

tional levels; the globalization of the world economy and the increasing pre-eminence of market rules have provided new opportunities, but also new risks, in the efforts to achieve development; these risks were identified (e.g., marginalization of countries, groups and individuals, economic or financial instability, social discontent); the right to development requires further efforts to highlight not only its multidimensional aspects and content, but also corresponding obligations at both the national and international levels.

The report includes a number of references to international economic issues and realities, and states that the content of, and procedures for, structural adjustment programmes and policies should be reviewed in terms of their effects on development possibilities, economic options, and the realization of the right to development. The report also states that human rights, and in particular their selective interpretation or application, should not be used as an instrument of trade protectionism or of leverage for narrow economic or commercial ends, or to constrain unfairly the legitimate development programmes of countries. On the question of aid, the IGGE noted the need for a larger share of aid to be targeted at the eradication of poverty, the promotion of social and sustainable development, and the promotion of human rights. Further, the report notes the need for states, in their public expenditure patterns, to allocate a larger share to addressing health, education and welfare needs, especially of the poor.

With regard to the trade side of the international economic environment, a number of points are made, including: there should be coherence between the respect for the right to development and the functioning of the international trading system; steps should be taken to ensure that less economically developed countries do not suffer losses from trade rules; a study should be undertaken of the effects of trade rules on equity and on development prospects and options, especially of the developing and the least developed countries, and, if necessary, the rules should be adapted to enable the realization of the right to development; concerns related to social development, equity and the realization of the right to development should be major aspects in the design of present and future international trade rules; efforts should be renewed to overcome the problem of low and unstable prices of commodities from developing countries; all appropriate institutions should make every effort to ensure an adequate net flow of financial resources to developing countries; additional resources to developing countries should be used, in particular, for programmes to meet basic needs, especially of the poor; and, the specific needs of developing countries which are net food-importers should be addressed in trade liberalization programmes and activities in order to ensure the enjoyment of the right to food.

The report recommends that the UN human rights programme, the ILO and other UN agencies undertake efforts to, *inter alia*: (a) promote and protect the rights of all categories of working people; (b) do everything within

their competence to protect the cultural identity of minorities and indigenous peoples, including the cultural identities of migrants and refugees; (c) coordinate work for the promotion and protection of the cultural diversity and the cultural identities of national and local populations; and (d) in addition to monitoring respect for civil and political rights, encourage and monitor political participation, popular participation, accountability, transparency and anti-corruption efforts at the national level and, as appropriate, at the international level. The Group stated that the freedoms of movement, association, assembly, information, expression and opinion are all universal rights, and it recommended that states implement, and the UN and its agencies monitor, without discrimination, the promotion and respect of these rights by all states. Reference is also made to the need to establish an adequate and prompt response to the threat that the lack of development may pose to international and internal peace and security.

The section of the report dealing with aspects of the right to development relevant to individual states asserts that state responsibility for the realization of the right to development can be examined at three levels: the obligation to respect, the obligation to protect, and the obligation to fulfil. The IGGE encouraged states to consider legislative and constitutional changes, when their legal system permits, to guarantee the precedence of treaty law over internal law. States were also encouraged to ratify human rights treaties, reconsider the validity of reservations made to them, accept the monitoring mechanisms and procedures, and cooperate with the international monitoring bodies for the further promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Specific areas related to other actions by states in support of the right to development were seen to include: adoption of economic and social measures in order to avoid the exclusion of groups marginalized by extreme poverty; respect for and protection of the economic basis and conditions of life of local populations; measures to ensure that the population living in areas where conflicts have or are occurring are able to retain the right to property and legally acquired rights; measures to ensure that poor and vulnerable groups, including landless farmers, indigenous people and the unemployed, have access to productive assets such as land, credit and the means for self-employment; respect in an equal manner for the social rights of all people and, therefore, the establishment of health and educational programmes in border areas between states and within their respective jurisdictions; respect for migrants' human rights, including through the incorporation of human rights aspects in immigration policies; all necessary efforts to promote and protect the rights of all categories of working people, including organized and unorganized labour, farmers and the unemployed; promotion of and adherence to internationally recognized core labour standards, particularly in the context of ensuring the social dimension of the globalization process; establishment or strengthening of national institutions for the promotion and protection of all human rights; encouragement to national judges to apply