

44/66. Monitoring of information on effective measures and alternative methods of implementing the plans, strategies and programmes of action in the social field at the national level

The General Assembly,

Having considered the 1989 Report on the World Social Situation,³⁰

Recalling its resolutions 37/51 of 3 December 1982, in which it endorsed the International Plan of Action on Aging,⁴⁹ 37/52 of 3 December 1982, in which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,⁵⁰ 40/14 of 18 November 1985, in which it endorsed the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth,³⁴ 40/32 of 29 November 1985, in which it approved the Milan Plan of Action,⁵¹ and 40/108 of 13 December 1985, in which it endorsed the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,⁵²

Recalling also its resolution 42/125 of 7 December 1987, in which it endorsed the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future,²⁹

Aware that much remains to be done at the national level to achieve the full realization of the principles and objectives contained in those major documents adopted at the international level,

Convinced of the need to study effective measures and alternative methods of implementing the above-mentioned plans, strategies and programmes of action,

Recognizing that, in addition to material and technical assistance, both committed leadership and self-reliance of people for effective popular participation are required for mobilization to action in the social field,

Considering that sustained co-operation and regular dialogue are necessary between leaders and people and among citizens themselves in order to foster social change,

1. *Recognizes* the need for Member States to select their own specific social priorities;

2. *Emphasizes* that national leaders need commitment and political will in order to realize in concrete terms, at the national, local and grass-roots levels, the provisions of the plans, strategies and programmes of action approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 37/51, 37/52, 40/14, 40/32 and 40/108;

3. *Reaffirms* that non-governmental organizations and individual citizens require the qualities of self-reliance and initiative in order to undertake their own programmes and projects;

4. *Recognizes* the need for Governments, non-governmental organizations and citizens to co-operate effectively with each other in undertaking social development programmes, notably with regard to social welfare policies, youth, the elderly, the advancement of women

and disabled persons, as well as crime prevention and criminal justice;

5. *Stresses* the need to formulate at the national level innovative, effective and viable measures for social development in the face of limited budgetary allocations for social issues and diminishing natural resources;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, in particular, to include on a regular basis in their reports on social issues more information on ways and means of fully implementing the above-mentioned plans, strategies and programmes of action at the national, local and grass-roots levels, stressing, *inter alia*, the attitudes and values that leaders and citizens need to adopt in order to achieve social goals despite limited resources, effective methods that can be used on a larger scale at the national level and adopted in other countries, and methods of co-operation and networking at the international level aimed at assistance in the implementation of plans of action at the national level.

*78th plenary meeting
8 December 1989*

44/67. Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Aging and related activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 43/93 of 8 December 1988,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the second review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Aging conducted by the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-first session,⁵³

Taking note with interest of the priorities identified and recommendations made in the second review and appraisal of the implementation of the Plan of Action,

Noting with appreciation the renewed momentum of the United Nations programme on aging but deeply regretting the proposed cut in the resources under section 8, subprogramme 7 (Aging), of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991,⁵⁴

Aware of the need of the developing countries for technical assistance and expert advice in the field of aging,

Reiterating the appeal made to the Secretary-General in its resolution 43/93 to maintain and strengthen the existing programmes on aging and to strengthen the United Nations system-wide co-ordination of policies and programmes on aging, with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat continuing in its role as focal point in the United Nations system for activities relating to aging,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the question of aging;⁵⁵

2. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/50 of 24 May 1989;

3. *Also endorses* the draft programme of United Nations activities relating to the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Aging, in 1992, as contained in annex II to Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/50;

⁴⁹ See *Report of the World Assembly on Aging, Vienna, 26 July-6 August 1982* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.

⁵⁰ A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr. 1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

⁵¹ See *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. A.

⁵² *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.

⁵³ E/1989/13.

⁵⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/44/6/Rev.1), vol. I.*

⁵⁵ A/44/420 and Add.1.

