

MISCELLANEOUS

the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Labour Organisation, the Council of Europe and the International Human Rights Institute, attended as observers. The League and the ICRC were represented by Mrs. D. Bujard, legal adviser.

Under the chairmanship of Mr. Sean MacBride, the president of the Executive Committee, the International Assembly examined, *inter alia*, draft resolutions submitted either by the Executive Committee or by national sections. Some concerned the organization's statutes, the functioning of its secretariat and its executive committee, and the work of the national sections. Other resolutions were related more specifically to Amnesty International's practical action.

Five resolutions considered dealt with the treatment of prisoners and urged among other things the abolition of solitary confinement as a penalty, and the setting up of a commission of enquiry into torture with a view to launching a worldwide campaign against it. Another resolution encouraged the twenty-sixth General Assembly of the United Nations to adopt a resolution in favour of, *inter alia*, the setting up of a permanent commission of enquiry into allegations of breaches during armed conflicts of the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907, of the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and of the 1949 Geneva Conventions. Other resolutions on capital punishment and conscientious objection were also submitted to the Assembly. In addition, Amnesty launched a number of appeals for clemency for prisoners of conscience in many countries.

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE

The 59th Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union was held in Paris from 2 to 10 September. The ICRC was represented by Mr. M. Borsinger, Delegate-General for Europe and North America.

Various items studied by the Conference were subsequently the subject of resolutions. We shall mention two which have a

more particular bearing on the international Red Cross institutions. Deeply moved by the recent natural disasters in the world, the Conference adopted a resolution entitled "Need for a World Disaster Inventory of Food, Medical and Other Supplies for the Emergency Relief of Disaster Victims anywhere in the World", appealing to all Governments, and a passage in which is of special interest to the League:

(Notes) with appreciation *the important contributions to disaster relief made by Governments, the many United Nations organizations concerned, the League of Red Cross Societies, the Red Crescent and other voluntary organizations . . .*

Another resolution, entitled "International Co-operation in Favour of the Populations and Refugees of East Pakistan", contains a passage relating to the ICRC and reading thus:

Urges the Government of Pakistan to continue to offer every facility to the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for the development of the action they are undertaking in East Pakistan.

CHILD RELIEF

On 11 December 1971, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), which was established under a United Nations General Assembly resolution, will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary. The organization has developed rapidly, and we should like to recall the frequent and very effective co-operation between UNICEF and the ICRC in various countries where relief operations have been carried out for mothers and children. On such occasions, the Red Cross has been able to rely on UNICEF's invaluable assistance.

Here is what Mr. Henry R. Labouisse, UNICEF's Executive Director, has to say about the great significance of the anniversary¹:

¹ See *UNICEF News*, New York, 1971, No. 68.