



international federation of social workers

Newsletter

Secretariat: 33 Rue de l'Athénée, 1206 Geneva, Switzerland.

December 1987

IFSW Receives Peace Award

The third Tuesday of September marks by tradition the opening of a new session of the United Nations General Assembly and, on the strength of General Assembly resolution 36/67, the International Day of Peace. In 1987 it was also the occasion for a ceremony held simultaneously at United Nations headquarters in New York, its offices at Geneva and Vienna and centres around the world during which 300 non-governmental organizations were officially designated as PEACE MESSENGERS and amongst them, the International Federation of Social Workers.

IFSW received its diploma in Geneva where the U.N. Director-General, Jan Martensen (Sweden) remarked on the "faithful, massive and effective participation of the non-governmental organizations on which the United Nations relies with confidence". The diploma, he said, represented an

expression of gratitude but also, above all, the confidence as well as the hopes which the U.N. placed in the recipients and their future actions.

Will all associations who contributed so much to the celebration of the International Year of Peace please consider this diploma as a just reward of their efforts! Detailed descriptions of their activities during IYP are on file at the U.N. Peace Studies Unit in New York now headed by Ms. Robin Ludwig whom some of our members met at the Montreal meetings in 1984.

The diploma should encourage us to undertake further actions. Please therefore send us suggestions for the next International Social Workers Day for Peace and let us continue the struggle for a peaceful world with the same burning purpose displayed in 1986.



**In recognition of
a significant contribution to
the programme and objectives of
the International Year of Peace,
proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly,
the Secretary-General designates**

*International Federation of
Social Workers*

as a
Peace Messenger

Javier Pérez de Cuéllar

15 September 1987



Presidential Travels . . .

THE GREAT NORTH AMERICAN TOUR

At the invitation of NASW and CASW I visited the U.S.A. and Canada in September for the purpose of promoting interest in the work of the Federation and encouraging greater involvement in our activities. To that end, it was a most successful venture and I was both surprised and delighted at the enthusiastic reception which greeted the presentations on the work of the Federation. The interest in "twinning" and in Stockholm 1988 was particularly rewarding.

My tour which was sponsored by NASW and CASW jointly, started in New Orleans on the 9th September where I attended the NASW Annual Conference. I addressed a session at the conference and was included in as many meetings and functions as time permitted. From there, I worked my way north to Washington, New York, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, St. John's in Newfoundland and Halifax in Nova Scotia, before returning to Dublin via New York on the 28th September. Almost three weeks of non-stop meetings, discussion, celebrations, presentations — the welcome mat spread out everywhere made it one of the most exciting and exhilarating journeys of my life.



CANADIAN TOUR: left-right: Marion Walsh (President Canadian Association of Social Workers). The Hon. Charles Brett, (Minister of Social Services for Newfoundland and Labrador,) Augusta McCabe (President IFSW), Ellen Oliver (President Newfoundland Association of Social Workers), at the Reception given by the Minister to mark the occasion of the President's visit to St. John's Newfoundland.

CYPRUS

To conclude my travel on behalf of the IFSW this year, I attended the European Regional Conference "The Rights of the Disadvantaged in Modern European Society and the Role of Social Work" and the European Regional Meeting from the 5th to the 10th October in Cyprus.

The meeting is written-up elsewhere in the NEWSLETTER but I wish to congratulate the

People and places and marvellous vignettes are lodged in my memory and I am warmed and encouraged that such a wealth of talent, goodwill and energy is located in the world of social work.

It would not be possible to do justice to such a tour (unless I write a book!) but I feel the event must be recorded and the enclosed report is but an outline, in the form of a diary, in an attempt to convey something of my experience. To all involved in NASW and CASW, through their respective Presidents, Suzanne Dworak-Peck and Marion Walsh, I send my warm appreciation, personally, and on behalf of IFSW.

The energy which went into organising such a full and vigorous programme was considerable and I wish to congratulate all concerned. May the future developments on the international front in the North American Region reflect all the hard work that went into this endeavour.

In paying tribute to all the people who made my visit such a fruitful one, I must note my appreciation to the Irish Airline, Aer Lingus, who sponsored my trans-Atlantic flight and to my employer, the Department of Health and Social Services, for allowing me the time.



