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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED RECENTLY BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL CONCERNING THE ACTIVITIES OF
THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM WITH RESPECT TO THE
SOCIAL SITUATION OF WOMEN AND THEIR
INTEGRATION IN DEVELOPMENT

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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

3490 (XXX). IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD PLAN OF ACTION
ADOPTED BY THE WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year, adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year,^{1/} held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

Convinced that a comprehensive and thorough review and appraisal of progress made in meeting the goals of the World Plan of Action is of crucial importance for the success of the Plan and should be undertaken at regular intervals by organizations of the United Nations system,

Recognizing that the results of the exercise of the implementation of the World Plan of Action will contribute to the consideration of the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and will consequently promote the role of women in the development process,

1. Calls upon the governing bodies of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the relevant specialized agencies and the regional commissions to review annually the activities they have undertaken in accordance with the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and to integrate such reviews into the reports submitted to the Economic and Social Council;

2. Affirms that a system-wide review and appraisal of the implementation of the World Plan of Action should be undertaken, in the years of the biennial review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, as an input to the process of review and appraisal of progress made under the Strategy;

^{1/} Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year (United Nations publication, Sales No E.76.IV.1), chapter II, section A.

3. Urges all States and the relevant organs of the United Nations to report to the Secretary-General on measures they have taken for implementing the World Plan of Action and to include relevant information about the integration of women in development;

4. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to consider reports submitted on measures undertaken in implementation of the World Plan of Action. In accordance with the International Development Strategy, and to report its findings and conclusions on major trends and policies with regard to the status of women, particularly the integration of women in development, to the Economic and Social Council through the Committee for Development Planning and the Committee on Review and Appraisal;

5. Urges the Committee for Development Planning, the Committee on Review and Appraisal and the Economic and Social Council to pay special attention to the question of the status of women in the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy;

6. Invites the Secretary-General to make appropriate arrangements for the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the World Plan of Action.

2439th plenary meeting
12 December 1975

3505 (XXX). INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN THE
DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3010 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972 in which it proclaimed the year 1975 International Women's Year,

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Recalling also its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,

Recalling further its resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 3276 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974 on the World Conference of the International Women's Year and 3342 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 on women and development, and also Economic and Social Council resolution 1959 (LIX) of 28 July 1975 on the World Conference of the International Women's Year,

Taking note of the principles of the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975,^{1/} and the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year,^{2/} adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975, and also the resolutions of the Conference relating to the full integration of women in development,^{3/}

Recognizing that the results of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, in particular the World Plan of Action, indicate that the role of women in the development process must be made an integral part of the establishment of the new international economic order,

^{1/} Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year (United Nations publication, Sales No E.76.IV.1), chapter I.

^{2/} Ibid., chapter II, section A.

^{3/} Ibid., chapter III.

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1855 (LVI) of 16 May 1974 on the significance of the full integration of women in development,

Aware that the economic value of the substantial contribution of women to over-all development has not been widely recognized,

Recognizing that women, owing to the unequal treatment they have endured, constitute a vast potential force in the process of economic and social change, as well as in the struggle against all forms of exploitation and oppression,

Emphasizing that accelerated development requires the real and effective participation of men and women in all areas of national activity and the creation of the necessary conditions for equality of rights, opportunities and responsibilities for men and women,

1. Recognizes that the World Conference of the International Women's Year has established that improvement of the status of women constitutes a basic element in any development process;

2. Urges all States to undertake the necessary changes, as appropriate, in their economic and social structures in order to ensure the participation of women, on an equal basis with men, in the development process;

3. Invites the relevant organizations within the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to pay special attention to development programmes relating to women, inter alia, in the fields of agriculture, industry, trade and science and technology;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, on the basis of information received from Governments and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, as well as on the basis of existing studies, a preliminary report, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its thirty-first session, on the extent to which women participate

in fields such as agriculture, industry, trade and science and technology, with a view to making recommendations on ways and means of increasing and upgrading the participation of women therein;

5. Urges all Governments to give special attention to the inclusion of the question of the integration of women in the development process in United Nations conferences and meetings on matters which have an impact on the participation of women in development;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

2441st plenary meeting
15 December 1975

3519 (XXX). WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE STRENGTHENING OF
INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST
COLONIALISM, RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, FOREIGN
AGGRESSION AND OCCUPATION AND ALL FORMS OF
FOREIGN DOMINATION

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3276 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974,

Considering the report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year,^{1/} held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975, in particular the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and Their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975,^{2/} the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year^{3/} and the resolutions contained in the report of the Conference,^{4/}

Appreciating that the Conference emphasized the important role women must play in the strengthening of international peace and security and in the expansion of co-operation among States, irrespective of their social and economic systems, based on the principles of peaceful coexistence in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Endorsing the statement of the Conference that international co-operation and peace require the achievement of national liberation and independence, the preservation of sovereignty and territorial integrity, the elimination of colonialism and neo-colonialism, foreign aggression and occupation, apartheid and racial discrimination in all its forms, as well as the recognition of the dignity of peoples and their right to self-determination,

1/ United Nations publication, Sales No E.76.IV.1

2/ Ibid., chapter I.

