

1162 (XII). Participation of women in community development

The General Assembly,

Having noted with satisfaction that community development programmes are being carried out or are being planned on a long-term basis with international collaboration,

Recognizing that, in order to accelerate community development, which depends basically on the human element, women should be encouraged to play an even greater and more effective part in it, both in their own interest and in the interest of the community,

Noting that the reports on this question do not state to what extent women are participating in community development programmes,

1. *Recommends* to Member States in which community development programmes are being carried out that they should, by every means in their power, encourage the full participation of women in the development of their respective communities;

2. *Recommends* to the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies concerned that, in giving assistance to Governments, they should collaborate with those Governments in achieving this purpose;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in his future reports to the Economic and Social Council on the progress of community development, a brief description of the methods used to achieve this purpose, the results obtained and the progress made as regards the participation of women in community development.

*723rd plenary meeting,
26 November 1957.*

1163 (XII). Seminars on the status of women

The General Assembly,

Taking note of chapter VII, section XI, of the report of the Economic and Social Council,³

Noting with appreciation the work of the Commission on the Status of Women and the progress achieved in the field of women's rights,

Noting also with satisfaction the success of the seminar held in August 1957 at Bangkok (Thailand) on the civic responsibilities and increased participation of Asian women in public life,

1. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to pursue its efforts aimed at the improvement of the status of women throughout the world, in accordance with its terms of reference,

2. *Expresses the hope* that seminars on the status of women will be held as frequently as possible in the future under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights.

*723rd plenary meeting,
26 November 1957.*

1164 (XII). Development of international co-operation in the fields of science, culture and education

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1043 (XI) of 21 February 1957 on international cultural and scientific co-operation,

Having regard to Economic and Social Council resolution 663 I (XXIV) of 31 July 1957 urging the extension of international co-operation in the social field through the development of personal contacts and the exchange of experience among experts,

Attaching great importance to a further development and expansion of relations in the fields of science, including applied science, culture and education, which will assist the promotion of economic and social welfare as well as better mutual understanding among nations and the maintenance of peace,

Noting with satisfaction the results already achieved in the development of such international co-operation and considering it desirable that there should be opportunities for further development in this respect,

Recognizing the positive contribution in this matter by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other specialized agencies and by other international bodies,

1. *Reiterates* the view expressed in its resolution 1043 (XI) of 21 February 1957 that wider international cultural and scientific co-operation should be promoted by mutual agreements or by other means, and that no effort should be spared in trying to achieve the implementation of these peaceful objectives;

2. *Urges* all States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies to develop further all measures for the encouragement of exchanges and co-operation among peoples in the fields of science, culture and education, which is one of the basic purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the other specialized agencies concerned to include in their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council a statement of their views and activities and any information which they may have as to the views and activities of Governments in the field of international educational, scientific and cultural co-operation;

4. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to give special attention at its twenty-sixth session to the above-mentioned statements of the specialized agencies, and to include, in its report to the General Assembly at its thirteenth session, a section on this subject for consideration by the Assembly.

*723rd plenary meeting,
26 November 1957.*

1165 (XII). Prolongation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having taken note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,⁴

Having regard to its resolution 727 (VIII) of 23 October 1953 in which it decided to review, not later than at its twelfth session, the arrangements for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with a view to determining whether the Office should be continued beyond 31 December 1958,

Considering the continuing need for international action on behalf of refugees,

Considering the valuable work which has been performed by the Office of the High Commissioner both

³ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 3 (A/3613).

⁴ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 11 (A/3585/Rev.1).

in providing international protection for refugees and in promoting permanent solutions for their problems,

Noting with appreciation the effective manner in which the Office of the High Commissioner has been dealing with special emergencies,

Noting the recommendation adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 650 B (XXIV) of 24 July 1957,

1. *Decides* to continue the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for a period of five years from 1 January 1959 on the basis of the Statute of the Office;⁵

2. *Decides* that the election of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, for a period of five years from 1 January 1959, shall take place at the thirteenth session of the General Assembly;

3. *Decides* to review, not later than at its seventeenth session, the arrangements for the Office of the High Commissioner with a view to determining whether the Office should be further continued beyond 31 December 1936.

