

Commending the positive response by some Governments, the organizations within the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned, to the appeals launched by the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

1. *Urges* Governments, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, specialized agencies and other international organizations associated with the United Nations and non-governmental organizations concerned, to provide the assistance required for the voluntary repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of the refugees returning from abroad, as well as of persons displaced within the country;

2. *Requests* that a progress report be submitted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the assistance being extended by Governments, specialized agencies and other international organizations associated with the United Nations and non-governmental organizations concerned, for the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of southern Sudanese refugees and displaced persons in southern Sudan, to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-fourth session.

*1835th plenary meeting
27 July 1972*

1706 (LIII). Exploitation of labour through illicit and clandestine trafficking

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that the Preamble of the Charter of the United Nations reaffirms faith in fundamental human rights and in the dignity and worth of the human person,

Recalling further that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that no one shall be held in slavery or servitude and that slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms,

Noting with alarm and indignation reports of incidents involving the illegal transportation, organized or undertaken by criminal elements, to some European countries

and the exploitation of workers from some African countries in conditions akin to slavery and forced labour, which constitute an extreme outrage to the human person.

Deeply concerned over malpractices involving inequality and discrimination and unlawful forms of recruitment and treatment of such workers, in particular certain specially unacceptable phenomena such as illicit and clandestine trafficking in labour,

Deploring the fact that advantage is being taken of conditions of mass poverty, ignorance and unemployment in the countries of origin to exploit and profit from such labour through illicit and clandestine trafficking,

Noting the prompt action taken by some Governments in bringing to light such trafficking,

1. *Condemns* the exploitation of, and profiteering from, such labour and clandestine trafficking as exemplified by the incidents brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council;

2. *Appeals* to Governments concerned to take all necessary action or to intensify their efforts to apprehend and bring to justice those responsible for such malpractices;

3. *Further appeals* to Governments concerned to adopt all necessary measures, including new legislation where necessary, aimed at combatting and preventing such malpractices;

4. *Instructs* the Commission on Human Rights to consider the question at its next session and to prepare appropriate recommendations for further action by the Council;

5. *Takes note* of the steps taken by the International Labour Organisation to reinforce its action for the protection of migrant workers and invites it to pursue energetically its examination of the matter, with specific reference to the malpractices condemned in paragraph 1 above, and to report thereon to the Council at an early date.

*1836th plenary meeting
28 July 1972*

OTHER DECISIONS

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

(Agenda item 10)

At its 1835th meeting, on 27 July 1972, the Council decided to transmit the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees⁶⁶ to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session.

⁶⁶ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/8712); see also E/5138 and Add. 1.*

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of the United Nations Focal Point for assistance to refugees from East Bengal in India

(Agenda item 10)

At its 1835th meeting, on 27 July 1972, the Council took note with appreciation of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of the United Nations Focal Point for assistance to refugees from East Bengal in India.⁶⁷

⁶⁷ E/L.1502.