

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, JAMAICA, NIGERIA, PHILIPPINES and UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

31/134. Improvement of the status and role of women in education

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women emphasizes the need to take all appropriate measures to ensure to women equal rights with men in education at all levels,

Recalling further its resolutions 3520 (XXX), 3521 (XXX), 3522 (XXX), 3523 (XXX) and 3524 (XXX) of 15 December 1975,

Recognizing that the full and complete development of a country requires the maximum participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields,

Recognizing also the necessity for women to have equal rights, opportunities and obligations with men, particularly in the fields of education and professional and vocational training, to enable their full participation in the process of development,

Recognizing further the importance of promoting the education of women and its impact on the rearing of the young generation,

Noting that, despite the world-wide progress in reducing illiteracy, the illiteracy rate for women far exceeds that of men and, in some cases, continues to rise,

Recognizing the importance of exchange of experience in the elimination of illiteracy and improvement of the educational standard of women at the national, regional and international levels,

1. Appeals to all States which have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention against Discrimination in Education, 1960,⁶⁴ elaborated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and to the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958⁶⁵ and the Human Resources Development Convention, 1975,⁶⁶ elaborated by the International Labour Organisation;

2. Calls upon States to undertake, whenever necessary, in their economic, social and cultural programmes, specific short-term and long-term measures aimed at improving the status and role of women in education, bearing in mind the following:

(a) The provisions of the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

(b) The provisions of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year⁶⁷ concerning education and training, particularly with respect to an increase in literacy and equal access of women at every level of education, as well as the provisions of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education, 1960 and the appropriate recommendation concerning technical and vocational education of the United

Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization, and the provisions of the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958, the Human Resources Development Convention, 1975 and the appropriate recommendations concerning discrimination (employment and occupation), employment (women with family responsibilities) and human resources development of the International Labour Organisation;

3. Calls upon States, whenever necessary, to undertake all possible measures to eliminate illiteracy among women, especially during the United Nations Decade for Women;

4. Calls upon States which have not yet done so to consider undertaking all appropriate measures:

(a) To introduce free and compulsory education at the elementary level and, where possible, free education at all levels, including professional, vocational and technical education, which should be accessible to women without discrimination;

(b) To promote co-education;

(c) To ensure that men and women have access on a footing of equality to scholarships and other study grants when these are provided nationally or are made available to States under bilateral or multilateral agreements;

5. Recommends that States should introduce measures to expand the exchange of experience on issues concerning the improvement of the status and role of women in education, particularly through courses, seminars and symposiums organized at the national, regional and international levels;

6. Invites Member States, as well as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organisation and other organizations of the United Nations system, including regional commissions, and interested intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, to submit to the Secretary-General their observations concerning the improvement of the status and role of women in education;

7. Requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Directors-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organisation and taking into account the comments and observations received under paragraph 6 above, to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session a report on the status and role of women in education;

8. Decides to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its thirty-third session.

102nd plenary meeting
16 December 1976

31/135. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975,

Noting the recommendations made by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1998 (LX) of 12 May 1976,

⁶⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 429, p. 93.

⁶⁵ International Labour Organisation, *Conventions and Recommendations, 1919-1966* (Geneva, 1966), Convention No. 111.

⁶⁶ International Labour Office, *Official Bulletin*, vol. LVIII, 1975, Series A, No. 1, Convention No. 142.

⁶⁷ *Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. II, sect. A.