of persons deprived of their liberty (Geneva, 10 September). Participants reaffirmed the adequacy of existing forms of protection in international human rights law, as well as of the international human rights mechanisms that focused on the issue. Challenges, however, remained in the national implementation of international norms and standards. Political will, or lack of thereof, was identified as one factor contributing to the failure of national implementation.

Children and access to justice

Reports of High Commissioner. Pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 22/32 [YUN 2013, p. 719], the High Commissioner submitted a report [A/HRC/25/35] on access to justice for children, which addressed the definition of access to justice for children and its relation to other concepts, such as child-sensitive justice and juvenile justice, and discussed the legal framework and challenges for children in accessing justice. The main part of the report reviewed standards and good practices. The High Commissioner concluded that international and regional human rights norms and standards provided a comprehensive framework for ensuring access to justice for children. Due to their special and dependent status, however, children were faced with serious challenges in accessing justice. She recommended that States revise their laws, policies and procedures to ensure better compliance with international norms and standards; strengthen capacity-building and training initiatives to ensure that persons working with, and for, children had the necessary knowledge and skills relating to their rights and needs; ensure that the views of children were given due consideration; and protect children from the risk of manipulation, harassment, reprisals or intimidation.

In an addendum [A/HRC/25/35/Add.1], the High Commissioner submitted information received from Monaco and Uruguay for her annual report after the deadline for submission.

Pursuant to Council request [YUN 2013, p. 719], the High Commissioner submitted a summary [A/HRC/27/25] of the full-day meeting on access to justice for children (Geneva, 13 March), comprising two panel discussions: one on international norms and standards on access to justice for children and child-sensitive justice, and the other on empowering children to claim their rights.

Human Rights Council action. On 27 March [A/69/53 (res. 25/6)], the Council emphasized that children in contact with the justice system were entitled to the safeguarding of their rights, and called on States to remove barriers to children’s access to justice.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/69/488/Add.2 & Corr.1], adopted resolution 69/172 without vote [agenda item 68 (b)].

Human rights in the administration of justice

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the principles embodied in articles 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto, in particular articles 6, 7, 9, 10, 14 and 15 of the Covenant, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol thereto, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, in particular article 2 (c) thereof, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in particular articles 37, 39 and 40 thereof, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as all other relevant international treaties,

Calling attention to the numerous international standards in the field of the administration of justice,

Recalling all the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the subject of human rights in the administration of justice, including General Assembly resolutions 65/213 of 21 December 2010 and 67/166 of 20 December 2012 and Human Rights Council resolutions 18/12 of 29 September 2011 and 24/12 of 26 September 2013,

Recalling also its resolution 67/1 of 24 September 2012, entitled “Declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels”,

Noting the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities,

Welcoming the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),

Welcoming also the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,

Welcoming further the work of all special procedures of the Human Rights Council that address human rights in the administration of justice in the discharge of their mandates,

Taking note of the work of all human rights treaty body mechanisms on human rights in the administration of justice, in particular of general comments No. 21 on the humane treatment of persons deprived of their liberty and No. 32 on the right to equality before courts and tribunals and to a fair trial, adopted by the Human Rights Committee, and general comments No. 10 on children’s rights in juvenile justice and No. 13 on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence, adopted by the Committee on the Rights of the Child,

Noting with appreciation the important work in the field of the administration of justice of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)