Left-right: Sue Dworak-Peck, President of NASW and Augusta McCabe, President of IFSW . . . with travelling telephone!

members of the Cyprus Association on their hard work and dedication in achieving a most worthwhile event. A word of special appreciation to the President of the Cyprus Association, Myrianthi Papa Onisiforou for her warm welcome for her IFSW colleagues and the atmosphere of conviviality which was a feature of the Conference.

AUGUSTA McCABE
President, IFSW

Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee held its annual meeting in Dublin in July. The Agenda was a busy one but time was found to allow for socialising and the meeting proved to be both fruitful and enjoyable.

Matters considered during the three day session included:—

- feedback on developments from the Regions.
- reports from our Representatives at the International organisations.
- up-date on the IFSW policy papers. Now in their final editing stage, it was decided to publish them in booklet form to be offered for sale at the 1988 Conference in Stockholm and to our sister organisations, the International Council for Social Welfare (Berlin) and International Schools of Social Work (Vienna).
- discussion of the IFSW stance on Strategies for the Advancement of Women and a reminder of the need for each Association to establish a special Committee to look at women's issues in their own locality and report back to the next General Meeting.
- the development of the IFSW NEWSLETTER and possibilities for its increased circulation.
- further consideration of the establishment of an IFSW *HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION* (T. Bamford)
- three items were given special consideration in small group sessions:
 - THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FEDERATION
 - CONSIDERATION OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A FUTURE SECRETARY GENERAL

— APPROVAL OF THE IFSW SUBMISSION TO THE UN MEETING OF MINISTERS in Vienna for the INTERREGIONAL CONSULTATION ON SOCIAL WELFARE POLICIES

- TREASURER'S REPORT: The finances of the Federation are in good shape and the Executive were more than pleased to be in a position to allocate money from the Jane Hoey Fund to the Associations in Argentina, Chile and Columbia for projects presented.
- we had an up-date on the plans for the 1988 Conference in Sweden from Jane Bergsted. Arrangements are looking good and we are optimistic about the success of our next meeting.
- Consideration was given to the location of the 1990 meeting and a tentative invitation was extended by the President of NASW, U.S.A., Suzanne Dworak Peck and warmly received by the President and members of the Executive. Further talks to take place between IFSW/ICSW/IAASW.
- The Irish Association were happy to welcome the Executive to Dublin and the International Committee arranged a welcome reception for the evening of the members' arrival. The President of IASW, Vicki Somers, hosted a most enjoyable party during the visit and the Department of Social Studies, Trinity College, (where the meeting took place) laid on a reception in honour of the event. The Minister for Health gave a State reception to mark the occasion. (See photo).



Members of the IFSW Executive Committee at the Reception given by the Irish Minister for Health to celebrate their meeting in Dublin, July 1987. Back row: (l-r) Cora de Leon (Philippines, Vice President Asia/Pacific); Yitzak Kadman (Israel); Monika Vyslouzil (Austria); Bwanika Bbaale A. (Uganda); Frances Blonden (Netherlands); Gayle Gilchrist James (Canada); Suzanne Dworak-Peck (U.S.A.); Ellen Mouravieff-Apostol (Assoc. Sec. General); Paul Dolan (U.K.); Michiko Uehara (Japan); Dick Ramsay (Canada, Treasurer); Njal Petter Svennson (Norway, Vice President Europe); Dorothy Harris (U.S.A., Vice President North America). Front row: (l-r) Andrew Mouravieff-Apostol (Secretary General); Augusta McCabe (Ireland, President IFSW); Dr. R. O'Hanlon, Minister for Health.

EUROPEAN REGIONAL SEMINAR

Larnaca, Cyprus, 5-8 October 1987

One hundred and eleven social workers participated in the Seminar on "The Rights of the Disadvantaged in Europe". It was followed by a Meeting of European Delegates at which 13 IFSW member associations were represented and which was attended by the President and the Secretary General.

Human rights considerations pervaded the seminar as specific country aspects were exam-

ined and experiences shared. Cyprus, the host country, had undergone a traumatic splitting of its population following the Turkish invasion in 1974 which had left 200,000 refugees in its wake. Worst hit had been the elderly who found themselves separated from their families on the other side of the border or from those who had sought employment abroad.

