

opment and Peace,⁸⁵ and the need for the implementation thereof,⁸⁶

Recalling resolution 40/14 of 18 November 1985 on the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace, adopted by the General Assembly acting as the United Nations World Conference for the International Youth Year,

Recalling also its resolution 39/25 of 23 November 1984 on the question of aging,

Referring to its resolution 39/26 of 23 November 1984 on the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons,

Recalling 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,

Taking into account its resolutions 34/152 of 17 December 1979 and 37/54 of 3 December 1982 on the world social situation,

Having regard to Economic and Social Council resolutions 10 (II) of 21 June 1946 establishing a permanent Social Commission, 830 J (XXXII) of 2 August 1961 on the strengthening of the work of the United Nations in the social field and 1139 (XLI) of 29 July 1966 in which it adopted the present mandate and present designation of the Commission for Social Development,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/36 of 29 May 1985 entitled "Progress of work of the Commission for Social Development",

Taking into account the discussion of the Economic and Social Council, during its first regular session of 1985, on the work of the Commission,

Having considered the 1985 Report on the World Social Situation,⁸⁷

Noting with concern that, although recovery and growth are under way in some States, the recession that has afflicted the world economy in recent years has had a deep negative impact on the economies of many countries,

1. Notes with concern that the ideals of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development have not been implemented nor have the objectives and overall development goals adopted and reaffirmed in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade been achieved yet;

2. Reaffirms that the socio-economic aspects and goals of development are an integral part of the overall development process;

3. Reaffirms also the urgency of taking effective measures aimed at further promoting social progress and development;

4. Emphasizes the importance of making analyses of, and exchanging information on, the fundamental problems of socio-economic development in order to formulate and implement policy measures in the fields of employment, education, health, nutrition, housing facilities, crime prevention, the well-being of children, equal opportunities for the disabled and the aged, full participation of youth in the development process and the full integration and participation of women in development;

5. Calls upon the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to undertake measures aimed at improving social conditions and achieving the main objectives set forth in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development and in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

6. Notes the role of the Commission for Social Development in the field of social development and humanitarian affairs;

7. Invites the Economic and Social Council to consider, at its first regular session of 1986, existing ways and means of improving the work of the Commission.

116th plenary meeting
13 December 1985

40/99. Popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the full realization of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 34/152 of 17 December 1979, 37/55 of 3 December 1982 and 38/24 of 22 November 1983,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/31 of 27 May 1983 and decision 1984/131 of 24 May 1984, as well as of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1985/44 of 14 March 1985,⁸⁸

Reaffirming that popular participation in all sectors of public life, including the participation of workers in management and workers' self-management where they exist, constitutes an important factor in socio-economic development and in the full realization of all human rights and the dignity of the human person,

1. Takes note of the study by the Secretary-General;⁸⁸

2. Invites Governments, the concerned specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and the relevant non-governmental organizations to transmit to the Secretary-General their comments on the study;

3. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to continue to consider at its forty-second and, if desired by the Commission, at its forty-third, forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions, the question of popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in the full realization of all human rights, and to inform the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, of the results of that consideration;

4. Decides to continue the consideration of this question at its forty-fourth session, in the context of the item relating to the world social situation, under the sub-item entitled "Popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the full realization of all human rights".

116th plenary meeting
13 December 1985

40/100. World social situation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 34/152 of 17 December 1979 and 37/54 of 3 December 1982 on the world social situation,

Recalling also 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, 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, 35/56 of 5 December 1980, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the

⁸⁶ See resolution 40/108.

⁸⁷ United Nations publication, Sales No. F.85.IV.2.

⁸⁸ E/CN.4/1985/10 and Add.1 and 2.

