

37/50. Channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/135 of 16 December 1977 and 36/17 of 9 November 1981, in which it adopted guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1980/25 of 2 May 1980 and 1981/25 of 6 May 1981 concerning co-ordination and information in the field of youth,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 8 September 1982,⁴⁰

Convinced of the need to improve further the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies with regard to the participation of youth in achieving the objectives of the Charter of the United Nations,

Equally convinced of the valuable contribution that youth can make in promoting co-operation among States and in implementing the new international economic order and the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,⁴¹

Bearing in mind the importance of the existence of channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations for the proper information of youth and youth organizations and their effective participation in the United Nations and the specialized agencies at the national, regional and international levels,

Taking note of the efforts in interagency co-operation to promote and strengthen channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations within the context of International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace,

Convinced that the existence and the proper functioning of channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations form a basic prerequisite of the active involvement of young people and thus of the successful preparation for, celebration of and follow-up to International Youth Year,

1. *Requests* Member States, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations to promote, in co-operation with youth organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and other youth organizations concerned, further implementation of the guidelines adopted in General Assembly resolution 32/135 and the additional guidelines adopted in its resolution 36/17;

2. *Requests* the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year to continue to promote the implementation of the additional guidelines, together with the guidelines adopted in resolution 32/135, during the preparation for and celebration of International Youth Year;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give full co-operation and support to interagency co-operation and co-ordination in promotional and information activities within the context of International Youth Year;

4. *Invites* Member States, specialized agencies, regional commissions, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental youth organizations to communicate and further promote the guidelines and additional guidelines for the improvement of channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations and to offer additional suggestions for their further development;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give special attention to developing additional channels of communication through such means as the mass media and educational institutions in order to reach the largest possible number of young people in different regions of the world;

6. *Invites* youth and youth organizations to act as disseminators of and contributors to the formulation of United Nations policies and programmes directed to youth;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen and improve the functioning of existing channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations, such as the quarterly publication *Youth Information Bulletin* produced by the Secretariat;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, on the basis of the reports of Member States, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as non-governmental youth organizations, to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the implementation of the guidelines and additional guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations, and to include information on measures being taken to strengthen those channels of communication.

90th plenary meeting
3 December 1982

37/51. Question of aging

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 33/52 of 14 December 1978, in which it decided to convene a World Assembly on Aging to call world-wide attention to the serious problems besetting a growing portion of the population of the world and to provide a forum to launch an international programme of action aimed at guaranteeing economic and social security to older persons, as well as opportunities for them to contribute to national development,

Recognizing that increasing longevity is an achievement of biology and a sign of progress, and that the aged are an asset and not a liability to society because of the invaluable contribution they can make by virtue of their accumulated wealth of knowledge and experience,

Bearing in mind that the States gathered in the World Assembly on Aging, held at Vienna from 26 July to 6 August 1982, reaffirmed their belief that the fundamental and inalienable rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights³⁸ apply fully and undiminishedly to the aging, and recognized that quality of life was no less important than longevity, and that the aging should therefore, as far as possible, be enabled to enjoy in their own families and communities a life of fulfilment, health, security and contentment, appreciated as an integral part of society,⁴²

Convinced that the International Plan of Action on Aging⁴³ adopted by the World Assembly on Aging must lead to developing and applying, at the international, regional and national levels, policies designed to enhance the lives of the aging as individuals and to mitigate, by appropriate measures, any negative effects resulting from the impact of the aging of populations on development,

Recognizing that the Plan of Action should be considered an integral component of the major international, regional

⁴⁰ A/37/401.

⁴¹ Resolution 35/56, annex.

⁴² See *Report of the World Assembly on Aging, Vienna, 26 July to 6 August 1982* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.1.16), chap. VI, sect. A.