One of the main points to emerge from the discussions was the need for the organization and participation of disadvantaged people to ensure recognition and implementation of their rights.

Participation in International Conferences

International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, United Nations Headquarters, New York, 24 August – 11 September 1987.

G. Winifred Kagwa, IFSW Representative, reports:

One hundred and fifty Governments, Observer States, intergovernmental organizations, specialized agencies, and approximately 200 non-governmental organizations participated in the Conference. The Government of the United States did not participate.

This historic occasion marked the first coordinated attempt to discuss the relationship between disarmament and development at world level with no possibility left to Governments to discuss anything else since it was the only item on the agenda. The Conference was held on a high political level, with at least 30 ministers in attendance.

It was stressed throughout the Conference that social and economic violence such as un- and under-employment, poverty and malnutrition, lack of education and medical care, inadequate housing, and environmental pollution, amongst others, not only create tension and insecurity, but lead to death as does war.

While the point was made that of the world's finite resources one trillion dollars a year were expended on military weapons, an amount that could wipe out the debt of the so-called "Third World" countries, it was made clear that even though such expenses could and should be diverted for development purposes, this was not per se the major objective of the Conference. Rather, it appeared that making the world aware of the concept of peace and security in new, wider and deeper terms was indeed a priority. This was summed up in the closing statement by the President of the Conference (Natwar Singh, India): "This Conference is only the first step on a long journey; let us ensure that subsequent steps are not unduly delayed".

Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes, Vienna, 7 – 14 September 1987.

The Interregional Consultation, which had encountered a number of difficulties in its preparatory stages, was finally a definite success.

IFSW was represented by Executive Committee member, Monika Vyslouzil and Elvira Cortajarena, President of the Spanish Association with assistance from Executive Committee member Gayle Gilchrist James who attended as a member of the Canadian delegation.

Monika Vyslouzil handed the IFSW position paper to delegations of countries represented in the Federation, stressing verbally IFSW's main concerns.

A NGO Forum chaired by ICSW Secretary-General Ingrid Gelinek was held during the Consultation. Ms. Gelinek reported on it to the Conference and raised a key issue, amongst others, which is very much shared by the Federation and concerns the need for close co-operation between Governments, including local authorities, and non-governmental organisations. Such relations should at all times be collaborative rather than exploitative.

The Consultation adopted by acclamation a set of Guiding Priorities for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future for National, Regional and Interregional Policy Makers. It will be sent to all IFSW member associations for information.

The Consultation made recommendations in seven areas deemed to be in special need of innovative approaches: the advancement of women; the role of the family; specific population groups; crime and substance abuse; acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) programme; employment, income security and the eradication of poverty; shelter, health, food and education. These, in fact, cover almost the entire range of social issues.

Ageing populations is the common problem of the developed countries while for the developing

countries it is rural development and the redistribution of land tenure and ownership to reverse the nefarious trend of mass exodus to urban centres. A primary concern for all countries was the family which, in the words of Consultation President, Mita Pardo de Tavera, Minister of Social Affairs

and Development of the Philippines, was the prime social cell of the human race. The family, as society advanced, had gradually been relegated to the background in favour of the individual, and the individual, in turn, relegated to the background in favour of the State.

Federation News . . .

■ Professor Richard Ramsay, the IFSW Treasurer, has been selected as winner of the New York International Film Festival "Golden Award" for his film "Suicide".

Professor Ramsay, to whom we all extend our warmest congratulations on this signal honour, is Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Social Welfare at the University of Calgary, Alberta, and prevention of suicide has been a subject to which he has devoted special attention for a number of years. He was elected a member of the IFSW Executive Committee in 1984 and has been Treasurer since 1985.

■ IFSW's long-time, proven and efficient Nominations Officer, Runa Reimavuo of Finland, is now her country's Social Attaché at the Finnish Embassy in Oslo (Thomas Heftyegate, 1, 0264 Oslo 2, Tel. 02 430400). She has not, however, relinquished her IFSW responsibilities and will shortly be urging IFSW member associations to send in nominations for all elective positions in the Federation (Officers and Executive Committee). Please respond without delay!