3/ Ibid., chapter II, section A.

4/ Ibid., chapter III.

Noting with satisfaction the opinion expressed by the Conference that peace requires that women as well as men should reject any type of intervention in the domestic affairs of States, openly or covertly carried out by other States or by transnational corporations, and that women as well as men should also promote respect for the sovereign right of a State to establish its own economic, social and political system without political and economic pressures or coercion of any type,

Taking into account the view of the Conference that the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States 5/ confirms, inter alia, the obligation of all States to promote the implementation of general and complete disarmament, to use the funds thus saved for economic and social development and to provide part of these funds for the needs of the developing countries,

Noting with satisfaction the positive changes which have taken place during the last few years in international relations, such as the elimination of the dangerous sources of war in Viet-Nam and the results of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, and noting also the importance of deepening the process of international détente and strengthening an international just peace based on full respect for the Charter of the United Nations and the interests of all States, large and small,

Emphasizing the grave concern that in some regions of the world colonialism, apartheid, racial discrimination and foreign aggression continue to exist and territories are still occupied, which represents a most serious infringement of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of human rights of both men and women, and of the peoples' right to self-determination,

1. Reaffirms the principles promulgated in the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and Their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975;

5/ Resolution 3281 (XXIX).

2. Reaffirms that the strengthening of international peace and security, co-operation among all States irrespective of their social and economic system, based on the principle of peaceful coexistence, and the elimination of the remaining vestiges of colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid, all forms of racism and racial discrimination, alien domination and foreign aggression and occupation are indispensable for the safeguarding of the fundamental human rights of both men and women;

3. Calls upon all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, particularly women's organizations and women's groups, to intensify their efforts to strengthen peace, to expand and deepen the process of international détente and make it irreversible, to eliminate completely and definitely all forms of colonialism and to put an end to the policy and practice of apartheid, all forms of racism, racial discrimination, aggression, occupation and foreign domination;

4. Urges all Governments to take effective measures towards bringing about general and complete disarmament and convening the World Disarmament Conference as soon as possible;

5. Expresses its solidarity with and its assistance for women who contribute towards the struggle of the peoples for their national liberation;

6. Invites the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution.

2441st plenary meeting
15 December 1975

3520 (XXX). WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S YEAR

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3010 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972 in which it proclaimed the year 1975 International Women's Year,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1849 (LVI) and 1851 (LVI) of 16 May 1974 on the convening of an international conference during the International Women's Year as a focal point of the international observance of the Year,

Recalling further its resolutions 3276 (XXIX) and 3277 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974 as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1959 (LIX) of 28 July 1975 concerning the World Conference of the International Women's Year,

Recalling the importance of the participation of women in the implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly at its sixth 1/ and seventh 2/ special sessions as well as in the implementation of the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3/

Having considered the report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, 4/ held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

Having considered also the note by the Secretary-General on the establishment of an international research and training institute for the advancement of women, 5/

Convinced that the Conference, through the adoption of the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975, 6/ the World Plan of Action for the

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth Special Session, Supplement No 1 (A/9559).

2/ Ibid., Seventh Special Session, Supplement No 1 (A/10301).

3/ Resolution 3202 (S-VI).

4/ United Nations publication, Sales No E.76.IV.1.

5/ A/10340.

6/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year (United Nations publication, Sales No E.76.IV.1), chapter I.

Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year 7/ and related resolutions, 8/ has made a valuable and constructive contribution towards the achievement of the threefold objectives of the Year, namely, to promote equality between men and women, to ensure the full integration of women in the total development effort and to promote women's contribution to the development of friendly relations and co-operation among States and to the strengthening of world peace.

