

1997/260. Question of arbitrary detention

At its 38th plenary meeting, on 22 July 1997, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/50 of 15 April 1997,³⁹ endorsed the Commission's decision to renew, for a three-year period, the mandate of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, composed of five independent experts entrusted with the task of investigating cases of deprivation of liberty imposed arbitrarily, provided that no final decision had been taken in such cases by domestic courts in conformity with domestic law, with the relevant international standards set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁴⁴ and with the relevant international instruments accepted by the States concerned, and approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to ensure that the Working Group receives all necessary assistance, particularly in regard to staffing and resources needed to discharge its mandate, and notably with respect to field missions.

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).