

systems various forms of family exist and that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of family members must be respected,

Noting the accomplishments resulting from the observance of the International Year of the Family, *inter alia*, the new initiatives and long-term activities in support of the family all over the world, in particular at the local and national levels, and the value of international cooperation on family issues,

1. *Invites* Governments to continue their action to build family-friendly societies, *inter alia*, by promoting the rights of individual family members, in particular gender equality and the protection and development of the child;

2. *Urges* Governments to ratify or accede to and to ensure implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women⁴⁹ so that universal ratification can be achieved by the year 2000 and to take urgent measures to achieve universal ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Rights of the Child⁵⁰ before the end of 1995, and urges those who have not yet done so to become party to the Convention in order to achieve universal implementation by the year 2000;

3. *Welcomes* the proposals, contained in the report of the Secretary-General, on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family;⁵¹

4. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to consider how best to integrate the follow-up to the International Year of the Family into its work programme as laid out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/60 of 28 July 1995, taking into account the integrated follow-up of major United Nations conferences, to form part of a holistic approach to development and social progress;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To submit proposals to the Commission for Social Development in order to assist the Commission in its work;

(b) To prepare a comprehensive document containing the family-related provisions from the outcome of the World Summit for Children,⁵² the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,⁵³ the World Conference on Human Rights,⁵⁴ the International Conference on Population and Development,⁴⁶ the World Summit for Social Development,⁴⁷ the Fourth World Conference on Women,⁴⁸ and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), to be submitted to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-fifth session;

(c) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting;

(d) To continue the operation of the Voluntary Fund for the International Year of the Family, to be renamed the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities, to pro-

vide financial assistance for activities specific to the family and projects of direct benefit to it, with special focus on least developed and developing countries, giving particular attention to non-traditional resources;

6. *Calls upon* Governments, as well as organizations, individuals and the private sector, to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/143. Progress made and problems encountered in the struggle against illiteracy: a mid-decade review—cooperation to achieve education for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁵ and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights²² the inalienable right of every individual to education is recognized,

Recalling also its resolutions 42/104 of 7 December 1987, by which it proclaimed 1990 as International Literacy Year, and 44/127 of 15 December 1989 and 46/93 of 16 December 1991, in which it called for continuing international efforts to promote literacy,

Recalling further its resolution 45/126 of 14 December 1990, in which it called for strengthening efforts towards the elimination of illiteracy of women of all ages,

Mindful of the fact that the eradication of illiteracy is one of the paramount objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,⁵⁵

Convinced that literacy, especially functional literacy and adequate education, represents an indispensable element for the development and harnessing of science, technology and human resources for economic and social progress,

Confident that the International Literacy Year and the World Conference on Education for All, held at Jomtien, Thailand, in 1990, resulted in increased awareness and support for literacy efforts and became a turning-point in the struggle for a literate world,

Underlining the importance of maintaining the momentum generated by the Year and the spirit of partnership forged at the Jomtien Conference,

Welcoming the setting up of the International Consultative Forum on Education for All entrusted with the task of monitoring the progress towards education for all and promoting consultation and cooperation at the global level,

Recognizing that, despite the significant advances registered in the growth of literacy rates in many parts of the world, major problems still persist which require greater mobilization of efforts at both national and international levels to achieve the goal of education for all,

Stressing the importance of the effective implementation of the World Declaration on Education for All,⁵⁶ and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural

⁴⁹Resolution 34/180, annex.

⁵⁰Resolution 44/25, annex.

⁵¹A/50/370, sect. XVI.

⁵²A/45/625, annex.

⁵³See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda).

⁵⁴See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I).

⁵⁵Resolution 45/199, annex.

⁵⁶*Final Report of the World Conference on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs, Jomtien, Thailand, 5-9 March 1990*, Inter-Agency Commission (UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank) for the World Conference on Education for All, New York, 1990, appendix 1.

Organization Plan of Action for the Eradication of Illiteracy by the Year 2000,⁵⁷ as well as the relevant commitments and recommendations to promote literacy contained, *inter alia*, in the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s⁵⁸ of the World Summit for Children, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,⁵⁹ the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,⁶⁰ the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women⁶¹ and the Delhi Declaration of the Education for All Summit of Nine High-Population Developing Countries,⁶²

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Progress made and problems encountered in the struggle against illiteracy: a mid-decade review";⁶³

2. *Notes with appreciation* the close collaboration and commendable work being pursued as a follow-up to the International Literacy Year and the World Conference on Education for All by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme;

3. *Commends* those Governments which have launched national literacy programmes and attained notable progress in meeting the objectives of the International Literacy Year and those set forth in the World Declaration on Education for All;⁶⁴

4. *Invites* Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to further intensify their efforts to effectively implement the World Declaration on Education for All, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Plan of Action for the Eradication of Illiteracy by the Year 2000,⁵⁷ as well as the relevant commitments and recommendations to promote literacy contained, *inter alia*, in the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s⁵⁸ of the World Summit for Children, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,⁵⁹ the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,⁶⁰ the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,⁶¹ and the Delhi Declaration of the Education for All Summit of Nine High-Population Developing Countries,⁶² with a view to better coordinating their activities and increasing their contribution to development;

⁵⁷See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-fifth Session, Paris, 17 October to 16 November 1989, vol. 1, Resolutions*.

⁵⁸See A/45/625.

⁵⁹Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

⁶⁰A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.

⁶¹A/CONF.171/20, chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.

⁶²Report of the Director-General on the Education for All Summit of Nine High-Population Developing Countries, New Delhi, 13-16 December 1993, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Executive Board, document 144 EX/30, annex.

⁶³A/50/181-E/1995/65.

5. *Appeals anew* to Governments and economic and financial organizations and institutions, both national and international, to lend greater financial and material support to the efforts to increase literacy and achieve education for all;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue assuming the role of lead organization in ensuring an effective follow-up to the International Literacy Year and to pursue, in cooperation with other sponsors of the World Conference on Education for All, the implementation of the World Declaration on Education for All;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the firm commitment and active involvement of many non-governmental organizations, the mass media and the private sector in support of and in the follow-up to the International Literacy Year;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, in 1997, through the Economic and Social Council, a progress report on the implementation process of the education for all objectives, including the recommendations of the International Consultative Forum on Education for All, taking into account the possible measures, if any, to improve the reporting procedure;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the question of cooperation to achieve education for all under the item on social development.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/144. Towards full integration of persons with disabilities in society: implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,

Recalling also its resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,⁶⁴

Recalling further all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 37/53 of 3 December 1982, 46/96 of 16 December 1991, 47/88 of 16 December 1992, 48/95 and 48/99 of 20 December 1993 and 49/153 of 23 December 1994,

Taking note of resolution 34/2 of 20 April 1995 of the Commission for Social Development,⁶⁵ wherein it is stated, *inter alia*, that the Standard Rules are to be monitored within the framework of the sessions of the Commission, and that the purpose of such monitoring is to further their effective implementation,

⁶⁴A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

⁶⁵See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 4 (E/1995/24)*, chap. I, sect. E.