Considering the valuable and constructive contributions towards the implementation of the threefold objectives of the International Women's Year made by conferences and seminars held during the Year,

Convinced also that the promotion of development objectives and the solution of crucial world economic and social problems should contribute significantly to the improvement of the situation of women, in particular that of women in rural areas and in low-income groups,

Convinced further that women must play an important role in the promotion, achievement and maintenance of international peace,

Considering that the decisions and recommendations of the Conference should be translated into concrete action without delay by States, organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernment and non-governmental organizations,

Recalling that the Conference stressed the important role of regional commissions in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and related resolutions of the Conference,

Convinced that periodic and comprehensive reviews and appraisals of the progress made in meeting the goals of the World Plan of Action and related resolutions endorsed by the Conference are of crucial importance for their effective implementation and should be undertaken at regular intervals by Governments and by the organizations of the United Nations system within an agreed time frame,

7/ Ibid., chapter II, section A.

8/ Ibid., chapter III.

Noting that the Conference recommended the continuing operation of the Commission on the Status of Women or some other representative body, within the structure of the United Nations, designed specifically to deal with matters relating to the status of women, so as to ensure the implementation of ongoing projects designed to carry out the programmes set forth in the World Plan of Action,^{9/}

1. Takes note of the report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, including the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975, the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year, the regional plans of action and the resolutions and other recommendations adopted by the Conference, and endorses the action proposals contained in these documents;

2. Proclaims the period from 1976 to 1985 United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be devoted to effective and sustained national, regional and international action to implement the World Plan of Action and related resolutions of the Conference;

3. Calls upon Governments, as a matter of urgency, to examine the recommendations contained in the World Plan of Action and related resolutions of the Conference including action to be taken at the national level, such as:

(a) The establishment of short-term, medium-term and long-term targets, and priorities to this end, taking into account the guidelines set forth in sections I and II of the World Plan of Action, including the minimum objectives recommended for achievement by 1980,^{10/}

(b) The adoption of national strategies, plans and programmes for the implementation of the recommendations within the framework of over-all development plans, policies and programmes;

(c) The undertaking of regular reviews and appraisals of progress made at the national and local levels in achieving the goals and objectives of the World Plan of Action within the framework of over-all development plans, policies and programmes;

^{9/} Ibid., chapter III, resolution 4.

^{10/} Ibid., chapter II, section A, paragraph 46.

4. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the relevant organs of the United Nations and to the organizations of the United Nations system the decisions and recommendations of the Conference;

5. Invites all relevant organizations of the United Nations system concerned:

(a) To submit, within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-second session their proposals and suggestions for implementing the World Plan of Action and related resolutions of the Conference during the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;

(b) To develop and implement, during the first half of the Decade, under the auspices of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, a joint interagency medium-term programme for the integration of women in development, which should co-ordinate and integrate activities undertaken in accordance with subparagraph (a) above, with special emphasis on technical co-operation in programmes relating to women and development;

(c) To render, in accordance with requests of Governments, sustained assistance in the formulation, design, implementation and evaluation of projects and programmes which would enable women to be integrated in national and international development;

6. Calls upon the regional commissions to develop and implement, as a matter of priority, effective strategies to further the objective of the World Plan of Action at the regional and subregional levels, bearing in mind their respective regional plans of action;

7. Urges all financial institutions and all international, regional and subregional development banks and bilateral funding agencies to accord high priority in their development assistance, in accordance with requests of Governments, to projects that would promote the integration of women in the development process, in particular women in the rural areas, as well as the achievement of the equality of women and men, priority being given to countries with limited financial means;

8. Urges non-governmental organizations, at the national and international levels, to take all possible measures to assist in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and related resolutions of the Conference within their particular areas of interest and competence;

9. Decides in principle, in accordance with resolution 26 8/ adopted by the Conference, to establish, under the auspices of the United Nations, an International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, which would be financed through voluntary contributions, and would collaborate with appropriate national, regional and international economic and social research institutes;

10. Invites the Secretary-General therefore to appoint, with due consideration to the principle of equitable geographical distribution, a Group of Experts on the Establishment of an International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, consisting of five to ten experts, to draw up, in consultation with the representatives of existing regional centres and/or institutes for research and training which have similar objectives and goals, the terms of reference and structural organization of the Institute, giving special consideration to the needs of women of developing countries, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its sixtieth session on the basis of the recommendations of the Group of Experts;

11. Affirms that a system-wide review and appraisal of the World Plan of Action should be undertaken biennially, and that such reviews and appraisals should constitute an input to the process of review and appraisal of progress made under the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, 11/ taking into account the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the decisions resulting from the sixth and seventh special sessions of the General Assembly;

11/ Resolution 2626 (XXV).