⁴³ *Ibid.*

and national strategies and programmes formulated in response to important world problems and needs,

Recalling its resolution 35/129 of 11 December 1980, in pursuance of which the United Nations Trust Fund for the World Assembly on Aging was established to finance preparatory and follow-up activities in connection with the World Assembly, and its resolution 36/20 of 9 November 1981, in which it requested the Secretary-General to use the Trust Fund to encourage further interest in the field of aging among developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, within the context of the conclusions and recommendations of the World Assembly on Aging,

Acknowledging the role played by the United Nations and the specialized agencies through their efforts in the field of aging and the need to strengthen this role in order to make the implementation of the recommendations of the Plan of Action effective,

Emphasizing the importance of the Plan of Action and stressing the spirit of co-operation that prevailed during the World Assembly on Aging,

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Austria for acting as host to the World Assembly on Aging,

*Having considered the Report of the World Assembly on Aging,*⁴⁴

1. *Takes note of the Report of the World Assembly on Aging;*

2. *Endorses* the International Plan of Action on Aging, adopted by consensus by the World Assembly on Aging;

3. *Affirms* that aging should be considered in the context of economic, social and cultural development, as well as in the context of international strategies and plans;

4. *Calls upon* Governments to make continuous efforts to implement the principles and recommendations contained in the Plan of Action in accordance with their national structures, needs and objectives;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to ensure that sufficient resources within reasonable limits are made available for effective implementation of, and follow-up action to, the Plan of Action, as well as to maintain the momentum generated by the World Assembly on Aging; in doing so, the Secretary-General should make every effort to reallocate existing global resources;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take such steps as may be appropriate for the necessary strengthening of activities in the field of aging at the central and regional levels of the United Nations, as set forth in the Plan of Action;

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the international network of existing information, research and training centres in the field of aging in order to encourage and facilitate the exchange of knowledge, skills and experiences, as well as technical co-operation between countries within the various regions;

8. *Urges* the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations concerning international co-operation with respect to aging, as well as those concerning the assessment, review and appraisal of the implementation of the Plan of Action, using the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use the United Nations Trust Fund for the World Assembly on Aging to meet the rapidly increasing needs of the aging in the developing countries, in particular in the least developed countries;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to use the Trust Fund to encourage greater interest among developing countries in matters related to aging and to assist Member States, at their request, in formulating and implementing policies and programmes for the elderly; further requests the Secretary-General to use the Trust Fund for technical co-operation and research related to the aging of populations and for promoting co-operation among developing countries in the exchange of relevant information and technology;

11. *Appeals* to Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

12. *Urges* the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, in co-operation with all organizations responsible for international population assistance, to strengthen its assistance, within its mandate, in the field of aging, particularly in developing countries;

13. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission for Social Development, to review the implementation of the Plan of Action every four years, beginning in 1985, and to transmit its findings to the General Assembly;

14. *Invites* the specialized agencies concerned to co-operate with the Secretary-General in the implementation of the Plan of Action within their fields of competence;

15. *Invites* the intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned to continue to give attention to major issues related to aging and to co-ordinate their work with the United Nations, particularly in view of the need for well co-ordinated activities for the implementation of the Plan of Action;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the progress achieved in implementing and following up the Plan of Action and to include in his report an account of project activities financed by the Trust Fund;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session a single item entitled "Question of aging" to replace the items entitled "Question of the elderly and the aged" and "World Assembly on Aging".

*90th plenary meeting
3 December 1982*

37/52. World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 31/123 of 16 December 1976, by which it proclaimed the year 1981 International Year of Disabled Persons, 32/133 of 16 December 1977, by which it established the Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons, 33/170 of 20 December 1978, 34/154 of 17 December 1979, in which it, *inter alia*, decided to expand the theme of the International Year of Disabled Persons to "full participation and equality", 35/133 of 11 December 1980 and 36/77 of 8 December 1981,

Deeply concerned that no less than five hundred million persons are estimated to suffer from disability of one form or another, of whom four hundred million are estimated to be in developing countries,

Reiterating the continuing need to promote the realization of the right of disabled persons to participate fully in the social life and development of their societies and to enjoy living conditions equal to those of other citizens, as well as to share equally in improvements in living conditions resulting from social and economic development,

⁴⁴ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16.