

1. *Recommends* that Governments of Member States assess the adequacy of measures dealing with various aspects of the urbanization process and review their national policies and programmes affecting urbanization;

2. *Recommends further* that Governments designate existing, or establish new, organizations as national centres on urbanization in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 830 B (XXXII);

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to suggest appropriate ways of organizing among such centres an international exchange of the results of research and studies and of practical experience in the field of urbanization;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the Special Fund, the regional economic commissions and the specialized agencies concerned to co-operate with Governments in carrying out the necessary basic research and studies, in formulating comprehensive plans for urban and regional development and in establishing and expanding the required community service and facilities;

5. *Invites* Governments to enlist citizens' participation in such programmes.

*1081st plenary meeting,
18 December 1961.*

1677 (XVI). Co-operation for the eradication of illiteracy throughout the world

The General Assembly,

Expressing its concern at the fact that there at present exists, in many countries of the world, mass illiteracy which, in several countries, extends to a great part of the population and acts as a brake upon the advance, both of individual countries and of human society as a whole, along the path of economic and social progress,

Confirming its resolutions 330 (IV) of 2 December 1949, 743 (VIII) of 27 November 1953, 1049 (XI) of 20 February 1957 and 1463 (XIV) of 12 December 1959, recommending the establishment of free and compulsory primary education and the raising of such education to the level enjoyed by the peoples of the advanced countries,

Having regard to its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 768 (XXX) of 21 July 1960 on co-operation on behalf of newly independent countries and 837 (XXXII) of 3 August 1961 on African educational development,

Convinced of the great importance of literacy and general education to the development of peaceful and friendly relations among nations and peoples,

Sharing the view that the literacy campaign and assistance in all fields of education should be the responsibility of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Bearing in mind the usefulness of the efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of literacy and education in general, and particularly of the decision taken by that organization, at the eleventh session of its General Conference, in resolution 8.63 of 15 December 1960,

Noting that even greater efforts are called for, at the present time, with a view to eradicating mass illiteracy throughout the world as speedily as possible,

1. *Invites* the United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization:

(a) To make a general review, at a regular session of its General Conference, of the question of the eradication of mass illiteracy throughout the world, with the object of working out concrete and effective measures, at the international and national levels, for such eradication;

(b) To present, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at a regular session a survey of the position in the world with regard to the extension of universal literacy, together with recommendations on the measures which might be taken, within the framework of the United Nations, for co-operation in the eradication of illiteracy;

2. *Calls* for the extension of effective assistance for the eradication of illiteracy and the promotion of education of all kinds to the developing countries both bilaterally and within the framework of the United Nations and its specialized agencies;

3. *Expresses the hope* that the Governments of those countries will assign, in their programmes of social development, prime importance to the problem of eradicating illiteracy.

*1081st plenary meeting,
18 December 1961.*

1678 (XVI). United Nations Children's Fund

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the basic importance of child welfare programmes, not only to the future well-being of children but also to the role they will play as useful and productive members of society,

Noting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund entitled "Survey of the needs of children",⁶ the decisions of the Executive Board of the Fund following from his report, and Economic and Social Council resolution 827 (XXXII) of 28 July 1961 by which the Council endorsed those decisions,

Expressing its satisfaction that the Fund has thus taken steps to translate still more effectively the provisions of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child⁷ into improved programmes of welfare for children,

1. *Endorses* the new emphasis and approach represented by those decisions, in particular those aspects which will assist developing countries desiring to:

(a) Make intensive and integrated surveys of child needs for the purpose of identifying those priority needs which might most effectively be met by national and international action;

(b) Draw up long-term plans and programmes for child welfare on the basis of such surveys;

⁶ Report by the Executive Director (E/ICEF/410 and Add.1) and supplementary reports by the Bureau of Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (E/ICEF/411-415 and 415/Add.1).

⁷ Resolution 1386 (XIV) of 20 November 1959.

(c) Formulate projects which offer additional opportunities for the increasingly effective integration in such national programmes of external assistance;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to support the United Nations Children's Fund in this policy, especially by making available adequate and appropriate technical services, including in particular those relating to social services for children and to training programmes;

3. *Commends* the report entitled "Survey of the needs of children" to Governments for study and for distribution to their national agencies which have responsibilities in the field of child welfare;

4. *Commends* the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies for their continued collaboration with the Fund in programmes for the promotion of child welfare;

5. *Expresses the hope* that those agencies will cooperate fully with the implementation of the new emphasis and approach of the programmes of the Fund, particularly by assisting countries wishing to draw up and implement longer-term programmes for child welfare within the framework of their economic and social development plans;

6. *Requests* the resident representatives of the Technical Assistance Board, in promoting the co-ordination of these efforts, to continue to offer every possible assistance to the Governments and agencies concerned;

7. *Expresses its conviction* that the progressive outlook of the Fund, the new emphasis and approach in its policy and its capacity to adapt programmes to the evolving needs of the developing countries will be recognized by a continuation and strengthening of the financial support necessary to sustain both its traditional and its extended activities;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* of, and encourages, the participation of the non-governmental organizations both in efforts to promote the work of the Fund in developing countries and in the task of increasing the resources available to the Fund.

*1081st plenary meeting,
18 December 1961.*

1679 (XVI). Human rights fellowships

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 926 (X) of 14 December 1955 authorizing the Secretary-General to provide advisory services in the field of human rights in the form of advisory services of experts, fellowships and scholarships, and seminars,

Noting that a number of seminars have been successfully organized under that programme, and also that services of experts are available in response to requests from Member States, but that thus far seminars are the only part of the programme that has been developed,

Believing that fellowships can further contribute to the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms by providing opportunities for qualified persons concerned with matters relating to human rights to enlarge their knowledge and experience,

Noting that the Economic and Social Council has expressed similar views in its resolution 825 (XXXII) of 27 July 1961, adopted on the recommendation of the Commission on Human Rights,

Noting further that the present resources of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights have proved sufficient only for the convening of three seminars each year,

1. *Decides*, therefore, that the resources for the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights should be increased to permit the provision of a number of human rights fellowships each year, in addition to the seminars;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in publicizing that programme, to draw the attention of Member States to the fact that funds are available for fellowships under the programme and to the reports of the seminars already held, as well as to the problems and questions discussed in those seminars, as a source of suggestions for topics which may be usefully examined and studied by recipients of human rights fellowships;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to draw the attention of Member States to the reports of the various seminars thus far convened in the hope that they will provide information and stimuli to Members with similar interests who did not participate in the seminars.

*1081st plenary meeting,
18 December 1961.*

1680 (XVI). Draft Convention and draft Recommendation on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age of Marriage and Registration of Marriages

The General Assembly,

Having noted the progress made in the preparation of a draft Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age of Marriage and Registration of Marriages,

Decides to assign priority, at its seventeenth session, to the consideration of the remaining articles of the draft Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age of Marriage and Registration of Marriages and to that of the draft Recommendation approved by the Commission on the Status of Women, devoting to that consideration the number of meetings necessary for its completion.

*1081st plenary meeting,
18 December 1961.*

1681 (XVI). Draft Convention on Freedom of Information

The General Assembly,

Having made progress in the preparation of the draft Convention on Freedom of Information at its fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth sessions,

Not having been able, however, to complete the draft Convention,

Decides to take up the item entitled "Draft Convention on Freedom of Information" as soon as possible at its seventeenth session and at that session to devote as many meetings as possible to the consideration of that item.

*1081st plenary meeting,
18 December 1961.*