Third United Nations Development Decade, and 36/194 of 17 December 1981, in which it endorsed the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries,⁸⁹

Recalling further its resolution 39/29 of 3 December 1984 on the critical economic situation in Africa,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/14 of 18 November 1985 on the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace and 40/17 of 18 November 1985 on channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations,

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

Bearing in mind that the ultimate aim of development is the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population on the basis of its full participation in the process of development and the fair distribution of the benefits therefrom, and that the pace of development in the developing countries as a whole should be accelerated substantially in order to enable them to achieve this goal,

Mindful that the existing inequalities and imbalances in the international economic system are widening the gap between developed and developing countries and thereby constitute a major obstacle to the development of the developing countries and adversely affect international relations and the promotion of world peace and security,

Conscious that each country has the sovereign right freely to adopt the economic and social system that it deems the most appropriate and that each Government has a primary role in ensuring the social progress and well-being of its people,

Reaffirming that economic growth must go hand in hand with qualitative and structural changes, the reduction of social and economic disparities and the adoption of measures to ensure the effective participation of all peoples in the preparation and execution of their national policies for economic and social development,

Convinced of the urgent necessity rapidly to eradicate colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and all forms of racial discrimination, *apartheid*, terrorism in all its forms, aggression, foreign occupation and alien domination and all forms of inequality, exploitation and subjugation of peoples, which constitute major obstacles to economic and social progress as well as to the promotion of world peace and security,

Reaffirming the existence of the interrelationship of peace, disarmament and development and therefore the imperative need to halt the arms race, thereby releasing valuable resources that could be used for the development of the developing countries and could contribute to the well-being and prosperity of all,

Reaffirming also that the primary responsibility for their development rests with the developing countries themselves and that the commitment from other countries to support these efforts is of vital importance for achievement of this aim,

Having considered the 1985 Report on the World Social Situation,⁸⁷

1. *Takes note* of the 1985 Report on the World Social Situation;

2. *Takes note also* of the conclusions of the Commission for Social Development at its twenty-ninth session;⁹⁰

3. *Notes with deep concern* the continuing deterioration of the economic and social situation of the world, in par-

ticular in the developing countries, whose position has been further worsened by sharp fluctuations in exchange rates, high real rates of interest, the severe fall in commodity prices, serious deterioration in the terms of trade of developing countries, increased protectionist pressures, the reverse transfer of resources from developing countries, crushing debt burdens, the restrictive adjustment process demanded by financial and development institutions, the decline in official development assistance in real terms and the severe inadequacy of resources experienced by multilateral development and financial institutions;

4. *Notes further with deep concern* that the economic and social situation in Africa continues to be critical and that it has been exacerbated by the world recession and by famine, drought and desertification;

5. *Calls* for full implementation of General Assembly resolution 39/29 on the critical economic situation in Africa;

6. *Notes with great concern* the slow progress in the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development and in the attainment of the objectives and overall development goals adopted and reaffirmed in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

7. *Reaffirms* that the social aspects and goals of development are an integral part of overall development and that it is the sovereign right of each country freely to determine and implement appropriate policies for social development within the framework of its development plans and priorities;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance, for the achievement of social progress, of the establishment of the new international economic order;

9. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to implement the socio-economic development objectives contained in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development and the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, as well as the need to implement the socio-economic objectives of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries;

10. *Emphasizes again* that the rapid socio-economic progress of developing countries requires substantially enhanced multilateral and bilateral financial support and advanced technological assistance to national development efforts, rendered within the framework of the development plans of developing countries;

11. *Calls upon* all Member States to promote economic development and social progress by the formulation and implementation of an interrelated set of policy measures to achieve the goals and objectives established within the framework of national plans and priorities in the fields of employment, education, health, nutrition, housing facilities, crime prevention, the well-being of children, equal opportunities for the disabled and the aged, full participation of youth in the development process and full integration and participation of women in development;

12. *Calls upon* the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to mobilize the necessary resources to undertake measures aimed at improving social conditions and achieving the main objectives set forth in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries;

⁸⁹ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.1.8), part one, sect. A.

