

ensure their active participation in the over-all development of society and to encourage the preparation of new national and local policies and programmes in accordance with each country's experience, conditions and priorities,

Recognizing that the preparation and the observance of an international youth year will contribute to the reaffirmation of the goals of the new international economic order,

Recalling also in this connexion Economic and Social Council decision 1979/64 of 3 August 1979 on international years and anniversaries,

Aware that, for the international youth year to be successful and to maximize its impact and practical efficiency, adequate preparation and the widespread support of Governments, all specialized agencies, international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the public will be required,

Mindful of the fact that 1985 is the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 2037 (XX) of 7 December 1965, and the fifteenth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Volunteers programme by the Assembly in its resolution 2659 (XXV) of 7 December 1970,

Taking note with interest and appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the international youth year,⁶⁵

1. *Decides* to designate 1985 as International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace;

2. *Invites* all States, all specialized agencies and the international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, as well as youth organizations, to exert all possible efforts for the preparation and the observance of the International Youth Year;

3. *Decides* to establish an Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year, to be composed of twenty-three Member States appointed by the Chairman of the Third Committee on the basis of equitable geographical distribution;⁶⁶

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in accordance with the proposals made by Member States and in consultation with all specialized agencies and interested international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as youth organizations, a draft programme for the preparation and observance of the International Youth Year;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene three sessions of the Advisory Committee in the period 1980-1985 so that it may formulate, for consideration by the General Assembly, a specific programme of measures and activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year on the basis of the draft programme prepared by the Secretary-General;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to convene the Advisory Committee in 1980, to provide it with all necessary assistance and to submit the report on its first session to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session;

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take concrete measures, through all the communications media at his disposal, to give widespread publicity to the activities of the United Nations system

in the field of youth and to increase the dissemination of information on youth;

8. *Appeals* to all States, to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and to the public to make in due time generous voluntary contributions to supplement funds provided under the regular United Nations budget for the costs of the programme of the International Youth Year;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-fifth session an item entitled "International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace" and to grant it high priority.

105th plenary meeting
17 December 1979

34/152. World social situation

The General Assembly,

I

Recalling that the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, contained in General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, is a basis for national and international action in the field of social development,

Recalling its resolutions 2771 (XXVI) of 22 November 1971 and 31/84 of 13 December 1976 on the world social situation and 33/48 of 14 December 1978 on world social development,

Recalling also its resolutions 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, 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, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation and 33/193 of 29 January 1979 on the preparations for an international development strategy for the third United Nations development decade,

Recalling further its resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, in which it, *inter alia*, requested the United Nations Secretariat to prepare, on a regular basis, global economic and social surveys and projections,

Bearing in mind that social progress and development are founded on respect for the dignity and value of the human person,

Aware that the fundamental aim of development is the sustained increase of the well-being of the entire population on the basis of its full participation in the process of development and a fair distribution of the benefits therefrom,

Conscious that each Government has the primary role and ultimate responsibility of ensuring the social progress and well-being of its people, planning social development measures as part of comprehensive development plans, encouraging and co-ordinating or integrating all national efforts towards this end and introducing, when necessary, changes in the social structure,

Reaffirming the right of every country to adopt the economic and social system that it deems the most appropriate for its own development and not to be subjected to discrimination of any kind as a result,

⁶⁵ A/34/468 and Corr.1.

⁶⁶ The composition of the Advisory Committee will be announced subsequently.

Considering that rapid economic growth must go hand in hand with qualitative and structural changes in each country and that social and sectoral disparities, where they exist, should be substantially reduced,

Stressing the importance of the adoption of measures to ensure the effective participation, as appropriate, of all the elements of society in the preparation and execution of national plans and programmes of economic and social development, and of the mobilization of public opinion and the dissemination of social information, in support of the principles and objectives of social progress and development,

Noting that the present world socio-economic situation is characterized by deterioration in the economic situation, particularly in the developing countries, and deeply concerned by the fact that inequities and imbalances in international economic relations have widened the gap between the developed and developing countries,

Considering also that the speedy conclusion of negotiations between developed and developing countries for the preparation of the new international development strategy is necessary and would contribute towards achieving the desired pace of socio-economic progress in developing countries,

Convinced that it is necessary to achieve the rapid and complete elimination of the obstacles to the economic and social progress of peoples and that colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, apartheid, aggression, occupation and foreign domination and all other forms of inequality and exploitation of peoples constitute major obstacles to the economic and social progress of developing countries and peoples,

Re-emphasizing that the primary responsibility for the development of developing countries rests upon themselves, but that, however great their own efforts, these will not enable them to achieve the desired development goals as expeditiously as they must unless equitable economic and commercial relations between developed and developing countries are developed and increased financial and technological resources are made available to the developing countries,

Having considered the 1978 Report on the World Social Situation,⁹⁷ which presents an overview of socio-economic trends and policies,

1. Notes that the economic and social situation in the world today remains disturbing;

2. Notes also the slow rate of implementing the Declaration on Social Progress and Development and the disappointing progress made towards realizing the various over-all development goals adopted and reaffirmed in the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade;

3. Reaffirms that all forms of dependence and oppression such as aggression, foreign occupation, colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination constitute major obstacles to world social and economic progress and therefore must be eliminated without delay;

4. Reaffirms the socio-economic development objectives which were established by the international community during the 1970s, such as the elimination of hunger and malnutrition by the year 1985, full employment by the year 2000, the eradication of illiteracy by the end of the 1980s, safe and adequate water

supplies by the year 1990, a life expectancy of seventy-four years in all countries by the year 2000, the full integration of women in political, economic and social affairs, and health for all by the year 2000;

