

to the protected areas be controlled and by whom? How and by whom would the demilitarization of the area be effected and ensured? Would the prospect of creating areas under special protection induce parties to try to annex such areas before their protection is established, thus putting at risk the very people the areas under special protection are supposed to protect?

Indirectly related to ensuring the safety of persons in the area, but essential to the smooth functioning of the area, are questions as to who will administrate the area and whether the United Nations agencies will play a monitoring role or an active participatory role in the area by carrying out functions normally performed by the government.

Another factor to be borne in mind is the length of time for which a Safety Zones need to be created. How temporary a measure of protection turns out to be would depend on the success of political initiatives to resolve the underlying conflict. The dangers of failure to reach a political settlement are serious. The cost of maintaining a Safety Zone for a long period and the number of persons it might attract could be astronomical and may make it an unworkable proposition. These concerns underscore the importance of political initiatives for a solution in parallel to the establishment of a Zone. In the absence of a political settlement a protracted camp like situation might result in demands by persons in the zone for transfer abroad. Yet again, the existence of an area under special protection could well soften the political initiative and intention to find a comprehensive solution to the conflict. The AALCC may undertake to consider whether the creation of areas under special protection for an indefinite period of time would not also significantly increase the number of persons dependent on international assistance for a protracted period of time. In this regard the cost of maintaining a Safety zone for a long time and the quantum of persons it may draw unto itself over a period of time could make it a workable proposition. In the final count the temporal element of the Safety Zone would be as significant a factor as its *ratione materiae*.

The final consideration relates to the presence and participation of other organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in the Safety Zone. The value of inter-agency co-operation would be enhanced in the politically delicate situation of a Safety Zone. From an assistance point of view, the need for inter-agency cooperation to bridge the gap between relief and rehabilitation is well-recognized. The protection, as much as assistance of the displaced should be seen as a cooperative effort between International Intergovernmental Organisations and States as well as Nongovernmental Organizations, particularly in filling the gaps between UNHCR's protection responsibilities and the overall needs of the displaced population. It may also be relevant in the

context of the mandate entrusted to UNHCR in its operations, since even though UNHCR's protection objectives may have been met, this does not mean that the human rights of the individuals are fully protected. It is important therefore to keep in mind the specific mandate of ICRC for the protection of civilians, as well as the human rights protection and promotion responsibilities of other UN operations. In this respect, the various initiatives which have been launched within and outside the UN to focus greater attention on the plight of the displaced persons—including the internally displaced—should be kept in mind.

This topic needs further serious study with a more careful evaluation of the situation and practice in recent times in such areas as in northern Iraq, Sri Lanka, Yugoslavia, Somalia among others. The *Committee should give consideration to the directions in regard to the future work of the Secretariat*. Not only are we dealing with a novel concept but in the absence of a consistent and uniform terminology the fine distinction between the emerging principles of humanitarian law and the customary principles of human rights and refugee law place the concept in a dark grey area where the two aforementioned branches of law overlap. The usage of a plethora of terms such diverse as "Safety Zones", "Open Relief Centres", "Security Zones", "Safe Haven Zones", "Safe Corridor", and Safety Corridors" not to mention "humanitarian access" can scarcely be said to be conducive to the progressive development or codification of law where several customary and codified principles of International law interact, coincide and at times even appear to be mutually exclusive. This is particularly true of the principles of State Sovereignty and non interference in the domestic affairs of the State. Consideration should be given to these and other matters referred to above in determining the future work of the Secretariat in this regard.