12. Affirms that the General Assembly and other relevant bodies should also consider biennially the progress achieved in the promotion of the full equality of women with men in all spheres of life in accordance with international standards and, in particular, the participation of women in political life and in international co-operation and the strengthening of international peace;

13. Expresses the hope that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System, which will consider the report of the Group of Experts on the Structure of the United Nations System entitled A New United Nations Structure for Global Economic Co-operation,^{12/} will take full account of the need to implement the World Plan of Action and related resolutions of the Conference, as well as the requirements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and appeals to the Ad Hoc Committee to ensure that the machinery designed to deal with questions relating to women should be strengthened, taking into account in particular, the role of the Commission on the Status of Women and the procedures established for the system-wide review and appraisal of the World Plan of Action;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-first session an item entitled "United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace";

15. Invites the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session on the measures taken to implement the World Plan of Action and related resolutions of the Conference, and on the progress achieved in initiating the procedures for the Plan's review and appraisal by Member States, the United Nations organs, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations concerned;

^{12/} E/AC.62/9 (United Nations publication, Sales No E.75.II.A.7).

16. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure, if possible within existing resources, that the Secretariat unit responsible for women's questions possesses adequate personnel and budgetary resources in order to discharge its functions under the World Plan of Action in co-operation with all organizations of the United Nations system;

17. Further requests the Secretary-General, in the light of paragraph 16 above, to take into account the requirements of the World Plan of Action and related resolutions of the Conference in preparing revised estimates for 1977 and the medium-term plan for 1978-1981 and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session, in accordance with established procedures;

18. Urges all States, the organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, as well as the mass communications media, to give widespread publicity to the achievements and significance of the Conference at the national, regional and international levels;

19. Requests the Secretary-General, as a matter of high priority, to issue within existing resources, in the official languages of the United Nations, a simplified version of the World Plan of Action as a booklet, which would highlight the targets, goals and main recommendations for action by Governments, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations and which would explain the relevance of the implementation of the Plan to the daily lives of men and women throughout the world;

20. Decides to convene in 1980, at the mid-term of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, a world conference of all States to review and evaluate the progress made in implementing the objectives of the International Women's Year as recommended by the World Conference of the International Women's Year and, where necessary, to readjust existing programmes in the light of new data and research available.

2441st plenary meeting
15 December 1975

3522 (XXX). IMPROVEMENT OF THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN FOR
THEIR EFFECTIVE AND SPEEDY PARTICIPATION IN THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR COUNTRIES

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that many women in low-income countries are engaged in various economic activities on a self-reliant basis not normally taken into account when considering the gross national product,

Convinced that the contribution of such economic activities by women to the over-all national economic development is substantial,

Further convinced that credit facilities are a necessary prerequisite for the improvement of economic activities of women engaged in self-reliance projects,

Recognizing the continued benefits that can accrue from access to even moderate financial resources, when such become available,

Concerned that many lending and financial institutions continue to practise discrimination against women, considering them poor credit risks, and that local and national practices and customs in many parts of the world bar women from engaging in responsible financial transactions,

Reaffirming resolution 10, entitled "Access of women to financial assistance",^{1/} adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

1. Urges Governments and governmental and non-governmental organizations to support more vigorously official and private efforts to extend to women the facilities now being offered only to men by financial and lending institutions;

2. Requests Governments to encourage all efforts by women's organizations, co-operatives and lending institutions which will enable women at the lowest level in rural and urban areas to obtain credit and loans to improve their economic activities and integration in national development;

^{1/} Ibid., chapter III.

3. Urges Governments and the organizations of the United Nations development system, including specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, to incorporate, in their training programmes, workshops and seminars, courses designed to improve the efficiency of women in business and financial management.

2441st plenary meeting
15 December 1975

3523 (XXX). WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3276 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, in which it decided to consider at its thirtieth session an item entitled "International Women's Year, including the proposals and recommendations of the Conference of the International Women's Year",

Taking into account resolution 21 1/ adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975, the principles contained in the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and Their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975, 2/ the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year 3/ and the relevant resolutions bearing on the contribution of women to equality, peace and development,

Realizing the importance of adherence to the recommendations of the World Plan of Action, especially those related to women in rural and low-income areas,

Considering the vital role rural women play, not only within the family unit but also in the process of national development, through agriculture and particularly through food production and distribution,

Bearing in mind that in many parts of the world illiteracy, lack of education and training, inadequate distribution of human and economic resources, and severe unemployment, and underemployment problems for women have hindered them from contributing fully to national development efforts,

Convinced that the struggle for development is a primary responsibility of all peoples and Governments, taking into account the principles of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States :

1/ Ibid.

2/ Ibid., chapter I.

3/ Ibid., chapter II, section A.