■ Associate Secretary General, Ellen Mouravieff-Apostol, participated in the ICSW Latin American Seminar on Legislation and Social Welfare in Porto Alegre, Brazil, 18-22 October 1987 where she convened an informal meeting with representatives of the four Latin American member Associations: Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Nicaragua, as well as representatives of non-member associations (Bolivia, Brazil, Honduras, Uruguay). Participants expressed great interest in the proposed WHO/IFSW Project on AIDS, the Grant Fund Seminar for social workers from developing countries wishing to attend the Stockholm Conference, the

Federation's stand on Human Rights and action on behalf of victims of human rights violations, and the need to elect a new Vice President for Latin America & Caribbean to succeed Maria Solis Milessi who by 1988 will have fulfilled the maximum term of office permitted under the IFSW Constitution.

During one of the plenary meetings, the Associate Secretary General was able to speak about the Federation and the 1988 Stockholm Conference.

On September 20, 1987, the Associate Secretary General represented the IFSW Vice President for Europe at the European Committee of Representatives of ICSW in Rome.

PLANNED WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION/ INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS PROJECT ON AIDS

The IFSW Secretary General is currently working on a project with the Research and Development Unit of the WHO Special Programme on AIDS headed by Dr. Manuel Carballo, aiming to enlist the participation of IFSW's member associations world-wide.

It is felt that social workers, with their close contacts with their clients and their counselling experience, are the ideal people in every country to bring the WHO message into every home. The IFSW Secretariat will shortly be circulating details of the WHO/IFSW project to all member associations, inviting them to submit the name of one senior social worker as IFSW AIDS representative for that country to participate in the regional AIDS seminars being planned by WHO for every country.



World Conference: Stockholm 1988

IFSW MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS WILL BE RECEIVING SHORTLY REGISTRATION FORMS FOR THE SOCIAL WORKERS WORLD CONFERENCE, STOCKHOLM 88 which is IFSW's Tenth International Symposium. Register early

for the Conference on "Attitudes, Values and Ideology in Social Work Practice" (Stockholm, 26-30 July, 1988) and do not fail to attend the General Meeting preceding it, July 24-26, 1988.



News from Member Associations

Argentina

The Argentina Federation of Associations of Professional Social Workers organized its 14th National Social Work Conference in Cordoba, November 12 – 15, 1987 with Council meetings preceding it in Catamarca, 3 – 4 October, 1987.

In addition to its own administrative and professional meetings, the Argentina Federation prepared position papers for presentation to the Federation of University Graduate Professionals on the "Present Economic and Social Situation – proposals for Growth". Of these, two were adopted, one on the External Debt and the other on Housing:

External Debt

The Argentine professionals propose, in view of the National emergency, the suspension, reduction or extension of terms of payment of the debt in order to protect national labour and production . . . Negotiations with creditors should set a ceiling on the annual transfer of foreign exchange which on no account should exceed a given maximum percentage of the country's exports . . .

Housing

People and families have a right to a space which they can call their own, to be established and to grow roots in their environment, to have a place in history for themselves as well as for future generations. Independent housing which fits into an integrated project and has the approval of the surrounding population could solve the housing problems within a relatively short time . . . A leading role for the popular sectors of the population in the planning of housing and urbanization as well as in the choice of building materials, which must be genuine and indigenous besides being respectful of cultural models, is a necessity which has to be recognised. These are basic principles to which professionals must adhere at all times . . .

It is up to the State to set up the legal mechanisms to permit the distribution of non-utilised properties without relying on paternalistic donations, and to respect the special features and needs of the population groups for whom settlement is envisaged . . .

Austria

Work on a professional profile for social workers is progressing.

An international seminar was successfully conducted with the participation of colleagues from Switzerland, Germany and South Tyrol.

The Government is planning and partly implementing important changes in social policy which

will have adverse effects on the economic situation of the disadvantaged segments of the population. A demonstration of some 40,000 people, including social workers, was held in Vienna to protest against said changes.

Benin

Upon payment of its membership fee, the Syndicat du Bénin will become the 49th member of the International Federation of Social Workers. This was communicated to the Benin association with warm expressions of welcome. The Benin association was admitted to membership in the Federation by postal ballot on the strength of 18 votes in favour and one abstention. Constitutional requirements for postal ballots are a simple majority from one-third of associations in membership.