## **V. The World Conference on Human Rights and its Follow-up**

### **(i) Introduction**

The United Nations General Assembly by its resolution 45/155 of 18 December 1990, decided to convene at a high level a World Conference on Human Rights in 1993 with the following objectives:

- (a) To review and assess the progress that has been made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to identify obstacles to further progress in this area, and ways in which they can be overcome;
- (b) To examine the relation between development and the enjoyment by everyone of economic, social and cultural rights as well as civil and political rights, recognizing the importance of creating the conditions whereby every one may enjoy those rights as set out in the International Covenants of Human Rights;
- (c) To examine ways and means to improve the implementation of existing human rights standards and instruments;
- (d) To evaluate the effectiveness of the methods and mechanisms used by the United Nations in the field of human rights;
- (e) To formulate concrete recommendations for improving the effectiveness of United Nations activities and mechanisms in the field of human rights through programmes aimed at promoting, encouraging and monitoring respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- (f) To make recommendations for ensuring the necessary financial and other resources for United Nations activities in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedom;



By the same resolution the General Assembly also decided to establish a Preparatory Committee (PREPCOM) for the World Conference, open to all States Members of the United Nations or Members of the specialised agencies, with the participation of observers, in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly. The PREPCOM was to have the mandate to make proposals for the consideration by the General Assembly regarding the agenda, date, duration, venue of and participation in the preparatory meetings and activities at the international, regional and national levels, and on desirable studies and other documentation.

With the mandate of the General Assembly, the PREPCOM held four sessions at Geneva during the span of September 1991 to April 1993. In addition, as part of the preparatory work for the Conference, three regional preparatory meetings of Asia, Africa, and Latin America were held respectively in Bangkok, Tunis and San Jose. Among the main outcome of the preparatory process was the adoption *ad referendum* of the draft final document of the World Conference which was to be submitted to the World Conference.

Based on the proposals and recommendations of the PREPCOM, the General Assembly successively adopted a number of relevant resolutions or decisions, by which it decided that World Conference would be convened at Vienna for two weeks in June 1993, and approved the draft rules of procedures and provisional agenda for the Conference.

The World Conference on Human Rights was held at the Austrian Centre, Vienna, from 14 to 25 June 1993. It was preceded by informal inter-governmental consultations by senior officers of Member States from 9 to 13 June 1993.

### Thirty-third Session: Discussions

Introducing the item "The World Conference on Human Rights" the Assistant Secretary General Professor Huang Huikang, recalled that the General Assembly of the United Nations, at its 45th Session, on 18th December 1990, adopted resolution 45/155, in which the Assembly decided to convene at a high level a World Conference on Human Rights in 1993 with the objectives as stated above.

After two years of intense preparations the World Conference on Human Rights formally took place in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993. The Conference was attended by the representatives of 163 States, including all the 44 Member States of the AALCC. Attendance included a large number of observers from United Nations specialized agencies, inter-governmental organizations including the AALCC, as well as numerous non-governmental organizations.

The main outcome of the World Conference was the adoption of a three-part final document, including a Vienna Declaration and a Programme of Action. The final document reflects the consensus of all States participating in the Conference on a wide range of human rights issues and sets out the guidance and programme for the universal promotion and protection of human rights in the years ahead.

In view of the importance of the World Conference, the AALCC had been actively involved in the preparatory process of the Conference and made its modest contribution to the successful conclusion of the Conference. It may be recalled that the Committee at its 31st Session, held at Islamabad in February 1992, decided to take up the matters concerning the preparation for the World Conference and directed the Secretariat to monitor the preparatory process of the Conference and make necessary studies related thereto. At the Thirty-second Session of the Committee held in Kampala in February 1993, the item "Preparation for the World Conference on Human Rights" was placed on the agenda, and an open-ended Working Group was established to prepare a draft declaration on human rights. The draft Kampala Declaration prepared by the Working Group was formally adopted by the Committee on 6 February 1993, which was then submitted to the Preparatory Committee for the Conference and subsequently reproduced and circulated by the Conference Secretariat in UN Document No. A/Conf.157/PC/62/Add.9. During the World Conference the Secretary General of the AALCC Mr. Frank X. Njenga further elaborated the main views of the AALCC on human rights which have been incorporated in the Kampala Declaration. It is pertinent to mention that quite a few ideas of the AALCC on human rights have been reflected in the final document of the World Conference.

After the World Conference, the implementation of the principles and recommendations contained in the final document of the Conference is of vital importance. It is the view of the Secretariat that while considering the follow-up to the conference in addition to the assessment of the final outcome of the Conference the following two issues need to be given urgent attention, namely, the question of the establishment of a High Commissioner for Human Rights; and the promotion of the universal acceptance of multilateral human rights conventions.