4/ Resolution 3281 (XXIX).

and the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,^{5/}

Noting the need for both quantitative and qualitative data on the position of women and their role in all rural activities,

Noting also the activities relating to rural women undertaken to date by the United Nations bodies and specialized agencies concerned,

Noting further the need for co-ordinated and systematic examination of the situation of rural women and their role in all rural activities,

1. Urges all Governments to accord, within their respective plans, higher priority for:

(a) Gathering relevant data on the status and role of women in rural and low-income areas;

(b) Achieving socioeconomic conditions based on the realization of the full and equal partnership of men and women in the development of society, both in law and in fact;

(c) Promoting agricultural productivity, agrobased industries and integrated rural development programmes;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare and submit, through the Economic and Social Council, on the basis of the views of relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies as well as those of Governments, guidelines for non-formal educational programmes designed to enable rural women to use fully their capabilities and to contribute to the development of society;

3. Urges United Nations organizations, specialized agencies, regional commissions and international financial institutions to accord special attention to government programmes and projects aimed at the full integration of rural women in development;

^{5/} Resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

4. Urges all Governments to develop extensive training programmes relevant to women and to make full use of all existing and proposed research institutes and centres, particularly the regional and international institutes and centres for the advancement of women in rural areas;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, to report to the General Assembly biennially on the progress achieved in connexion with the work referred to in the previous paragraphs.

2441st plenary meeting
15 December 1975

3524 (XXX). MEASURES FOR THE INTEGRATION OF
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3010 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972 in which it proclaimed the year 1975 International Women's Year,

Recalling also its resolution 3505 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, adopted on the recommendation of the Second Committee,

Having considered the report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year,^{1/} held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975, which contains the resolutions adopted by the Conference ^{2/} and the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year,^{3/}

Noting that the World Plan of Action set forth guidance on action programmes for the integration of women in development,

Recalling its resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, in which the General Assembly included among the objectives of the Strategy the full integration of women in the total development effort, and recalling also that the majority of the specialized agencies, other United Nations bodies and Member States have already advocated similar action, as have individual donor agencies,

Recalling that, in its resolution 3342 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, it invited the United Nations system to provide increased assistance to those programmes, projects and activities that will encourage and promote the further integration of women in national, regional and interregional economic development activities,

^{1/} United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1.

^{2/} Ibid., chapter III.

^{3/} Ibid., chapter II, section A.

Recommends that all organs of the United Nations development system, including the United Nations Development Programme and the specialized agencies, and other international technical and financial assistance programmes and agencies should:

(a) Give sustained attention to the integration of women in the formulation, design and implementation of development projects and programmes;

(b) Assist Governments that so request to incorporate in their development plans, their programme and sector analyses and their programme and project documents an impact statement of how such proposed programmes will affect women as participants and beneficiaries.

2441st plenary meeting
15 December 1975

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/31/407)]

31/133. VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE UNITED NATIONS
DECADE FOR WOMEN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, in which it proclaimed the period from 1976 to 1985 United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling also that it decided at its thirtieth session that the voluntary fund for the International Women's Year, established by Economic and Social Council resolution 1850 (LVI) of 16 May 1974, should be extended to cover the period of the Decade,^{1/}

Aware that some countries, particularly the least developed ones, have limited financial resources for carrying out their national plans and programmes for the advancement of women and for the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year ^{2/} adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

Recognizing the necessity for continuing financial and technical support for these programmes,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Voluntary Fund for the Decade,^{3/}

1. Adopts the following criteria and arrangements for the management of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women:

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No 34 (A/10034), items 75 and 76, p. 100.

^{2/} United Nations publication, Sales No E.76.IV.1, chap. II, sect. A.

^{3/} E/5773.

(a) Criteria:

The resources of the Fund should be utilized to supplement activities in the following areas designed to implement the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, priority being given to the related programmes and projects of the least developed, land-locked and island countries among developing countries:

- (i) Technical co-operation activities;
- (ii) Development and/or strengthening of regional and international programmes;
- (iii) Development and implementation of joint interorganizational programmes;
- (iv) Research, data collection and analysis, relevant to (i), (ii) and (iii) above;
- (v) Communication support and public information activities designed to promote the goals of the Decade and, in particular, the activities undertaken under (i), (ii) and (iii) above;
- (vi) In the selection of projects and programmes, special consideration should be given to those which benefit rural women, poor women in urban areas and other marginal groups of women, especially the disadvantaged;

(b) Arrangements

The General Assembly endorses the arrangements for the future management of the Fund contained in the annex to the present resolution;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to consult the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the use of the Fund for technical co-operation activities;

3. Requests the President of the General Assembly to select, with due regard to regional distribution, in the first instance for a period of three years, five Member States, each of which should appoint a representative to serve on the Consultative Committee on the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women to advise the Secretary-General on the application to the use of the Fund of the criteria set forth in paragraph 1 above;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on the management of the Fund.