Chile

The long-planned Seminar on Social Work and Human Rights was held in Santiago from 9 to 12 December 1987.

The IFSW President and Secretary General sent messages of solidarity and good will with regrets for their absence at this important event.

Alejandro Diaz, Council member of the Chilean association and erstwhile political prisoner for whom IFSW intervened with a letter campaign, publicized the Seminar during the ICSW Latin American meetings in P. Alegre, Brazil. The major aims of the Seminar were:

- to consider and elaborate ethical, philosophical and doctrinal guidelines for social work in the field of human rights.
- To exchange human rights experience in the special Latin American context.
- To promote the inclusion of human rights as a core element of social work training.
- To identify common elements in social work practice and human rights perspective likely to further the development of the social work profession.
- To pinpoint elements within social work and human rights on the basis of the experience and daily practice of the social work profession which can promote the development of a democratic society.

Following elections in July 1987, Wilna Saavedra Cortes is now the President of the Consejo General of the Colegio de Asistentes Sociales (Chilean Association) and Eleonor Codoh Chavez is Vice-President and Director of the Colegio's Department of Human Rights.

Colombia

Among its main functions, the National Social Work Council headed by Marina Villa de Yance, who is also President of the Colombian Federation of Social Workers, monitors the implementation of Article 9, Decree 2833 promulgated October 9, 1981, which obliges public and private companies to employ one social worker per 500 permanent employees and one per fraction exceeding 200 permanently employed workers.

Denmark

A report on social work and social policy trends prepared by the Danish Association of Social Workers states in essence that increasing poverty and impoverishment affects 100,000 people out of a total population of 5,000,000 and is engulfing hitherto economically viable population groups. Unemployment and the gap between the "haves" and the "have nots" is widening.

At the onset of the crisis over ten years ago, Denmark introduced The Social Assistance Act to provide advice and guidance as well as financial assistance on an individual basis. The efforts of local welfare authorities, concentrated mainly on the rehabilitation and placement of unemployed persons, have been thwarted by economic circumstances and increasing numbers are in need of ongoing or even permanent support. For them the consequences of material poverty have been compounded by powerlessness and isolation.

Social workers have acted as initiators, advisers, contributors and organisers of experimental projects undertaken by local welfare authorities which often involve policies and preventive measures and services for children and young people at risk in the hope of keeping them with their families. Such projects are limited in time and are presently financed by a combination of public and private funds though the hope remains that the most successful ones may be integrated into existing public services.

France

The Association Nationale des Assistants de Service Social held its 42nd Congress in Paris, 16 — 18 November, 1987 on "Human Rights and Social Work in the European Context of 1992", pursuing the profession's and its federation's overriding concern for human rights. Four hundred social workers debated the scope for equal opportunities, justice, social progress and individual liberties under the new European structures of 1992.

Israel

Some 2,500 social workers from all over the country attended the Annual National Convention of the Social Workers in Israel, September 14 — 15,

1987 on "The Future of the Welfare State". Panel discussion participants included the Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres and other outstanding politicians as well as social welfare experts. Prime Minister Shamir and the Minister for Labour and Social Welfare attended the opening ceremony and stressed the importance of social workers and their contribution to the progress of society. Their mention of the need to raise social workers' wages was greeted with applause and sceptical smiles.

The "Social Worker of the Year" award went to Haim Bumash, a young social worker from a development town in the north, for his contribution to the development of services for the town's elderly citizens.

Two exhibitions attracted much attention: one showing the achievements in Israel in the field of social welfare and rehabilitation with displays from 90 organisations and companies, and the other displaying pictures and publications of some thirty social workers' associations world-wide as well as IFSW material.

Malaysia

Mr. Anthony Tan is the new President of the Malaysian Association of Professional Social Workers, the Vice President is Ms. Siti Hawa Ali, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Abdul Shukur Shamsuddin.

The Malaysian Association will be hosting the Asia & Pacific Regional Conference of the International Council on Social Welfare in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in August 1989. A first announcement has already been printed and distributed.

Nicaragua

The new President of the Asociación de Trabajadores Sociales Nicaragüenses is Blanca Estela Gómez Chávez, the Vice-President is Valentina Mayoroga, and the Secretary for National and International Relations is Elena Zóniga.

