

## **TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

10 December 1973 was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the General Assembly of the United Nations. The General Assembly commemorated the event, at United Nations headquarters in New York, with a meeting at which addresses were delivered by Mr. Leopoldo Benites (Ecuador), President of the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly; Mr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General; representatives of the different geographical groups of States Members of the United Nations, and Mr. John Humphrey, former Director of the Division of Human Rights. The speakers reviewed the effect of the Universal Declaration over the quarter of a century of its existence. It was pointed out that, unfortunately, in many cases the principles proclaimed in 1948 had remained abstract affirmations. Several speakers expressed disquiet at the numerous violations of human rights which the world continued to witness.

---

## **CONFERENCE FOR THE ABOLITION OF TORTURE**

*A Conference for the Abolition of Torture convened by Amnesty International was held in Paris on 10 and 11 December 1973, at the Tour Olivier de Serres Centre. It had a twofold purpose : to focus public attention on the epidemic and global proportions of torture, and to develop and initiate effective means of eliminating its use by governments and their agencies. It was presided over by Mr. Sean MacBride, Chairman of Amnesty International, and attended by about 300 delegates, mostly of non-governmental organizations.*