

7. *Endorses also* Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/24, in particular the annex thereto containing the priority themes for the next five sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, which should be considered at regular sessions of the Commission under an agenda item entitled "Priority themes", notwithstanding world conferences and preparatory meetings or any process of review and appraisal that might take place;

8. *Requests* the relevant United Nations bodies to provide focused and action-oriented input when reporting to the Commission on the priority themes;

9. *Reaffirms* the need for the United Nations to develop an integrated reporting system with the Commission on the Status of Women at its centre and, building upon existing information and resources, to monitor the review and appraisal of progress with regard to the advancement of women, based on clear and relevant statistical and other measurable indicators which will assist Member States in identifying problems and in developing remedial measures, at the national, regional and international levels;

10. *Encourages* the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council on the In-depth Study of the United Nations Intergovernmental Structure and Functions in the Economic and Social Fields to take into consideration the unique multidisciplinary and cross-organizational mandate of the Commission on the Status of Women, which is of particular importance in co-ordinating the efforts of the United Nations in the economic and social fields towards the advancement of women;

11. *Emphasizes*, in the framework of the Forward-looking Strategies, the importance of the total integration of women in the development process, bearing in mind the specific and urgent needs of the developing countries, and calls upon Member States to establish specific targets at each level in order to increase the participation of women in professional and decision-making positions in their countries;

12. *Emphasizes also* the need to give urgent attention to redressing socio-economic inequities at the national and international levels as a necessary step towards the full realization of the goals and objectives of the Forward-looking Strategies;

13. *Urges* that particular attention be given by the United Nations and Governments to the situation of disabled women, and that Governments take steps to ensure the equalization of opportunities and social justice for and political participation of disabled women in each sector of society;

14. *Once again calls upon* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to establish five-year targets at each level for the percentage of women in Professional and decision-making positions, in accordance with the criteria established by the General Assembly, in particular that of equitable geographical distribution, in order that a definite upward trend in the implementation of Assembly resolution 41/206 D of 11 December 1986 be registered in the number of Professional and decision-making positions held by women by 1990, and to set additional targets every five years;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to extend the term of office of the Co-ordinator for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat of the United Nations for a satisfactory period to ensure that the action programme,⁵⁰ in which, *inter alia*, it is recommended that the

situation of women in the Secretariat be improved, will continue to be implemented;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to report periodically, through the Commission on the Status of Women, to the Economic and Social Council on activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Forward-looking Strategies;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies an assessment of recent developments that are relevant to the priority themes to be considered at the subsequent session of the Commission on the Status of Women and to transmit to the Commission a summary of relevant views expressed by delegations during the Assembly's debate;

18. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on measures taken to implement the present resolution;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide for the existing weekly radio programmes on women in the regular budget of the United Nations, with adequate provisions for broadcasts in different languages, and to develop the focal point for issues relating to women in the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, which, in concert with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, should provide a more effective public information programme relating to the advancement of women;

20. *Decides* to consider these questions further at its forty-third session under the item entitled "Forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000".

85th plenary meeting
30 November 1987

42/63. United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the United Nations Development Fund for Women is to serve as a catalyst in the United Nations development co-operation system, with the goal of ensuring the appropriate involvement of women in mainstream development activities at the pre-investment stages, and to support activities directly benefiting women in line with national and regional priorities,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/26 of 26 May 1987 on the observance of the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Development Fund for Women,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General⁵¹ containing the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the report of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women at its twenty-first session, and welcomes the constructive co-operation between the Programme and the Fund;

2. *Takes note also with satisfaction* of the success of the ceremonies celebrating the tenth anniversary of the Fund and expresses its appreciation to all who participated in the ceremonies;

3. *Expresses its appreciation also* for the financial contributions to the Fund made by Governments, intergov-

⁵⁰ A/C.5/40/30, sect. III B.

⁵¹ A/42/597/Rev.1.

ernmental organizations, national committees on the Fund and individuals, all of which have vital roles to play in maintaining and increasing the financial viability of the Fund and the effectiveness of its work;

4. *Invites* States to continue and, where possible, to increase their contributions to the Fund, and calls upon Governments that have not yet done so to consider contributing to the Fund in the future, in order to enable it to give greater support to deserving project requests for technical assistance;

5. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-third session, through the Secretary-General, a report on the activities of the Fund and on the implementation of the present resolution.

85th plenary meeting
30 November 1987

42/64. The role of women in society

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the validity of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Noting the importance of the documents adopted by the world conferences held during the Decade,

Stressing that just and lasting peace requires the active participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation,

Stressing also that sustained economic and social progress, including the establishment of a new international economic order, requires the integration of women in the development process,

Bearing in mind that economic inequality, colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, *apartheid*, foreign intervention, occupation, alien domination, 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 impediments to the achievement of real and genuine equality and to the active integration of women in all spheres of life,

Convinced of the necessity of securing for all women full realization of the rights embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,² the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,⁵² the International Covenants on Human Rights¹³ and other relevant instruments in this field,

Emphasizing that the achievement of equal and full participation of women in all spheres of activity constitutes an integral 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 the dissemination of information, are required to create conditions for women to develop fully their intellectual and physical capacities and to participate actively in the decision-making processes in political, economic, social and cultural development,

Mindful, according to respective national legislation, of the need to increase possibilities for both men and women of combining parental duties and household work with paid employment and social activities, and to ensure 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,

Commending and encouraging the increasing participation of women in political, economic, social and cultural life and in the promotion of international peace and co-operation,

Taking note of the meetings, including those of non-governmental organizations, at the World Congress of Women held in Moscow from 23 to 27 June 1987,

Bearing in mind the resolution on equal opportunities and equal treatment for men and women in employment, adopted on 27 June 1985 by the International Labour Organisation,⁵³

Reiterating that the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women⁴⁰ should be among the developmental and policy priorities of Governments, United Nations organizations, including the specialized agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

1. *Appeals* to all Governments, international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to pay due attention in their activities to the importance of the role of women in society in all its interrelated aspects—as mothers, as participants in political, economic, social and cultural development and as participants in public life;

2. *Reaffirms* that the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women should contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, leading to the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, to genuine equality of women and men and to the full integration of women in the development process;

3. *Invites* all Governments to encourage such social and economic development as will ensure the equal participation of women in all spheres of work, equal pay for work of equal value and equal opportunities for education and vocational training, taking into consideration the necessity of combining all aspects of the role of women in society as well as the challenges faced by women in all countries when seeking to combine parental duties and family responsibilities with their full involvement in political, social, economic and cultural development;

4. *Appeals* to all Governments to promote conditions that will 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;

5. *Urges* all Governments to recognize the special status and social importance of childbearing and child rearing and to take all necessary measures to encourage the support of parenthood, including paid maternity, parental and child-care leave, and to provide women with security for their jobs as long as necessary with a view to allowing them, if they so wish, to fulfil their role as mothers without prejudice to their professional and public activities;

⁵² Resolution 34/180, annex.

⁵³ International Labour Office, *Official Bulletin*, vol. LXVIII, 1985, Series A, No. 2, p. 85.