

## PART TWO

### Human rights



The Council adopted 89 resolutions, 43 decisions and six President's statements, and brought to the attention of the General Assembly 11 resolutions for its consideration and possible action. The resolutions, decisions and statements adopted during the Council's 2015 sessions were contained in its reports to the Assembly [A/70/53 & Add.1].

**Human Rights Council action.** By a President's statement of 3 July [A/HRC/29/2 (PRST/29/1)], the Council decided to improve further its voluntary yearly calendar for thematic resolutions; that the Bureau would make recommendations and identify modalities to adjust the terms of mandate holders on an exceptional one-time basis and present those recommendations to the Council at its thirtieth (2015) session; and that candidates shortlisted by the Consultative Group could request to be interviewed in any official language of the United Nations. The Council requested the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to develop, manage and support, no later than the thirty-first (2016) session, a more distinguishable, accessible and user-friendly webpage for the Council, its mechanisms and procedures, including a user-friendly extranet.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 17 December [meeting 80], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee [A/70/484], adopted **Resolution 70/136 (Reaffirmation of the Human Rights Council)** by recorded vote (121-2-60) [agenda item 67]



In a December report [A/HRC/31/3], the High Commissioner noted that the second cycle of the had continued with the participation of all 42 States as scheduled, focusing on progress made since the previous cycle. O continued to support, including through the Voluntary Trust Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance, the strengthening of standing interministerial structures and the development of national implementation plans and databases for tracking purposes.

**H ma Righ C cil ac i .** On 1 October [A/70/53/Add.1 (res. 30/14)], the Council decided to convene at its thirty-second (2016) session, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Council, a panel discussion to take stock of the contribution of parliaments to the work of the Council and its and to identify ways to enhance further that contribution. It requested to organize the panel discussion and to liaise with the Inter-Parliamentary Union, States Members and relevant UN bodies and agencies, as well as civil society, s and national human rights institutions, with a view to ensuring their participation, and the High Commissioner to submit a summary report on the panel discussion at its thirty-fifth (2017) session.

**OHCHR e .** In an April report [A/HRC/29/22], , pursuant to Council decision 17/119 [YUN 2011, p. 613], provided an overview of contributions and expenditures as at 31 December 2014

Working Group on Situations, which, on the recommendation of the Working Group on Communications, reported to the Council on consistent patterns of gross violations and recommended a course of action.

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any cases. The number of conflicts and situations of violence, often resulting from deep-rooted discrimination, long-standing patterns of exclusion and lack of freedoms, continued to haunt many parts of the world. In many places across the planet, racism and hate speech were on the rise, often finding their way into politics. New mandates from intergovernmental bodies called for to monitor, investigate, report and increase technical assistance, while intensified engagement with UN system partners in the security, development and humanitarian fields required additional efforts. These demands, in a context of complex human rights challenges, underscored the need to increase resources so that the Office could adequately fulfil its mandate. The significant migration movements taking place across the world were a powerful reminder that human rights mattered. They demonstrated that human beings would—when their lives were threatened, when their dignity was undermined and when they had no prospects—go to great lengths to look for means of survival, protection and a way out. To enable people to live their lives in peace, dignity and safety, States and the international community had to take human rights seriously and make a more honest assessment of the deficits that caused those crises. It was long overdue for States to effectively implement the universal human rights norms that they had established and committed themselves to over the decades in the context of the UN and regional organizations; stood ready to assist.

### Composition of staff

**Report of the Joint Inspection Unit.** As requested by Council resolution 22/2 [YUN 2013, p. 596], the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU), in March, provided the review of the management and administration of the Office [A/70/68]. The JIU recommended reviewing the governance arrangements of the Office; establishing a risk management policy; reviewing the strategic planning process; broadening the geographical diversity of the professional workforce; adapting the UN Secretariat's human resources management strategy and policies to the specific requirements of the Office; and streamlining the work of different entities with human rights mandates.

In an addendum to the report [A/70/68/Add.1], the Secretary-General transmitted to the General Assembly his comments on the recommendations contained in the report of the JIU.

**Human Rights Council action.** On 26 March [A/70/53 (res. 28/1)], by a recorded vote of 31 to 16, the Council expressed serious concern that the imbalance in the geographic representation of the composition of the Office continued to be prominent, and that a single region occupied almost half of the posts in the Office; requested the High Commissioner to es-







## Implementation

**M i i g B d .** The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights held its fifty-fourth (23 February–6 March), fifty-fifth (1–19 June) and fifty-sixth (21 September–9 October) [E/2016/22] sessions in Geneva. Its pre-sessional working group held meetings from 9 to 13 March and from 12 to 16



**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 17 December [meeting 80], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/70/485], adopted **Resolution 70/137 (Right of the**

General Assembly took note of that report on 17 December (decision 70/533).

(On the Organization's efforts to protect the rights of persons with disabilities see also, p. 000.)

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 17 December [meeting 80], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Board (E/1995/11(13)

e meeting had before it notes prepared by  
on: implementation by treaty bodies of the  
conclusions and recommendations of the treaty  
body Chairpersons at their twenty-sixth meeting

the report of the Advisory Committee on the ways and means to enhance such cooperation [YUN 2014, p. 774]; and requested the High Commissioner to submit to the Council at its thirtieth (2015) session a report on the ways and means, as well as obstacles and challenges and proposals to overcome them, for enhancing international cooperation in the UN human rights machinery, including the Council.

On 2 October [A/70/53/Add.1 (res. 30/25)], the Council encouraged States to esta Tc 0 Tw 26.628 -65.97559-7po( t)3 (o)

need for enhanced voluntary contributions to the relevant UN funds to support technical assistance and capacity-building; decided that the theme for the annual thematic panel discussion under agenda item 10 to be held during its thirty-first (2016) session would be “Technical cooperation and capacity-building to promote and protect the rights of all migrants, including women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities”; and requested to submit a





to define that agenda and worked to defend women's human rights and promote gender equality; carried out a comprehensive strategy to strengthen national

manity, and stressed that the historic event established the conditions for the creation of the United Nations, designed to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights and dignity and the worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small. The Council called on member States to unite their efforts in dealing with the challenges and threats to international peace and security and underlined the progress made since the end of the Second World War in overcoming its legacy and in promoting reconciliation, international

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