

programmes to human settlements activities as a proved means of promoting economic and social development, as well as to the fair distribution of the benefits of such development to all segments of the population;

4. *Takes note* of Commission on Human Settlements resolution 8/12 of 8 May 1985⁸⁸ and, in that context, urges the international community, including multilateral institutions and agencies, to consider, as appropriate, more flexible strategies in lending for human settlements projects and programmes;

5. *Commends* those Governments and others that have made voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, particularly those that have done so on a regular basis, and appeals to those that have not contributed to do so at the earliest opportunity;

6. *Decides*, in accordance with Commission on Human Settlements resolution 8/4 of 8 May 1985,⁸⁸ to designate the first Monday of October of every year as "World Habitat Day".

*119th plenary meeting
17 December 1985*

B

BIENNIAL CYCLE OF SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, by which it provided for the establishment of the Commission on Human Settlements and specified the duration of the term of office of members of the Commission,

Recalling also its decision 38/429 of 19 December 1983 on the rationalization of the work of the Second Committee and its resolution 39/170 B of 17 December 1984, in which it required the Commission on Human Settlements to consider adopting a biennial cycle of sessions,

Taking note with satisfaction of Commission on Human Settlements resolution 8/1 of 10 May 1985⁸⁸ on a biennial cycle of sessions for the Commission,

Having considered the recommendation of the Commission that the duration of the term of office of its members should be changed from three to four years in recognition of the change to a biennial cycle of sessions,

1. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Human Settlements contained in its resolution 8/1 that, beginning in 1987, its sessions will, on an experimental basis, be held only in odd-numbered years;

2. *Endorses* the decision of the Commission on Human Settlements contained in its resolution 8/1 to hold a special session of shorter duration in 1988 devoted exclusively to ensuring effective follow-up to the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless which, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/221 of 20 December 1982, will be observed in 1987;

3. *Decides* that, beginning with the terms of office commencing on 1 January 1987, membership in the Commission on Human Settlements will be for a term of four years instead of three.

*119th plenary meeting
17 December 1985*

⁸⁶ A/40/689.

C

CO-ORDINATION OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMMES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General concerning the co-ordination of human settlements programmes within the United Nations system,⁹⁶

Taking note of the view on co-ordination expressed in Commission on Human Settlements resolution 8/13 of 8 May 1985,⁸⁸

Requests the Secretary-General to ensure effective participation of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in the work of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and its subsidiary machinery relevant to its mandate, as contained in General Assembly resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, taking into account Assembly resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977, 35/77 C of 5 December 1980 and 37/223 C of 20 December 1982, and to keep the matter under review for consideration by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session in 1987 on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into consideration the follow-up of the cross-organizational programme analysis in human settlements by the Committee on Programme and Co-ordination.

*119th plenary meeting
17 December 1985*

40/203. International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/221 of 20 December 1982, 38/168 of 19 December 1983 and 39/171 of 17 December 1984 on the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless,

Noting with satisfaction that more than one hundred and fifteen countries have designated official national focal points for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, that many countries have already launched intensive national programmes for the Year and reported thereon to the Commission on Human Settlements at its eighth session, and that more than one hundred and sixty projects for the Year are under way in sixty-five countries,

Expressing its appreciation to the twenty-nine developing countries and five developed countries that have already made or pledged voluntary contributions to the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless,

Recognizing that an estimated one quarter of the world's population does not have adequate shelter and lives in extremely unhealthy and unsanitary conditions and that the programme for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless provides a necessary and unique opportunity for countries to review their prospects and priorities for shelter and settlements and to develop, before or during 1987, new national policies and strategies for improving shelter for, and the neighbourhoods of, the poor and disadvantaged by the year 2000,

Noting that most of the voluntary contributions pledged to date have been pledged by developing countries and that further voluntary contributions are now needed in order to carry out effectively the overall plans endorsed by the General Assembly for activities to be undertaken before and during the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless,⁹⁷

⁹⁷ See A/38/233-E/1983/74 and Corr. 1

1. *Requests* those countries that have not yet established official national focal points for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless to do so in the near future, along the lines specified in the annex to General Assembly resolution 38/168;

2. *Also requests* those countries that have not yet formulated national programmes and plans of action for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless to do so and periodically to provide information on them to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) so that all national focal points can be regularly informed of the activities, progress and achievements of the Year in countries around the world;

3. *Further requests* those countries and international organizations that have not yet done so to designate projects for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless aimed at improving access to land, financing, building materials, training and employment, giving special attention to legal and institutional measures, and to send a project information sheet on each project to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

4. *Requests* all countries in their periodic reports on their national programmes and projects for the Year, especially in reports to the Commission on Human Settlements at its ninth session, to give special attention to their plans for developing and implementing new national policies and strategies for improving shelter for, and the neighbourhoods of, the poor and disadvantaged by the year 2000;

5. *Appeals once again* to all Governments that have not yet announced a voluntary contribution, especially those of developed countries, as well as to international financial institutions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to provide effective financial and other support to the programme for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1986 on progress achieved in the implementation of the approved programme of measures and activities to be undertaken before and during the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;⁹⁷

7. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to include a special account of its deliberations on the subject in its report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session;

8. *Decides*, in view of the fact that 1987 is the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, to devote special attention to the Year at its forty-first session.

*119th plenary meeting
17 December 1985*

40/204. Effective mobilization and integration of women in development⁹⁸

The General Assembly,

Taking note with appreciation of the world survey on the role of women in development,⁹⁹

Recognizing that although the survey was submitted to the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, it has yet to receive the detailed attention it deserves,

Noting with satisfaction the adoption by the Conference of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the

Advancement of Women,¹⁰⁰ which constitute an important and positive contribution to the attainment of the objectives of the Decade and provide a policy framework for the advancement of women to the year 2000,

1. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session to make specific action-oriented recommendations based on the world survey on the role of women in development as a part of the overall implementation of and follow-up to the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, which should be for action at the national and international levels, including co-operation among developing countries, within an economic context, and should address sectoral and cross-sectoral problems identified in the survey, and requests that the report of the Commission be made available, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1986, to the General Assembly at its forty-second session under the sub-item entitled "Effective mobilization and integration of women in economic development";

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take those recommendations into account when formulating the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development¹⁰¹ and to invite the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Training and Research Institute for the Advancement of Women, to take into account the implications of the world survey when preparing their contributions to that plan;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to update the survey on the role of women in development on a regular basis, focusing on selected emerging development issues that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the local, national, regional and international levels;

4. *Decides* that the first update of the survey should be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, in 1989;

5. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session to make a recommendation on future updates of the survey after 1989, bearing in mind the need for effective co-ordination with the follow-up activities of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;

6. *Also invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to suggest terms of reference for the first update of the survey, which should contain improved data and information on the role of women in development, including, *inter alia*, their role in the informal sector of the economy;

7. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to contribute to the preparation of the first update of the survey;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its forty-second session, a progress report on the preparation of the first regular update of the survey, including preliminary views on its scope and content, so that the Commission on the Status of Women, at its thirty-second session, can take that report into account, together with the comments on the subject made by delegations in the General Assembly;

⁹⁸ See also sect. I, footnote 17, and sect. VI, resolution 40/101.

⁹⁹ A/CONF.116/4 and Corr.1.

¹⁰⁰ *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and*

Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

¹⁰¹ See Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/46 of 31 May 1985