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ANNEX

Arrangements for the management of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women

1. The Secretary-General shall apply the following arrangements for the management of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women:

1. Solicitation and acknowledgement of pledges and the collection of contributions

2. The Controller, in consultation with the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, shall determine the responsibility and procedures for soliciting voluntary contributions to the Fund.

3. Any prospective donor desiring to make a voluntary contribution to the Fund shall submit a written proposal to the Secretary-General; the request for acceptance should contain all relevant information, including the amount of the proposed contribution, the currency and the timing of payments, and may indicate the purposes and any action expected of the United Nations.

4. The proposal, with the comments inter alia of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, shall be forwarded to the Controller, who shall determine whether or not any proposed gift or donation might directly or indirectly involve additional financial liability for the Organization. Before acceptance of any gift or donation involving such liability, the Controller shall request and obtain the approval of the General Assembly through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

5. The Controller shall acknowledge all pledges and shall determine the bank account or accounts in which contributions to the Fund should be deposited; he shall be responsible for collecting contributions and following up on payments of contributions pledged.

6. The Controller may accept contributions in any national currency donated for the purpose of the Fund.

II. Operations and control

7. The Controller shall ensure that the operation and control of the Fund shall be in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations; he may delegate responsibility for the operation and administration of the Fund to the heads of departments or offices designated by the Secretary-General to execute activities financed by the Fund; only officials so designated may authorize the execution of specific activities to be financed by the Fund.

8. Subject to the criteria for disbursements from the Fund endorsed by the General Assembly, the Controller may, after consultation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, allocate resources of the Fund to a specialized agency or another United Nations body for the execution of projects financed by the Fund; in such an event, the administrative procedures of the executing body would apply, subject to such provisions for periodic reporting as the Controller may specify. Before making disbursements for technical co-operation activities, the Controller should consult the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme.

9. In respect of activities conducted by the United Nations, requests for allotments of funds shall be submitted to the Controller by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, accompanied by such supporting information as the Controller may require. After review, allotments to provide for expenditures of the funds received shall be issued by the Director of the Budget Division, and certifying officers for the Fund shall be designated by the Controller in accordance with established procedures.

10. The Controller shall be responsible for the reporting of all financial transactions concerning the Fund and shall issue quarterly statements of assets, liabilities and unencumbered Fund balance, income and expenditure.

11. The Fund shall be audited by both the Internal Audit Service and the Board of Auditors, in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.

III. Reporting

12. An annual report showing funds available, pledges and payments received and the expenditures made from the Fund shall be prepared by the Controller and submitted to the General Assembly and, as appropriate, to the Commission on the Status of Women.

31/134. IMPROVEMENT OF THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN IN EDUCATION

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women ^{1/} emphasizes the need to take all appropriate measures to ensure to women equal rights with men in education at all levels,

Recalling further its resolutions 3520 (XXX), 3521 (XXX), 3522 (XXX), 3523 (XXX) and 3524 (XXX) of 15 December 1975,

Recognizing that the full and complete development of a country requires the maximum participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields,

Recognizing also the necessity for women to have equal rights, opportunities and obligations with men, particularly in the fields of education and professional and vocational training, to enable their full participation in the process of development,

Recognizing further the importance of promoting the education of women and its impact on the rearing of the young generation,

Noting that, despite the world-wide progress in reducing illiteracy, the illiteracy rate for women far exceeds that of men and, in some cases, continues to rise,

Recognizing the importance of exchange of experience in the elimination of illiteracy and improvement of the educational standard of women at the national, regional and international levels,

1. Appeals to all States which have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention against Discrimination in Education, 1960,^{2/} elaborated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and to the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation)

^{1/} General Assembly resolution 2263 (XXII).

^{2/} United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 429, p. 93.

Convention, 1958 3/ and the Human Resources Development Convention, 1975, 4/ elaborated by the International Labour Organisation;

2. Calls upon States to undertake, whenever necessary, in their economic, social and cultural programmes, specific short-term and long-term measures aimed at improving the status and role of women in education, bearing in mind the following:

(a) The provisions of the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

(b) The provisions of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year 5/ concerning education and training, particularly with respect to an increase in literacy and equal access of women at every level of education, as well as the provisions of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education, 1960, and the appropriate recommendation concerning technical and vocational education of the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization, and the provisions of the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958, the Human Resources Development Convention, 1975 and the appropriate recommendations concerning discrimination (employment and occupation), employment (women with family responsibilities) and human resources development of the International Labour Organisation;

3. Calls upon States, whenever necessary, to undertake all possible measures to eliminate illiteracy among women, especially during the United Nations Decade for Women,

4. Calls upon States which have not yet done so to consider undertaking all appropriate measures;

3/ International Labour Organisation, Conventions and Recommendations, 1919-1966 (Geneva, 1966), Convention No III.

