

## II. SPECIFIC ACTIONS TAKEN OR INITIATED

3. As requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 15 (a) of its resolution 43/115 and by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1989/47, the Secretary-General entrusted an independent expert with the task of preparing a study on possible long-term approaches to enhancing the effective operation of existing and prospective bodies established under United Nations human rights instruments. This study is expected to be available to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session.

4. A task force has been appointed, pursuant to paragraph 1 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1989/46, to prepare a study on computerizing, as far as possible the work of the treaty monitoring bodies in relation to reporting, with a view to increasing efficiency and facilitating compliance by States parties with their reporting obligations and the examination of the reports by the treaty bodies. The first meeting of the task force was held in Geneva from 26 to 30 June 1989. The task force identified and made a thorough review of all the relevant materials and factors having a bearing on its mandate and reached agreement on all of the non-technical elements of the study. A second meeting of the task force to finalize the study is expected to be convened in Geneva this fall. The Secretary-General intends to submit a report on the results of the work of the task force to the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights, to be held from 29 January to 9 March 1990.

5. As recommended by the Chairpersons and in accordance with General Assembly resolution 43/115, the Secretary-General requested the treaty bodies to consider the possible consolidation of their respective guidelines governing the initial part of the reports of States parties. A revised draft text of such consolidated guidelines, based on an earlier proposal of the Secretary-General (see document A/40/600, para. 21) and reflecting the views of the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee against Torture and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, has been approved by the human rights treaty bodies that have had the opportunity to consider it. It is expected that a final text will be agreed to by all of the treaty bodies in 1990. The Secretary-General intends to convey the final text of the consolidated guidelines, as approved by the treaty bodies, to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session. The adoption of such consolidated guidelines is expected to alleviate significantly the reporting burdens of States who are parties to several international human rights instruments by making it possible for them to fulfill their reporting obligations in respect of the initial part of their reports by submitting the same core document to the various treaty bodies. A copy of the draft consolidated guidelines is contained in the annex.

6. The finalization of a detailed reporting manual to assist States in the fulfilment of their reporting obligations is receiving priority attention and drafting work on the manual has been initiated. The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) expects to have a text available for circulation to the various treaty bodies by the end of 1989.