Philippines

Miriam Dugay, 26 year-old social worker, is still detained. Bail for the two cases brought against her were set at P400,000 each — a total of P800,000 (usual bail P30-40,000). This is in effect a denial of bail since such a large amount is impossible to raise.

IFSW member associations are urged to intervene anew on behalf of Miriam Dugay. The text with the requisite addresses have been circulated and forms of support are obtainable from:

Friends of Miriam Dugay
Taripnong c/o REAPS
Ecumenical Centre Bldg.
879 EDSA, Quezon City, Philippines.

Singapore

Please note the new address of the Singapore Association of Social Workers

c/o Singapore Professional Centre,
09-11, World Trade Centre
1, Maritime Square
Keppel Road
Singapore 0409.

United Kingdom

At an Additional General Meeting held in Birmingham on November 14, 1987, the British Association of Social Workers approved a tax-

saving scheme involving the establishment of a separate charity. Savings to be effected amount to approximately 50 per cent of the association's corporation tax bill assessed at £100,000 for 1986/87. Investigations about the possibility of setting up a charity were initiated in 1986 after the association realised that 80 per cent of its work carried charitable status.

Part of the investigation led to the sale of a share in the association's journal "Social Work Today" to Macmillan Publishing which will yield £2 million to the association over the next three years.

BASW will use the extra money to strengthen practice and policy issues within the association. Additional funds will also be available for research and back-up purposes.

International News

International Labour Organisation (ILO) — Revision of the International Standard Classification of Occupations

Draft definitions were published by ILO for consideration by the Fourteenth International Conference on Labour Statisticians held in Geneva, 28 October — 6 November, 1987.

The definition of social workers in the publication is far from satisfactory. First mention comes under "Sub-Major Group" 3.3 listing "Business, Government and Social Services Associate Professionals". Social advisers and helpers are then classified under 3.3.5.0 and described as follows:

Social Advisers and Helpers provide guidance to clients in social and related matters to enable them to find and use resources to overcome difficulties and achieve particular goals.

Tasks include—

- (a) helping individuals and families with personal and social problems;
- (b) collecting information relevant to clients' needs and advising them on their rights and obligations;
- (c) analysing the client's situation and presenting alternative approaches to resolving problems;
- (d) compiling case records or reports for courts and other legal proceedings;
- (e) planning, evaluating, improving and developing welfare services;
- (f) working to prevent development of delinquency or to achieve rehabilitation by organising and supervising social, recreational and educational activities in youth clubs, community centres and similar organisations, or by other means;
- (g) helping physically or mentally handicapped persons to obtain adequate treatment and improve their ability to function in society;
- (h) planning and organising home-help services;
- (i) performing other related tasks;
- (j) supervising other workers.

Women

The United Nations Development Fund for

Women (UNIFEM) supports development initiatives of and for poor women in the developing world. It was originally called the "Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women" (1976-1985) and has supported close to 400 projects for rural and poor urban women in over 100 countries. At present the average cost per field projects is US\$100,000 but the impact is heightened as projects are taken over or replicated by larger national and international agencies. In its 10-year existence, the Fund has increased its funding from \$500,000 to \$7 million per year and has received contributions from 98 countries from all regions of the world.

An official ceremony to mark the occasion of UNIFEM's 10th anniversary took place at UN Headquarters in New York on October 22, 1987 where representatives of six UNIFEM supported projects were honoured. Information on these projects in the Caribbean, Peru, China, India, Kenya and Togo are available from UNIFEM, the IFSW Secretariat and IFSW Representative to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Charlotte Jean-Richard.

One of the award-winning project representatives, Ms. Ahlonkota Aithnard from Togo, was invited to Geneva by the United Nations and the Non-Governmental Liaison Office. Besides being the Director-General of the Department of the Status of Women in Togo, Ms. Aithnard holds several other important positions and is also a trained social worker.

Human Rights

The United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment came into force on 26 June, 1987 after 20 States had ratified it or acceded to it. It was adopted by the U.N. General Assembly on 10 December, 1984. Amnesty International notes, however, in its October 1987 Newsletter that during July 1987, 57 people had been sentenced to death in 17 countries and 54 had been executed in 11 countries . . .