4/ International Labour Office, Official Bulletin, vol. LVIII, 1975, Series A, No 1, Convention No 142.

5/ See Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year (United Nations publication, Sales No E.76.IV.1), chapter II, section A.

(a) To introduce free and compulsory education at the elementary level and, where possible, free education at all levels, including professional, vocational and technical education, which should be accessible to women without discrimination;

(b) To promote co-education;

(c) To ensure that men and women have access on a footing of equality to scholarships and other study grants when these are provided nationally or are made available to States under bilateral or multilateral agreements;

5. Recommends that States should introduce measures to expand the exchange of experience on issues concerning the improvement of the status and role of women in education, particularly through courses, seminars and symposiums organized at the national, regional and international levels;

6. Invites Member States, as well as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organisation and other organizations of the United Nations system, including regional commissions, and interested intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, to submit to the Secretary-General their observations concerning the improvement of the status and role of women in education;

7. Requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Directors-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organisation and taking into account the comments and observations received under paragraph 6 above, to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session a report on the status and role of women in education;

8. Decides to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its thirty-third session.

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31/135. INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975,

Noting the recommendations made by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1998 (LX) of 12 May 1976,

Noting also the report of the Secretary-General on the progress achieved towards the establishment of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,^{1/}

1. Endorses the decision of the Economic and Social Council to create an International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;
2. Endorses the guidelines set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1998 (LX) regarding the activities of the Institute, in particular the necessary close collaboration with the regional centres and institutes which have similar objectives;
3. Accepts with appreciation the offer of the Government of Iran to act as host for the Institute;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to expedite the substantive preparations for the early establishment of the Institute and to this end to seek actively financial resources through voluntary contributions as well as technical support for it;
5. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-second session on the progress achieved.

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1/ A/31/310.

31/136. UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

The General Assembly,

Considering that in its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975 it proclaimed the period from 1976 to 1985 United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be devoted to effective and sustained national, regional and international action to implement the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year 1/ and related resolutions 2/ adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

Aware of the importance of developing and implementing without delay a programme of concrete action for the Decade,

Considering further its decision to convene in 1980 a world conference to review and evaluate progress made and, where necessary, readjust existing programmes in the light of new data and research available,

Noting with satisfaction the Programme for the United Nations Decade for Women as adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-sixth session and transmitted to the General Assembly by the Economic and Social Council at its resumed sixty-first session, 3/

1. Approves the Programme for the United Nations Decade for Women, which focuses on the first half of the Decade, 1976 to 1980;

2. Urges Governments and United Nations bodies to take all necessary steps to give effect to the Programme for the Decade and to give it priority in view of the real need to attain the goals of the Decade;

1/ United Nations publication, Sales No E.76.IV.1, chap. II, sect. A

2/ Ibid., chap. III.

3/ E/5894.

3. Calls upon Governments to take measures to ensure equal and effective participation of women in political, economic, social and cultural life and in policy-making at local, national, regional and international levels, thereby increasing their role in international co-operation and in the strengthening of peace;

4. Recommends that Governments should establish machinery, where appropriate, which could include governmental and non-governmental agencies, bureaux and commissions, in order to ensure the effective implementation and evaluation of the World Plan of Action and of the Programme for the Decade within the framework of national development plans and regional policies;

5. Recommends further that Governments, in co-operation with the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions, appropriate regional and international research centres and institutes as well as appropriate intergovernmental bodies, should undertake the organization of training courses and seminars whereby officials responsible for the formulation and implementation of national development plans would study multidisciplinary techniques and methods which can be utilized in effectively integrating women in development;

6. Invites, as a matter of priority, Governments and organizations and bodies of the United Nations system as well as all governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned and the mass media to undertake massive public information programmes with a view to making all sectors of the population aware of the need to implement fully the Programme for the Decade;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take fully into account the financial and staff needs required to implement effectively the World Plan of Action and the Programme for the Decade;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its thirty-second session, a report on the measures taken to implement the present resolution, in particular paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 above, as well as a progress report on other measures taken to implement the World Plan of Action and the Programme for the Decade.