The creation of a High Commissioner for Human Rights was one of the most controversial issues in the World Conference. The proposal was made by the United States and supported by the countries from the North, but strongly opposed by many Asian, African and Latin American countries. The issue could not be resolved during the conference. In this context, a compromise



solution was initiated and accepted that the whole question of the establishment of a High Commissioner for Human Rights should be left to the General Assembly for its consideration. For this purpose, the World Conference recommended to the General Assembly that when examining the report of the Conference at its Forty-Eighth Session, it should consider as a matter of priority this question.

The General Assembly at the current session, on 20th December 1993 adopted a resolution, without a vote, to establish the position of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. The High Commissioner will have a four-year term, with the rank of UN Under Secretary General and will be based in Geneva. The High Commissioner will be appointed by the UN Secretary General subject to the approval of the General Assembly and the post, will be rotated among geographic regions. The powers and functions of the High Commissioner, however, are not very clear. The Commissioner will be responsible for the promotion and protection of all human rights, while recognizing religious, historical and cultural differences, and will be charged with the task of preventing the continuation of human rights violations throughout the World, and holding dialogue with the Governments concerned with a view to securing respect for all human rights. But as finally agreed upon, the High Commissioner will have no power to send fact-finding missions to countries against whom complaints of rights violations are made. The original proposal had given him discretionary powers to do so. The move to withhold development assistance to countries found to be in violation of human rights has also been abandoned. It is thus clear that the decision to establish the High Commissioner for Human Rights was a compromise among the member States.

With regard to the promotion of the universal acceptance of international treaties on human rights, it could be pointed out that although remarkable progress has been made in the codification of international norms in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the General Assembly in 1945, and a large number of multilateral human rights conventions are in force, their status in terms of the number of states parties can scarcely be considered as universal. The process of ratification of or accession to the various conventions has been very slow. Reference to the member states of the AALCC indicates that in many cases the percentage of the ratification or accession is even below the global level. Therefore the vital importance of the promotion for the universal acceptance of international human rights treaties cannot be over emphasized. All states who have not already ratified or acceded to these conventions are encouraged to do so in the implementation of the final document of the World Conference on Human

Rights and in the course of the UN Decade of International Law. For this purpose, fresh efforts should be made to identify the obstacles to the universal acceptance and to seek ways and means of overcoming them.

It was suggested that the deliberation of the subject item at this session could be *inter alia* concentrated on the above mentioned issues.

To facilitate the discussion, the Secretariat had prepared a comprehensive study that included six sections: (i) background introduction; (ii) general proceedings of the Conference; (iii) major issues of contention; (iv) AALCC's views on human rights; (v) final outcome of the Conference; and (vi) follow-up to the Conference. It also included an illustration concerning the status of international legal instruments on human rights in special reference to the Member States of AALCC.

The Delegate of *Japan* stated that his delegation highly valued the fact that the World Conference on Human Rights concluded successfully with the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action in June 1993. The document contained many important principles and concrete programmes for promoting and protecting human rights around the world. The international society therefore needed to follow-up this document by adhering to the principles set forth and effectively implementing the concrete measures contained in the document. In this regard his delegation believed it was timely and useful to discuss the results of the World Conference on Human Rights at the Tokyo Session.

He was of the view that while it may be argued that human rights fell within the domestic jurisdiction of a state, and that the state had primary responsibility for guaranteeing those rights. However it should be recognized that human rights was a universal value common to all mankind and that the promotion and protection of all human rights was legitimate concern of the international community. His government welcomed the fact that this was clearly stated in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

His Government also appreciated that the World Conference on Human Rights recognized the necessity of strengthening the function of the United Nations for promoting and protecting human rights. For example, the increased coordination in support of human rights and fundamental freedoms within the United Nations system was recommended in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. Taking into account the growing disparity between the activities of the Centre for Human Rights and the resources available to carry them out, the document also point out the necessity of increasing substantially the resources for the human rights programme from within the existing and future regular budgets of the United Nations.