5. Calls upon all Member States to promote economic and social progress by the formulation and implementation of a set of policy measures to achieve their goals and objectives, within the framework of national priorities and interests, in the fields of employment, education, health, nutrition, housing facilities, the well-being of children, the full participation of youth in the development process and the full integration and participation of women in development;

6. Recommends that Member States should adopt measures to ensure the effective participation, as appropriate, of all sectors of society, as an integral element in local, regional and national development plans and programmes, with the purpose of securing the effective mobilization and utilization of human resources as well as more equitable distribution of development benefits;

7. Emphasizes the importance of the establishment of the new international economic order for the achievement of social progress;

8. Emphasizes also that rapid social progress of developing countries requires considerably enhanced multilateral and bilateral financial and/or technical contributions to national development efforts, adapted to new and appropriate technology and rendered within the framework of the development plans of developing countries;

9. Regrets that most developed countries have not achieved the specific targets of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade;

10. Calls upon the relevant organizations and bodies in the United Nations system to mobilize the resources at their disposal to aim at achieving the main objectives set forth in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development;

11. Decides that future reports on the world social situation must contribute to the identification of emerging social trends of international concern and to the discussion of relationships among major development issues, which have both international and national dimensions;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to issue a report on the world social situation every three years, taking into consideration the provisions of the present resolution and including a report on the social progress made during the third United Nations development decade, in the light of the goals and objectives of the new international development strategy and following the procedures that will be decided upon for its review and appraisal;

13. Also requests the Secretary-General to organize, within the programme of advisory services and bearing in mind the goals and objectives of the new international development strategy when adopted, an international seminar to compare policies, institutions and experiences of Member States in the participation of all sectors of society in their economic and social development, as well as collective bargaining, worker participation in management and workers' self-management, and to submit a report on the results of that seminar to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session under the agenda item entitled "World social situation";

14. Decides to consider at its thirty-seventh session the item entitled "World social situation";

⁹⁷ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.IV.1.

II

Noting that the methods for collecting, analysing, interpreting and evaluating information and data used in studying the social situation in the world should be further improved,

Bearing in mind the need for a methodology which would be based mainly on quantitative and qualitative indicators of the world social situation,

Requests the Secretary-General to undertake, in close co-operation with the executive heads of the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, appropriate measures for the improvement of the methodology for the preparation of the report on the world social situation and the report on the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development and to report thereon, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session.

105th plenary meeting
17 December 1979

34/153. Question of the elderly and the aged

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 32/131 of 16 December 1977 on the question of the elderly and the aged,

Recalling its resolution 33/52 of 14 December 1978, in which it decided to convene a World Assembly on the Elderly in 1982,

Taking note with appreciation of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the question of the elderly and the aged,⁶⁸

Recognizing the increase in the number and proportion of the older section of the population in a growing number of countries and the serious economic and social implications of this phenomenon for societies in general and for the aging in particular,

1. *Recommends* to the Governments concerned that, in the formulation of their national policies and programmes, they should consider developing, as required and in accordance with their national priorities, policies and programmes for the aging, as well as measures aimed at ensuring their full participation in the World Assembly on the Elderly in 1982;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen, within the limits of existing resources, activities in this field in co-operation with the agencies concerned, and in particular:

(a) To consider measures for strengthening the activities of the regional bodies concerned designed to increase awareness of and collect basic data on the situation of the aging which could serve as a basis of information for regional preparatory meetings leading to the World Assembly on the Elderly in 1982;

(b) To assist Governments, at their request and in accordance with their national priorities, in the planning and implementation of policies and programmes for the elderly and in the preparatory work leading to their active participation in the World Assembly on the Elderly;

(c) To collect basic data at the national and regional levels on the number and proportion of the aging and the consequent implications of this phenomenon for national planning;

⁶⁸ E/CN.5/562.

3. *Requests* the competent and concerned specialized agencies to continue to give attention to the major issues related to the aging and to co-ordinate their work with the United Nations, particularly in view of the need for well co-ordinated activities prior to, during and after the World Assembly on the Elderly;

4. *Requests* the concerned intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to join with the United Nations, in a well co-ordinated set of activities, to assist Governments, if they so wish, especially those of the developing countries, in formulating and implementing policies and programmes for the aging and in their preparatory activities for the World Assembly on the Elderly;

5. *Requests* United Nations funding agencies to continue and strengthen their support of activities in the field of the aging;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council in 1981, through the Commission for Social Development, a progress report on the action taken on the present resolution and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session the item entitled "Question of the elderly and the aged".

105th plenary meeting
17 December 1979

34/154. International Year of Disabled Persons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/123 of 16 December 1976, by which it proclaimed the year 1981 International Year of Disabled Persons,

Recalling also its resolutions 32/133 of 16 December 1977, by which it established the Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons, and 33/170 of 20 December 1978,

Recognizing that the International Year of Disabled Persons should promote the realization of the right of disabled persons to participate fully in the social life and development of the societies in which they live and their enjoyment of living conditions equal to those of other citizens, as well as an equal share in the improvements in living conditions resulting from social and economic development,

Recognizing also that the International Year of Disabled Persons should enhance the contributions disabled persons can make as full members of society,

Acknowledging that disability should be viewed as a relationship between an individual and his or her environment,

Convinced that the International Year of Disabled Persons should result in societies responding more fully to the special difficulties which disabled persons may encounter in developing their human potential,

Convinced also that, since a large number of disabled persons are victims of war and other forms of violence, the International Year of Disabled Persons could be appropriately used as an occasion to emphasize the need for continued and reinforced co-operation among nations for world peace,

Stressing the importance of following up the activities of the International Year of Disabled Persons with a long-term programme of action,