*723rd plenary meeting,
26 November 1957.*

1166 (XII). International assistance to refugees within the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the problem of those refugees within the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees who are the concern of the United Nations Refugee Fund (UNREF),

Noting with approval that the United Nations Refugee Fund programme, if it receives the necessary funds, will, by 31 December 1958, have reduced the number of non-settled refugees under the programme to the point where most countries of asylum should be able to support these refugees without international assistance,

Recognizing that, after 31 December 1958, there will be a residual need for international aid in certain countries, and particularly among certain groups and categories of these refugees,

Bearing in mind that new refugee situations requiring international assistance have arisen to augment the problem since the establishment of the Fund, and that other such situations may arise in the future wherein international assistance may be appropriate,

Bearing in mind that, under the Statute of his Office,⁵ the High Commissioner is charged with the duty of seeking solutions for the problems of refugees through voluntary repatriation, resettlement and integration,

Recalling its resolution 538 B (VI) of 2 February 1952, in which the General Assembly authorized the High Commissioner to issue an appeal for funds for the purpose of enabling emergency aid to be given to the most needy groups among refugees within his mandate,

Recalling its resolution 832 (IX) of 21 October 1954, in which it authorized the High Commissioner to undertake a programme to be devoted principally to the promotion of permanent solutions for certain refugees

⁵ *Ibid.*, Fifth Session, Supplement No. 20, resolution 428 (V), annex.

coming within his mandate and also to permit emergency assistance to the most needy cases among these refugees, and to appeal for voluntary contributions towards a fund set up for the purpose of this programme and incorporating the fund authorized by the General Assembly in resolution 538 B (VI),

Further recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 565 (XIX) of 31 March 1955, by which the Council reconstituted the High Commissioner's Advisory Committee on Refugees as an Executive Committee,

Having considered Economic and Social Council resolution 650 (XXIV) of 24 July 1957,

1. *Approves* the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 650 (XXIV) of 24 July 1957, and accordingly:

(a) Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to intensify the United Nations Refugee Fund programme to the fullest extent possible in order to achieve permanent solutions for the maximum number of refugees remaining in camps, without losing sight of the need to continue to seek solutions for the problems of refugees outside camps;

(b) Authorizes the High Commissioner to appeal to States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies for the purpose of raising the additional funds needed for closing the refugee camps;

2. *Reaffirms* the basic principle laid down in paragraph 1 of the Statute of the High Commissioner's Office regarding forms of permanent solution of the problems of refugees, by actions designed to "facilitate the voluntary repatriation of such refugees, or their assimilation within new national communities";

3. *Decides* that the operations under the United Nations Refugee Fund shall not be continued after 31 December 1958 except as provided for in paragraph 4 below;

4. *Requests* the High Commissioner to supervise the orderly completion of projects financed from the United Nations Refugee Fund which were started but not completed before 31 December 1958, and to carry out the liquidation of the Fund in accordance with paragraph 5 (a) below;

5. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to establish, not later than at its twenty-sixth session, an Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme to consist of representatives of from twenty to twenty-five States Members of the United Nations or members of any of the specialized agencies, to be elected by the Council on the widest possible geographical basis from those States with a demonstrated interest in, and devotion to, the solution of the refugee problem, this Committee to take the place of the UNREF Executive Committee and to be entrusted with the terms of reference set forth below:

(a) To give directives to the High Commissioner for the liquidation of the United Nations Refugee Fund;

(b) To advise the High Commissioner, at his request, in the exercise of his functions under the Statute of his Office;

(c) To advise the High Commissioner as to whether it is appropriate for international assistance to be provided through his Office in order to help solve specific refugee problems remaining unsolved after 31 December 1958 or arising after that date;