

and programmes relating to the role of the United Nations Volunteers programme,

Recognizing the important role of youth in the realization of the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, especially those concerning economic and social progress and development,

Convinced that the active participation of the younger generation should be an integrated component of the over-all development process,

Believing that the United Nations must intensify its efforts to implement practical programmes to assist younger people to play constructive roles in the development of their societies, including the means of financing such programmes,

Acknowledging the role in the achievement of national and international development goals that has been entrusted to the United Nations Volunteers programme and the potential of that programme for the advancement of the role of youth in development,

1. *Considers* the United Nations Volunteers programme to be a major operational unit of the United Nations for the execution of youth programmes, especially of pilot projects to increase the participation of youth in development activities and training programmes for youth workers, such programmes to be undertaken only after consultation with the Governments of the recipient countries concerned;

2. *Decides* to expand the terms of reference of the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers to include the receipt of additional contributions for the purpose of implementing youth programmes requested by developing countries;

3. *Appeals* to Governments and all other potential sources for contributions to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers to help finance such youth programmes;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme:

(a) To hold joint intersecretariat consultations at least once every year to discuss the implementation of the programmes described above on the basis of principles and programme objectives laid down by the relevant policy-making bodies;

(b) To take whatever administrative action is necessary within existing resources to implement the course of action described above with effect from 1 January 1977;

(c) To study the best ways and means of ensuring the participation, to the fullest extent possible, of youth and youth organizations in the planning and implementation of youth programmes launched by the United Nations Volunteers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution with recommendations for further action.

*102nd plenary meeting
16 December 1976*

31/132. Channels of communication with youth and youth organizations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2037 (XX) of 7 December 1965, 2497 (XXIV) of 28 October 1967, 2633 (XXV)

of 11 November 1970, 2770 (XXVI) of 22 November 1971, 3022 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972 and 3140 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on channels of communication with youth and international youth organizations,⁵⁹

Convinced that the pre-conditions of effective channels of communication are the promotion of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the existence of practical opportunities for youth and youth organizations to participate in the work of the United Nations at the national, regional, interregional and international levels,

Invites the Economic and Social Council to prepare, through the Commission for Social Development at its twenty-fifth session, appropriate recommendations concerning the best channels of communication between youth and youth organizations and the United Nations at the national, regional, interregional and international levels, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session.

*102nd plenary meeting
16 December 1976*

31/133. Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, in which it proclaimed the period from 1976 to 1985 United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling also that it decided at its thirtieth session that the voluntary fund for the International Women's Year, established by Economic and Social Council resolution 1850 (LVI) of 16 May 1974, should be extended to cover the period of the Decade,⁶⁰

Aware that some countries, particularly the least developed ones, have limited financial resources for carrying out their national plans and programmes for the advancement of women and for the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year⁶¹ adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

Recognizing the necessity for continuing financial and technical support for these programmes,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Voluntary Fund for the Decade,⁶²

1. *Adopts* the following criteria and arrangements for the management of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women:

(a) *Criteria:*

The resources of the Fund should be utilized to supplement activities in the following areas designed to

⁵⁹ A/10275.

⁶⁰ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/10034), p. 100, items 75 and 76.

⁶¹ *Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. II, sect. A.

⁶² E/5773.

implement the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, priority being given to the related programmes and projects of the least developed, land-locked and island countries among developing countries:

- (i) Technical co-operation activities;
- (ii) Development and/or strengthening of regional and international programmes;
- (iii) Development and implementation of joint interorganizational programmes;
- (iv) Research, data collection and analysis, relevant to (i), (ii) and (iii) above;
- (v) Communication support and public information activities designed to promote the goals of the Decade and, in particular, the activities undertaken under (i), (ii) and (iii) above;
- (vi) In the selection of projects and programmes, special consideration should be given to those which benefit rural women, poor women in urban areas and other marginal groups of women, especially the disadvantaged;

(b) Arrangements:

The General Assembly endorses the arrangements for the future management of the Fund contained in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the use of the Fund for technical co-operation activities;

3. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to select, with due regard to regional distribution, in the first instance for a period of three years, five Member States, each of which should appoint a representative to serve on the Consultative Committee on the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women to advise the Secretary-General on the application to the use of the Fund of the criteria set forth in paragraph 1 above;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on the management of the Fund.

*102nd plenary meeting
16 December 1976*

ANNEX

Arrangements for the management of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women

1. The Secretary-General shall apply the following arrangements for the management of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women:

I. SOLICITATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PLEDGES AND THE COLLECTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS

2. The Controller, in consultation with the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, shall determine the responsibility and procedures for soliciting voluntary contributions to the Fund.

3. Any prospective donor desiring to make a voluntary contribution to the Fund shall submit a written proposal to the Secretary-General; the request for acceptance should contain all relevant information, including the amount of the proposed contribution, the currency and the timing of pay-

ments, and may indicate the purposes and any action expected of the United Nations.

4. The proposal, with the comments, *inter alia*, of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, shall be forwarded to the Controller, who shall determine whether or not any proposed gift or donation might directly or indirectly involve additional financial liability for the Organization. Before acceptance of any gift or donation involving such liability, the Controller shall request and obtain the approval of the General Assembly through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

5. The Controller shall acknowledge all pledges and shall determine the bank account or accounts in which contributions to the Fund should be deposited; he shall be responsible for collecting contributions and following up on payments of contributions pledged.

6. The Controller may accept contributions in any national currency donated for the purpose of the Fund.

II. OPERATIONS AND CONTROL

7. The Controller shall ensure that the operation and control of the Fund shall be in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations; he may delegate responsibility for the operation and administration of the Fund to the heads of departments or offices designated by the Secretary-General to execute activities financed by the Fund; only officials so designated may authorize the execution of specific activities to be financed by the Fund.

8. Subject to the criteria for disbursements from the Fund endorsed by the General Assembly, the Controller may, after consultation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, allocate resources of the Fund to a specialized agency or another United Nations body for the execution of projects financed by the Fund; in such an event, the administrative procedures of the executing body would apply, subject to such provisions for periodic reporting as the Controller may specify. Before making disbursements for technical co-operation activities, the Controller should consult the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme.

9. In respect of activities conducted by the United Nations, requests for allotments of funds shall be submitted to the Controller by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, accompanied by such supporting information as the Controller may require. After review, allotments to provide for expenditures of the funds received shall be issued by the Director of the Budget Division, and certifying officers for the Fund shall be designated by the Controller in accordance with established procedures.

10. The Controller shall be responsible for the reporting of all financial transactions concerning the Fund and shall issue quarterly statements of assets, liabilities and unencumbered Fund balance, income and expenditure.

11. The Fund shall be audited by both the Internal Audit Service and the Board of Auditors, in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.

III. REPORTING

12. An annual report showing funds available, pledges and payments received and the expenditures made from the Fund shall be prepared by the Controller and submitted to the General Assembly and, as appropriate, to the Commission on the Status of Women.

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The President of the General Assembly subsequently informed the Secretary-General⁶³ that, in accordance with paragraph 3 of the above resolution, he had selected the following States as members of the Consultative Committee on the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women:

⁶³ A/31/477.

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.