⁹⁰ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1985, Supplement No. 4 (E/1985/24 and Corr.1).

13. *Also calls upon* Member States to make all efforts to promote the accelerated and complete elimination of such fundamental elements hindering economic and social progress and development as colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and all forms of racial discrimination, *apartheid*, terrorism in all its forms, aggression, foreign occupation, alien domination and all forms of inequality and exploitation of peoples, and also to undertake effective measures to lessen international tensions and to halt the arms race and redistribute released resources in order to promote social and economic development;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue monitoring the world social situation in depth on a regular basis and to submit the next full report on the world social situation to the General Assembly in 1989, for consideration at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing the next report on the world social situation, to take into account the observations made by Member States on the 1985 report as well as the conclusions of the Commission for Social Development contained in the report on its twenty-ninth session;

16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for wide dissemination of the reports on the world social situation;

17. *Invites* the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to co-operate fully with the Secretary-General in the preparation of future reports by making available all relevant information pertaining to their respective areas of competence;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "World social situation".

116th plenary meeting
13 December 1985

40/101. The role of women in society⁹¹

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, as well as the importance of the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975,⁹² the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year⁹³ and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women,⁹⁴

Welcoming the results of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held at Nairobi from 15 to 26 July 1985, in particular the adoption of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,⁵¹

Noting that just and lasting peace and social progress, as well as the establishment of a new international economic order, require the active participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation and in the process of development,

Bearing in mind that economic inequality, colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, *apartheid*, foreign intervention, occupation, alien domination and terrorism in all its forms, acts of aggression and interference in the internal

affairs of others and violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms constitute an impediment to the achievement of real and genuine equality and to the integration of women in society,

Convinced of the necessity to secure for all women full realization of the rights embodied in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,⁷⁵ in the International Covenants on Human Rights²⁴ and in other relevant instruments in this field,

Recognizing that the achievement of equal and full participation of women in all spheres of activities constitutes an inseparable part of the political, economic, social and cultural development of all countries,

Aware that efforts to promote the status of women in all its aspects and their complete integration in society go beyond the problem of legal equality and that deeper structural transformations of society and changes in present-day economic relations, as well as elimination of traditional prejudices through education and dissemination of information, are required so as to create conditions for women to develop fully their intellectual and physical capacities and to participate actively in the decision-making process in political, economic, social and cultural development,

Mindful of the necessity to enlarge the possibilities for both men and women to combine parental duties and household work with paid employment and social activities,

Aware that the role of women in childbearing should not be the cause of inequality and discrimination, and that child rearing demands shared responsibilities among women, men and society as a whole,

Deeply appreciating the increasing participation of women in political, economic, social and cultural life and their contribution thereto,

1. *Appeals* to all Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to recognize in their activities the importance of all interrelated aspects of the role of women in society — as mothers, as participants in economic development and as participants in public life — without underestimating any one of them;

2. *Calls upon* all Governments to encourage such social and economic development that would secure the participation of women in all spheres of work, equal pay for work of equal value and equal opportunities for education and for professional and vocational training, taking into consideration the necessity of combining all aspects of the role of women in society;

3. *Appeals* to Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to promote conditions that would enable women to participate as equal partners with men in public and political life, in the decision-making process at all levels and in the management of different spheres of life in society;

4. *Calls upon* Governments to recognize the special status and social importance of motherhood and to take, in the context of their specific abilities and conditions, all necessary measures to promote its protection, including maternity leave with pay, and to provide security for their jobs as long as necessary, so as to allow women, if they so wish, to fulfil their role as mothers without prejudice to their professional and public activities;

5. *Appeals* to Governments to promote the establishment of appropriate facilities for child-care and education

⁹¹ See also sect. I, footnote 17, and sect. V, resolution 40/204.

⁹² *Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. I.

⁹³ *Ibid.*, chap. II, sect. A.

⁹⁴ *Report of the World Conference on the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I, sect. A.