One of the most important themes discussed at the World Conference on Human Rights was the proposal concerning the establishment of a High Commissioner for Human Rights. Though participants could not reach final agreement on this matter in the two week conference in Vienna his delegation was glad to note the adoption of the resolution concerning the creation of a High Commissioner for Human Rights at the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The *Delegate of the Peoples Republic of China* said that the declaration adopted by the Vienna Conference, reflected consensus that had been reached concerning the future activities by the international community to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms. The declaration had also reflected some shared understandings and views as well as differences of opinions held by various countries on the question of human rights. Many developing countries including his own, took an active part in the preparation of the Conference and put forward a number of constructive recommendations for the formulation of the conference documents. All this, together with the spirit of flexibility and cooperation, had contributed greatly to the consensus reached at the Conference.

For the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, his delegation believed that the following points should be taken into consideration

- (i) equal importance should be attached to the various recommendations of the Declaration and Programme of Action so as to ensure their comprehensive implementation.
- (ii) efforts should be made to promote cooperation of all member states in the field of international human rights on basis of equality and mutual respect and
- (iii) the international community should continue to be mobilized to address and end the large-scale violation of human rights resulting from colonialism, racism and foreign aggression and occupation so as to create conditions for the developing countries to raise their people's living standards and fully realize their rights to development at an early date.

On the question of the establishment of the post of High Commissioner for Human Rights which was adopted at the forty-eighth UN General Assembly as one of the follow-up measures of the Vienna Conference, his delegation considered it as an important result of the close cooperation of the non-aligned countries, including the Asian and African countries at the Assembly. He

appreciated the spirit of cooperation prevailing among the non-aligned countries in the discussion and consultation of the issue during that Session of the General Assembly.

His delegation recognised that each country had its own political, economic and historical characters and each is at a different development stage with special national conditions and traditions. As a result each country was faced with its own human rights issues that called for urgent solutions and thus had its own approaches and priorities on human rights questions with regard to the developing countries, the right to subsistence and development were their primary concern. Therefore, respect for different understanding of human rights held by different countries and the different measures they adopt to protect human rights in line with their national conditions constitutes the cornerstone for exchange and cooperation in the field of international human rights. In the opinion of his delegation some practices in the human rights field such as the application of selectivity and double standards needed serious attention, the different social systems should be respected, amelioration of the human rights conditions should be substantial. The Chinese Government held that the developing countries should continue their cooperation in the future work on human rights and the development of the international human rights law should reflect more of the stands and interests of the developing countries including the Asian and African countries.

His Government always attached importance to the development of the human rights and had acceded to eight international human rights conventions and strictly fulfilled its obligations set forth by these conventions. It was ready to work with other members of the international community on the basis of mutual understanding and respect and continue to make unremitting efforts to strengthen international cooperation in the field of human rights with a view to further promoting and protecting human rights.

The *Deleate of Sudan* agreed with the view of the delegate of Japan that human rights were universal and applicable to all and that they should be respected pointing out that there were however, violations of the human rights by many countries. He expressed the view that those allowing human rights to be violated should be condemned. In his view selectivity, bias and double standards were leading to abuse and victimization of small countries especially through the mass media.

He underscored the role played by China in crystallizing the solidarity of developing countries to combat designs against them. While accepting universality, traditional values, culture and religion of people can be used to balance universality. While his delegation did not reject the creation of the post



of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights wished to qualify it in terms of the extent of his powers and role to prevent him from misuse of powers and to enforce or impose sanction against chapter 7 of the UN Charter.

The delegate criticized the NGOs participating in the Vienna Conference for promoting Western designs to dominate the world. The solidarity of the developing countries and their regional declaration saved the conference. He further criticized imposing of sanctions by the Security Council in the name of democracy while it was not democratic itself.

