

The Executive Board,

Recalling its resolution EB55.R64 on the development of principles of medical ethics which requested the Director-General “to prepare the relevant document for submission to the Fifth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders”, as requested by the United Nations General Assembly in resolution 3218 (XXIX);

Noting the document prepared by the Director-General, entitled “Health aspects of avoidable maltreatment of prisoners and detainees”, which was submitted to the Fifth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and to the United Nations General Assembly at its thirtieth regular session; and

Having considered the further invitation to WHO by the United Nations General Assembly in resolution 3453 (XXX) “to give further attention to the study and elaboration of principles of medical ethics relevant to the protection of persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment”,

1. NOTES the report of the Director-General;
2. NOTES the recent Declaration adopted by the Twenty-ninth World Medical Assembly in Tokyo in October 1975, entitled “Guidelines for medical doctors concerning torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in relation to detention and imprisonment”; and
3. REQUESTS the Director-General:
  - (1) to collaborate with other organizations of the United Nations system having responsibilities in this field, as well as with the World Medical Association, the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences and other nongovernmental organizations concerned, for the purpose of developing codes of medical ethics, including those related to the protection of persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; and
  - (2) to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations of this resolution with specific reference to the invitation extended to the World Health Organization in resolution 3453 (XXX).