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

2043 (LXI). STRENGTHENING OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR
REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL CO-OPERATION

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its many resolutions, as well as those of the General Assembly, on the decentralization of economic and social activities and the strengthening of the regional commissions, including General Assembly resolutions 1709 (XVI) of 19 December 1961 and 1823 (XVII) of 18 December 1962 and Council resolutions 793 (XXX) of 3 August 1960, 1442 (XLVII) of 31 July 1969, 1756 (LIV) of 16 May 1973, 1896 (LVII) of 1 August 1974 and 1952 (LIX) of 23 July 1975,

Noting that slow but steady progress has been made in the decentralization of operational activities through the arrangements made between the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Secretary-General for the regional commissions to be executing agencies for sub-regional, regional and interregional projects under the conditions indicated in Council resolutions 1896 (LVII) and 1952 (LIX),

Noting with appreciation the reports, and the comments thereon, of the Joint Inspection Unit on the regional structures of the United Nations system 1/ and on the decentralization of United Nations economic, social and related activities and the strengthening of the regional commissions 2/ and the report of the Secretary-General on regional structures of the United Nations system, 3/

1/ E/5727 and Add.1 and 2.

2/ E/5607 and Corr.1 and E/5607/Add.1 and 2.

3/ E/5801.

Noting further the preliminary proposals under discussion in the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System in its consideration in particular of structures for regional and interregional co-operation,

Noting that the regional commissions have been adapting their work programmes and activities, in particular, to conform to the decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth and seventh special sessions and to the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, contained in Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974,

Recognizing, without prejudice to the special needs and conditions of each region, that the regional commissions, with their experience in promoting regional and sub-regional co-operation, are the appropriate institutions within the United Nations to act as centres for the formulation, co-ordination and implementation of programmes for the promotion of interregional co-operation also, especially with respect to the programme of economic co-operation among developing countries in their respective regions,

Appreciating that, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General on the meetings of the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions,^{4/} efforts are being made to co-ordinate the activities of the commissions in this field, as well as those of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and of such United Nations bodies as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme, and those of all the specialized agencies;

1. Reaffirms, in conformity with Council resolution 1756 (LIV), that the regional commissions should be enabled fully to play their role as the main general economic and social development centres within the United Nations system for their respective regions and calls upon all the organizations and agencies in the system to work closely with the regional commissions to achieve the over-all economic and social development objectives at the regional level;

^{4/} E/5835 and Corr.1 and E/5835/Add.1.

2. Affirms, without prejudice to the special needs and conditions of each region and to the outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System, and having regard to General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, especially section III of the annex thereto, that the regional commissions should, as defined in paragraphs 469 and 470 of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the regional structures of the United Nations system 5/ exercise team leadership and responsibility for inter-sectoral co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level, with the active support of the United Nations Development Programme and of regional offices;

3. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System, without prejudice to the special needs and conditions of each region and to the outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, to consider, inter alia, the following options:

(a) The designation of the regional commissions as team leaders with responsibilities for the co-operation and co-ordination of inter-sectoral programmes at the regional level;

(b) The designation, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and Council resolution 1896 (LVII), of the regional commissions as executing agencies of the United Nations Development Programme for future United Nations inter-sectoral sub-regional, regional and interregional projects and the inclusion of the commissions in the list of executing agencies for the implementation of such projects;

(c) The delegation in full to the regional commissions of the executing agency functions for existing inter-sectoral regional and sub-regional operational activities of the United Nations, in accordance with Council resolutions 1896 (LVII) and 1952 (LIX);

(d) The organization by the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions, on a regular basis, of meetings, with a view to improving the co-ordination of the economic and social activities of the United Nations System in their respective regions;

(e) Arrangements for ensuring that regional views are duly reflected in the debates in the Second Committee of the General Assembly;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to make adequate provisions in order to enable the regional commissions to continue to carry out their activities effectively, and to consider arranging for the Executive Secretaries of these commissions to be present during the consideration of the budgets for their respective commissions;

5. Recommends, without prejudice to the special needs and conditions of each region, that the executive heads of such global organizations as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme and of the specialized agencies should intensify their co-operation with the secretariats of the regional commissions, with a view to making them centres for the formulation, co-ordination and implementation of programmes for the promotion of co-operation among States members of the respective commissions;

6. Requests the regional commissions concerned to work out a programme of work and priorities for their respective regions in the field of co-operation among developing countries, bearing in mind the Conference on Economic Co-operation Among Developing Countries to be held at Mexico City in September 1976 and the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation Among Developing Countries to be held in Argentina in 1977;

7. Requests further the Secretary-General to submit to the Council for consideration at its sixty-third session, taking into account the financial implications involved, proposals for strengthening, where necessary, the secretariats of the regional commissions to enable them to promote effectively co-operation among developing countries at the regional and interregional levels.