

A. Official bilateral debt

55. (a) All donors that have not already done so are urged to implement Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX) of 11 March 1978⁶² by cancelling or providing equivalent relief for ODA debt as a matter of priority in such a way that the net flows of ODA are improved for the recipient. Those creditors still holding such claims, including non-OECD creditors, are urged to take similar measures;

(b) Adopt measures to substantially reduce the bilateral debt of the LDCs, in particular the countries of Africa, as soon as possible;

(c) Paris Club creditors are invited to continue to implement expeditiously and in a flexible manner the very concessional treatment under the Naples terms;

(d) Other non-Paris Club creditors are also invited to take similar measures in order to alleviate the debt burden of debt-distressed LDCs, including by setting up special debt-reduction programmes and debt-relief mechanisms.

B. Multilateral debt

56. In order to address the multilateral debt problems of LDCs, the Bretton Woods institutions are encouraged to develop a comprehensive approach to assist countries with multilateral debt problems, through the flexible implementation of existing instruments and new mechanisms where necessary. In this respect the Bretton Woods institutions are encouraged to expedite the ongoing consideration of ways to address the issue of multilateral debt. Other international financial institutions are invited to consider, within the scope of their mandates, appropriate efforts with a view to assisting LDCs with multilateral debt problems.

C. Commercial debt

57. (a) Invites creditor countries, private banks and multilateral financial institutions, within their prerogatives, to consider continuing the initiatives and efforts to address the commercial debt problems of the LDCs;

(b) Mobilize the resources of the Debt Reduction Facility of the International Development Association in order to help eligible least developed countries to reduce their commercial debt, considering alternative mechanisms to complement that Facility.

58. In accordance with the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development,⁶⁰ techniques of debt conversion applied to social development programmes and projects should be developed and implemented.

VI. ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION, FOLLOW-UP AND MONITORING OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION

59. It is important that UNCTAD, which is the focal point at the global level for the monitoring, follow-up and review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, has sufficient capacity and resources to follow up the outcome of the mid-term global review. In this regard, it is recalled that the General Assembly, in resolution 49/98, invited the Secretary-General to make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session with a view to ensuring that the UNCTAD secretariat has sufficient capacity to undertake an effective follow-up of the outcome of the mid-term review as well as the follow-up of the conclusions and recommendations relating to LDCs adopted by major global conferences, as appropriate.

50/104. Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 40/204 of 17 December 1985, 42/178 of 11 December 1987 and 44/171 of 19 December 1989, as well as all other relevant Assembly resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the resolutions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women on the integration of women in development,

Bearing in mind the outcome of the Fourth World Con-

ference on Women and other recent major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recognizing the significant contribution that women make to economic activities and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas, such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace, and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries have resulted in the rapid feminization of poverty, especially in rural areas and in female-headed households,

Aware that the continued discrimination against women, their continued lack of equal access to education and training, and their lack of control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production impede their full contribution to, and opportunity to benefit from, development,

Recognizing that the informal sector is a major source of entrepreneurship and employment for women in many developing countries,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Beijing Declaration⁶³ and Platform for Action⁶⁴ by the Fourth World Conference on Women;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development;⁶⁵

3. *Calls* for the urgent implementation of the Platform for Action adopted at Beijing as well as the relevant provisions contained in the outcome of all other major United Nations conferences and summits;

4. *Stresses* that a favourable and conducive international and national economic and financial environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the effective integration of women in development;

5. *Also stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for promoting sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities to generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

6. *Calls upon* all Governments and all actors of society to implement the commitment made in Beijing to create an enabling environment through, *inter alia*, removing discriminatory barriers and ensuring the full and equal participation of women in economic activities through, *inter alia*, the adoption of gender-sensitive policies and legal measures and the provision of other necessary structures;

7. *Urges* all Governments to ensure women's equal rights and access to economic resources, and to increase women's access to credit by instituting innovative lending practices, including practices that integrate credit with services and training for women, and that provide flexible credit facilities to women, in particular rural women,

⁶²See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/33/15 and Corr.1)*, vol. I, part two, annex I.

⁶³A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution I, annex I.

⁶⁴*Ibid.*, annex II.

⁶⁵A/50/399.

women in the informal sector, young women and women who lack access to traditional sources of collateral;

8. *Urges* Governments to develop and promote methodologies for incorporating a gender perspective into all aspects of policy-making, including economic policy-making;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes and specialized agencies, and all other relevant organizations to promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming gender perspective in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all policies and programmes;

10. *Urges* the international community, the United Nations system and other relevant organizations to give priority to assisting developing countries' efforts to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies, including through increased access to health care, capital, education, training and technology, as well as by women's wider participation in decision-making;

11. *Urges* multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks to review and implement policies in support of national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

12. *Requests* the United Nations development system to work towards establishing a more coherent approach to its support for women's income-generating activities, in particular credit schemes;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session a sub-item entitled "Effective mobilization and integration of women in development";

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on action taken to implement the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/105. Developing human resources for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 46/143 of 17 December 1991 and 45/191 of 21 December 1990, as well as its resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990 and 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Reaffirming that people are central to all activities related to development and that human resources development is an essential means of achieving sustainable development goals,

Recognizing that human resources development should contribute to total human development, which enlarges the choices available to people in developing their lives and fulfilling their aspirations, and that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies for human development that mainstreams a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular the needs of women,

Stressing that there is need for a supportive and favourable international economic environment that will enhance human development in developing countries and promote economic growth and development,

Recognizing that, while economic reforms and structural

adjustment programmes are intended to promote economic growth and development, elements of such programmes may have an adverse impact on human resources development, and also that there is a need to take action, in the formulation and implementation of these programmes, to mitigate any negative effects,

Stressing the need for adequate resources to enhance the capacity of Governments of developing countries to promote human resources development in pursuit of their national programmes, plans and strategies for development,

Stressing also that Governments of developing countries have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development,

Recognizing the vital role that South-South and North-South cooperation play in supporting national efforts in human resources development, bilaterally as well as multilaterally,

Emphasizing the need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries to foster the development of their human resources, especially that of the most vulnerable, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

Recognizing the importance accorded in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development to the human component of development,⁶⁰

Recognizing also the importance of the Platform for Action adopted at the recently concluded Fourth World Conference on Women,⁶⁴ held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on developing human resources for development;⁶⁶

2. *Emphasizes* that, in the development of human resources, an overall, well-conceived and integrated approach that mainstreams a gender perspective and takes into account the needs of all people should be adopted, incorporating such vital areas as population, health, nutrition, water, sanitation, housing, communications, education and training, and science and technology, as well as taking into account the need to create more opportunities for employment in an environment that guarantees opportunities for political freedom, popular participation, respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity to meet the challenge of development;

3. *Encourages* all countries to accord priority, in particular in national budgets, to human resources development in the context of the adoption of economic and social policies;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national policies to promote human resources development;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to support national efforts to develop human resources for development by increasing the priority of resources for those activities;

6. *Calls upon* the relevant organs, organizations and

⁶⁶A/50/330 and Corr.1.