The *Delegate of India* emphasized that his government attached great importance to the promotion of human rights. In his view economic development and the eradication of poverty are important for the implementation of human rights. He was of the view that human rights should be promoted in the developing countries, through self-practice and not through imposition. Referring to his government's commitment to the promotion and implementation of human rights he said that the Government of India had recently established a National Human Rights Commission. In his view future work on the subject was very important and the subject should be continued to be studied. He called upon the Secretariat to provide assistance to member states by drafting a model legislation on the promotion of human rights.

The *Observer for the Organization of African Unity (OAU)* stated that as a result of gross abuse of human rights in 1970s the OAU adopted a Convention on Peoples and Human Rights in 1981 which came into force in 1986. That Convention, *inter alia* established an African Commission which commenced its work in 1987 to promote and protect human rights and to hear complaints of violation of human rights by governments. The Heads of States in their Cairo Summit in 1993 authorised for the first time the publication of Commission's Report. He also stated that the twenty-ninth session of the OAU called for scrupulous observance of human rights. He pointed out that the African Charter recognises the right to development as a human rights.

## (ii) Decisions of the Thirty-third Session (1994) Agenda Item: "World Conference on Human Rights and the Follow-up"

Adopted on January, 21, 1994\*

### The Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee at its Thirty-third Session

*Taking Note* with appreciation of the Brief prepared by the Secretariat on the agenda item contained in document No.AALCC/XXXIII/Tokyo/94/12;

*Recalling* the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as other international legal instruments in the field of human rights;

*Mindful* of the final document of the World Conference on Human Rights;

1. *Reaffirms* the basic principles incorporated in the Kampala Declaration on Human Rights adopted by the Committee on 6th February 1993;

\* The *Delegate of Japan* expressed the following reservation to the decision:

Since paragraph 1 of the resolution refers to the Kampala Declaration, my delegation reiterates the observations made at the time of its adoption. We recognise that social and economic development often contributes to ensuring respect for human rights. At the same time, however, fundamental freedoms and human rights should not be sacrificed for the sake of development, but they should be respected by all countries regardless of the degrees of their political and economic development.

As for the problem of human rights and its relationship with the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries my Government is of the view that, since respect for human rights is a widely accepted principle in international society, it is a matter of international concern and could not be regarded as an exclusive internal problem."



2. *Reaffirms* also the solemn commitment to promote universal respect for and enjoyment by all of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
3. *Welcomes* the successful conclusion of the Second World Conference on Human Rights, and *calls for* the full and effective implementation of the final document of the Conference;
4. *Reiterates* the vital importance of the universal acceptance of international human rights treaties adopted within the framework of the United Nations system, and other treaties adopted within the framework of other regional organizations;
5. *Urges* Member States to devise effective action plans and concrete measures to speed up the process towards the goal. All states are encouraged to ratify or accede to those treaties with the aim of universal acceptance;
6. *Recommends* that the priority be accorded to the following conventions: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966), International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966), International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1966), Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1984), Convention relating to the status of Refugee (1951) and its Protocol (1967), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979), and Convention on the Rights of Child (1989);
7. *Acknowledges* the creation of the post of High Commissioner for Human Rights and requests Member States to Cooperate with the High Commissioner who shall act in accordance with the resolution of the General Assembly;
8. *Stresses* the obligation to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and domestic jurisdiction of Member States, while promoting universal respect for and observance of all human rights;
9. *Affirms* that the acknowledgement and promotion of the right to development would greatly enhance respect and observance of human rights in general;
10. *Requests* the Secretary General to approach the Technical Support Facility of the Group of Fifteen (G-15) to explore possible areas of cooperation with the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committees as far as the legal aspects of the right to development are concerned, and to report to the Thirty-fourth session on the outcome of this consultation;
11. *Directs* the Secretariat to make further studies on the development of international law in the field of human rights, and render appropriate legal assistance to the Member States at their request in connection with national legislation concerning the promotion and protection of human rights.

### (iii) Secretariat Brief The World Conference on Human Rights and its Follow-up

#### General Proceedings of the Conference

The World Conference was held in Vienna, from 14 to 25 June 1993. The Conference was declared open by the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 14 June 1994. The inaugural address was delivered by the President of Austria, Mr. Thomas Klestil. The Secretary General of the United Nations, the Secretary General of the Conference, Mr. Ibrahim Fall, and the Federal Chancellor of Austria, Mr. Frank Vranitslay, also delivered addresses at the opening ceremony.

