

1997/251. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

At its 38th plenary meeting, on 22 July 1997, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/38 of 11 April 1997,³⁹

(a) Approved the Commission's request to the General Assembly, in preparing for the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁴⁴ to proclaim 26 June a United Nations international day in support of the victims of torture and the total eradication of torture, and the effective functioning of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,⁴⁵ which entered into force on 26 June 1987;

(b) Also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to continue to include the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, and to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of an adequate and stable level of staffing as well as the necessary technical facilities for the United Nations bodies and mechanisms dealing with torture, in order to ensure their effective performance.

³⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 3 (E/1997/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

⁴⁴ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

⁴⁵ General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.