, Theo van Boven (Netherlands), with undertaking a study on the right to restitution, compensation and rehabilitation for victims of gross human rights violations, with a view to exploring the possibility of developing some basic principles and guidelines in that respect, and asking the Secretary-General to provide him with all necessary assistance. The Sub-Commission requested Theo van Boven to submit a preliminary report to it in 1990.

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Other human rights questions

Additional Protocols I and II to the 1949 Geneva Conventions

In a September 1989 report(1) on the status of the two 1977 Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of war victims,(2) the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly that 13 States had ratified or acceded to the Protocols since his 1988 report on the subject,(3) and provided a list of all States that had ratified or acceded to the Protocols as at 20 September 1989.

As at 31 December, 91 States and the United Nations Council for Namibia had ratified or acceded to Protocol I (on protection of victims of international armed conflicts), including 14 States—Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Greece, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Peru, Spain, USSR—that did so in 1989.