4. *Notes with interest* that aging is being considered as a priority theme of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade and the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to assist the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in elaborating for the consideration of the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session a detailed global programme of activities for 1992 on the basis of the draft programme endorsed by the Economic and Social Council, which would simultaneously serve as a guide for parallel national and regional programmes;

6. *Also calls upon* Member States that have special expertise or an interest in aging to consider giving direct staff or extrabudgetary support to the Centre in its preparatory activities for 1992;

7. *Decides* that the priorities identified and recommendations made in the second review and appraisal of the implementation of the Plan of Action should be included as an annex in future publications of the Plan of Action;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the feasibility of preparing a system-wide medium-term plan on aging in order to ensure that all concerned organizations of the United Nations system address the question of aging in a coherent and effective manner, bearing in mind that the Centre is the duly mandated focal point in all matters related to aging;

9. *Invites* the Statistical Office of the Secretariat to increase the availability and use of national statistics on aging for the formulation and implementation of national policies and programmes and to consider the possibility of dedicating the 1992 *Demographic Yearbook* to the question of aging;

10. *Invites* the major international non-governmental organizations and donor countries to join the United Nations system in establishing a technical co-operation network that would design and support the implementation of a series of straightforward self-help projects by the elderly in order to bridge the gap between major funding entities and local self-help initiatives, as well as the gap between globally espoused standards and the real living conditions of the elderly;

11. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to pay particular attention to the specific problems faced by elderly women and to the discrimination suffered by these women because of their gender and age;

12. *Urges* all the relevant agencies of the United Nations system dealing with refugees to pay special attention to the plight of all elderly refugees;

13. *Urges* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to co-operate with the Centre in the preparation of a report on the status and highlights of the global aging of populations for distribution to the media and the general public in 1992;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations Population Fund to consider seconding a demographer to the Centre to assist in producing demographic profiles of the global, regional and selected national aging populations;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations Postal Administration to produce in 1992 commemorative United Nations stamps to mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Plan of Action;

16. *Recommends* that in view of the rapid expansion of activities and infrastructure for aging, the participants in the United Nations programme on aging give careful attention to its mandate with a view to avoiding duplication

of the activities of other programmes and continuing in the 1990s the unified approach to implementing the Plan of Action that has been a distinguishing mark of the programme to date;

17. *Takes note with appreciation* of the progress report submitted by the Secretary-General on the training programmes and activities of the International Institute on Aging⁵⁶ in Malta, welcomes the unique contribution of the Institute to the implementation of the Plan of Action and requests the Secretary-General, in reporting on the question of aging to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, to inform the Assembly of the activities, plans and programmes of the Institute;

18. *Notes with appreciation* the establishment, with the assistance of the United Nations Office at Vienna, of an African Society of Gerontology at Dakar;

19. *Notes with satisfaction* the offer of the Governments of Yugoslavia and Argentina to establish institutes on aging at Belgrade and Buenos Aires, respectively;

20. *Also notes with satisfaction* the convening of the meeting of eminent persons to develop an international fund-raising strategy for policies and programmes on population aging, at United Nations Headquarters on 18 and 19 September 1989,⁵⁷ takes note of the adoption at that meeting of a declaration on the desirability and urgency of establishing an independent international foundation on aging under the patronage of the United Nations that would encourage the public and private sectors as well as non-governmental organizations to support the work of the United Nations system in the field of aging, and in this regard invites Member States, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to support this initiative;

21. *Further notes with satisfaction* the success achieved at the XIVth International Congress of Gerontology, held at Acapulco, Mexico, from 18 to 23 June 1989;⁵⁸

22. *Strongly appeals* to Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund for Aging, bearing in mind that the Fund is particularly well placed to act as a catalyst for resource mobilization;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Question of aging".

78th plenary meeting
8 December 1989

44/68. Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and resolution 43/95 of 8 December 1988 on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,¹¹ as well as its other relevant resolutions on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,⁵⁹

⁵⁶ A/44/420, chap. V, sect. D.

⁵⁷ See A/44/420/Add.1.

⁵⁸ See A/44/420, chap. V, sect. B.

⁵⁹ Resolution 38/14.