

ternational Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation.

Recalling its resolutions 35/136 of 11 December 1980 and 36/126 of 14 December 1981, in which it endorsed the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women,⁵⁷

Affirming the role of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point for the organizations of the United Nations system with regard to activities undertaken in implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Recalling also its resolution 36/128 of 14 December 1981 on the establishment of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/27 of 4 May 1982 concerning the programmes and activities of the Institute,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women,⁵⁹ on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women⁶⁰ and on the programmes and activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,⁶¹

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women;⁶²

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by Governments and by the organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, to achieve progress towards the effective realization of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;

3. *Calls upon* Governments, the organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations to pay increased attention to the need to take practical measures to implement the relevant recommendations of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women and, in particular, to expand technical co-operation activities which would ensure women's full and equal participation, as agents and as beneficiaries, in all sectors and at all levels of development;

4. *Emphasizes* the continuing role of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs as the focal point for the organizations of the United Nations system with regard to activities undertaken in implementation of the Programme of Action;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the contribution made by the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women to the implementation of the Programme of Action, mainly through innovative and experimental projects at the grass-roots level;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* the commencement of the work of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and invites it to continue contributing to the objectives of the Decade;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* that, as at 1 November 1982, forty-five Member States had ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;⁶³

8. *Invites* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention;

9. *Welcomes* the commencement of the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, which held its first session at Vienna from 18 to 22 October 1982;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the steps taken to implement the present resolution;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the status of the Convention;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace".

90th plenary meeting
3 December 1982

37/59. Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, in which it endorsed the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women,⁵⁷

Reaffirming the importance attached in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade⁵⁸ to the need to improve the status of women and ensure their full participation in the development process as agents and beneficiaries of development,

Reaffirming further the importance attached in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, as well as in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,⁶³ to the need to improve the situation of women in rural areas in many parts of the world,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development,⁶⁴ particularly with regard to the integration of women in rural development,

Bearing in mind that a majority of women, particularly in developing countries, live and work in rural areas and suffer most from the exploitation of agricultural labour, in particular by transnational corporations,

Convinced that the eradication of *apartheid*, all forms of racial discrimination, colonialism, neo-colonialism, aggression and foreign occupation and domination is essential to the further improvement of the situation of rural women,

Considering that the strengthening of international peace and co-operation is one of the most important conditions for further improving the situation of rural women,

Convinced also that the effective implementation of fundamental human rights is essential for the improvement of the situation of rural women,

Recognizing the urgent need to take additional appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

Recognizing also the importance of exchanging experiences in this field among States,

⁵⁹ A/37/421.

⁶⁰ A/37/349 and Add.1.

⁶¹ E/1982/33.

⁶² A/37/458 and Add.1.

⁶³ Resolution 34/180, annex.

⁶⁴ See *Report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Rome, 12-20 July 1979 (WCARRD/REP)*.

1. *Calls upon* Member States to take additional appropriate measures for further improving the economic and social conditions of women in rural areas;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on the Status of Women, the regional commissions and other bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to devote greater attention to the problem of elevating the status of rural women;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, within the framework of the integrated reporting system on the status of women which the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1980/38 of 2 May 1980, decided to continue, a comprehensive report containing the observations and comments received from Governments on national experience relating to the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, paying special attention to such aspects as social insurance, mother and child care, health facilities, training, education and employment opportunities;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to consider holding, within the framework of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, as a matter of priority, an interregional seminar on national experience relating to the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, with special emphasis on the problems of developing countries;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session, through the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council, the report requested in paragraph 3 above.

90th plenary meeting
3 December 1982

37/60. Preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, in which it endorsed, *inter alia*, the action proposals contained in the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year,⁶⁵

Recalling its resolution 3490 (XXX) of 12 December 1975, in which it expressed its conviction that a comprehensive and thorough review and appraisal of progress made in meeting the goals of the World Plan of Action was of crucial importance for the success of the Plan and recognized that the results of the implementation of the Plan would contribute to the consideration of the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade⁶⁶ and would consequently promote the role of women in the development process,

Recalling also its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, in which it endorsed the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women⁶⁷ as adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations

Decade for Women, and decided to convene in 1985, at the conclusion of the Decade, a World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.

Recalling further that the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade⁶⁸ stressed that the important set of measures to improve the status of women, contained in the World Plan of Action adopted at Mexico City in 1975,⁶⁵ and the important agreed measures relating to the International Development Strategy in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, adopted at Copenhagen in 1980, should be implemented,

Recalling its resolution 36/126 of 14 December 1981, in which it requested the Commission on the Status of Women, at its session to be held in 1982, to give priority to the question of the preparations for the Conference,

Noting that the Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1982, considered the recommendations of the Commission on the Status of Women as set forth in its report⁶⁹ and adopted, on 4 May 1982, resolution 1982/26 on the preparations for the Conference,

Bearing in mind all its relevant resolutions and decisions regarding preparations for special conferences, in particular its resolution 33/189 of 29 January 1979,

1. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 on the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, to be held in 1985;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission on the Status of Women should be the preparatory body for the Conference and that it should operate on the basis of consensus;

3. *Endorses* the decision of the Economic and Social Council to invite the widest possible participation by States in the preparatory meetings for the Conference and expresses the hope that they will designate representatives who will have the background and experience in the area of women and development;

4. *Notes* that the first session of the Commission on the Status of Women as the preparatory body of the Conference is to be held at Vienna from 23 February to 4 March 1983 and that the report on that session will be considered by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1983;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take into account paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 33/189 when appointing the Secretary-General of the Conference;

6. *Decides* to consider at its thirty-eighth session the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1983 based on the report of the first session of the Commission on the Status of Women as the preparatory body for the Conference, together with the observations, if any, of the Secretary-General;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the preparation of a world survey on the role of women in development⁷⁰ and recommends that the survey should be submitted to the Conference;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session an item entitled "Preparations for the

⁶⁵ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. II, sect. A.

⁶⁶ Resolution 2626 (XXV).

⁶⁷ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I, sect. A.

⁶⁸ Resolution 35/56, annex.

⁶⁹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 4 (E/1982/14).

⁷⁰ A/37/381.