The Conference was attended by the representatives of 163 States, including all the 44 Member States of the AALCC. It was significant that the representation was at the highest level, most of the delegations were headed by Presidents, Prime Ministers or Foreign Ministers. Attendance also included a large number of observers from United Nations human rights bodies, United Nations organs, specialized agencies, inter-governmental organizations as well as numerous non-governmental organizations. The delegation of AALCC was composed of the Secretary General, Mr. Frank X. Njenga, the Assistant Secretary General, Professor Huang Huikang, and the Permanent Observer of AALCC to the Offices of the United Nations in Vienna, Mr. Ki Nemoto.

The provisional agenda of the World Conference, as approved by the General Assembly resolution 47/122 of 18 December 1992, was unanimously adopted by the Conference, which was as follows:

- (1) Opening of the Conference.



- (2) Election of the President.
- (3) Adoption of the rules of procedure.
- (4) Election of other officers of the Conference.
- (5) Appointment of the Credentials Committee.
- (6) Establishment of committees and working groups.
- (7) Adoption of the agenda.
- (8) Commemoration of the International Year of the World's Indigenous People.
- (9) General debate on the progress made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and on the identification of obstacles to further progress in this area and ways in which they can be overcome.
- (10) Consideration of the relationship between development, democracy and the universal enjoyment of all human rights, keeping in view the inter-relationship and indivisibility of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights.
- (11) Consideration of contemporary trends in and new challenges to the full realization of all human rights of women and men, including those of persons belonging to vulnerable groups.
- (12) Recommendation for :
  - (a) Strengthening international cooperation in the field of human rights in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with international human rights instruments;
  - (b) Ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues;
  - (c) Enhancing the effectiveness of United Nations activities and mechanisms;
  - (d) Securing the necessary financial and other resources for United Nations activities in the area of human rights.
- (13) Adoption of the final documents and report of the Conference.

Mr Alois Mock, Foreign Minister of Austria was elected as President of the Conference. The representatives of the following 44 countries were elected as Vice-Presidents: Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burundi, Cameroon,

Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, El-Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Gambia, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, U.K., USA, Venezuela, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Among them were 15 member States of the AALCC.

According to the rules of procedure, the Conference decided to establish one Main Committee, composed of all Conference participants, to discuss agenda items 9, 10, 11 and 12, and one Drafting Committee, composed of all government delegations. The Conference further elected Mrs. Halima E. Warzazi (Morocco) as the Chairman of the Main Committee, and Mr. Gilberto V. Gaboia (Brazil) as the Chairman of the Drafting Committee.

General debate had been conducted in the Plenary throughout the Conference from 14 to 25 June 1993. Statements were made by representatives of 155 countries and a number of observers. Mr. Njenga made a statement on behalf of the AALCC on 21 June. The text of the statement was circulated amongst the Member States of the AALCC. During the general debate and within the framework of the Conference, certain specific days were designated as theme days for peace (15 June), development (16 June), women (17 June), indigenous people (18 June), children (21 June), democracy (22 June).

At its 23rd plenary meeting on 25 June 1993, the Conference adopted by consensus the draft final declaration of Vienna as recommended by the Drafting Committee. At the same meeting, the Conference also adopted the draft report of the World Conference.

As some unpredicted developments of the Conference, the Conference on 15 June 1993 after hearing Foreign Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina, decided, without a vote, to appeal to the Security Council to take necessary measures to end the genocide taking place in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in particular at Gorazde. The Conference further, on 24th June 1993, after intense debate, adopted with a roll-call vote (88 in favour, 1 against, 54 abstention), a Special Declaration on Bosnia and Herzegovina, introduced by Pakistan on behalf of 51 State Members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC). At the same meeting, the Conference adopted a Special Declaration on Angola without a vote.

### Major Issues of Contention

Reflecting the diversity of opinions on human rights issues among members of the international community, the draft final document, prepared