Noting also the report of the Secretary-General on the progress achieved towards the establishment of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,68

- Endorses the decision of the Economic and Social Council to create an International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;
- Endorses the guidelines set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1998 (LX) regarding the activities of the Institute, in particular the necessary close collaboration with the regional centres and institutes which have similar objectives;
- 3. Accepts with appreciation the offer of the Government of Iran to act as host for the Institute;
- 4. Requests the Secretary-General to expedite the substantive preparations for the early establishment of the Institute and, to this end, to seek actively financial resources through voluntary contributions as well as technical support for it;
- 5. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-second session on the progress achieved.

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31/136. United Nations Decade for Women

The General Assembly,

Considering that in its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975 it proclaimed the period from 1976 to 1985 United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be devoted to effective and sustained national, regional and international action to implement the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year, 69 and related resolutions 70 adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

Aware of the importance of developing and implementing without delay a programme of concrete action for the Decade,

Considering further its decision to convene in 1980 a world conference to review and evaluate progress made and, where necessary, readjust existing programmes in the light of new data and research available,

Noting with satisfaction the Programme for the United Nations Decade for Women as adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its twentysixth session and transmitted to the General Assembly by the Economic and Social Council at its resumed sixty-first session,71

- Approves the Programme for the United Nations Decade for Women, which focuses on the first half of the Decade, 1976 to 1980;
- Urges Governments and United Nations bodies to take all necessary steps to give effect to the Programme for the Decade and to give it priority in view of the real need to attain the goals of the Decade;

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

71 E/5894.

- 3. Calls upon Governments to take measures to ensure equal and effective participation of women in political, economic, social and cultural life and in policymaking at local, national, regional and international levels, thereby increasing their role in international cooperation and in the strengthening of peace;
- Recommends that Governments should establish machinery, where appropriate, which could include governmental and non-governmental agencies, bureaux and commissions, in order to ensure the effective implementation and evaluation of the World Plan of Action and of the Programme for the Decade within the framework of national development plans and regional policies;
- Recommends further that Governments, in cooperation with the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions, appropriate regional and international research centres and institutes as well as appropriate intergovernmental bodies, should undertake the organization of training courses and seminars whereby officials responsible for the formulation and implementation of national development plans would study multidisciplinary techniques and methods which can be utilized in effectively integrating women in development;
- 6. Invites, as a matter of priority, Governments and organizations and bodies of the United Nations system as well as all governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned and the mass media to undertake massive public information programmes with a view to making all sectors of the population aware of the need to implement fully the Programme for the Decade;
- 7. Requests the Secretary-General to take fully into account the financial and staff needs required to implement effectively the World Plan of Action and the Programme for the Decade;
- 8. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its thirtysecond session, a report on the measures taken to implement the present resolution, in particular paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 above, as well as a progress report on other measures taken to implement the World Plan of Action and the Programme for the Decade.

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31/137. Pledging conference 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 further that in its resolution 31/136 of 16 December 1976 it endorsed the Programme for the United Nations Decade for Women,

Noting 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,

Aware that in its resolution 31/133 of 16 December 1976 it adopted the criteria and arrangements for the management of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women,

⁶⁸ A/31/310.

Conscious that, in its resolution 31/135 of 16 December 1976 concerning the establishment of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, it requested the Secretary-General to seek actively financial and technical support for the Institute,

- 1. Reaffirms its support for the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year, 72 adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975, as well as the Programme for the United Nations Decade for Women;
- 2. Requests the Secretary-General to convene during the thirty-second session of the General Assembly, in 1977, a pledging conference for voluntary contributions to be made to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, for the purpose of financing programmes under the World Plan of Action and the Programme for the Decade, and to the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;
- 3. Appeals to Governments to extend their full co-operation to help make this pledging conference a success.

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31/138. Elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1781 (XVII) of 7 December 1962 and 3069 (XXVIII) of 30 November 1973, as well as its resolution 3267 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974 in which it requested the Commission on Human Rights to submit, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session a single draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Recalling also its decision of 15 December 1975⁷⁸ to consider with appropriate priority, at its thirty-first session, the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance,

Noting the actions of the Working Group established by the Commission on Human Rights at its thirtieth, thirty-first and thirty-second sessions with a view to elaborating a draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Noting also Commission on Human Rights decision 7 (XXXII) of 5 March 1976,⁷⁴ by which the Commission established an open-ended working group which would meet three times a week during its thirty-third session, beginning in the first week of the session, and requested the Secretary-General to provide the necessary facilities for the work of the group,

- 1. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to speed up its work on the elaboration of a single draft Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief and to submit a progress report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session;
- 2. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-second session the item entitled "Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance".

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31/139. Co-operation and assistance in the application and improvement of national information and mass communication systems for social progress and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1778 (XVII) of 7 December 1962 and convinced that the establishment and/or development of national information and mass communication systems will play an important role in the promotion of opportunities for the peoples of the developing nations to participate fully in national development and in the promotion of international co-operation, including the efforts to achieve the goals of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and the establishment of the new international economic order,

Further recalling its resolution 3148 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973 and convinced that the establishment and/or improvement of national information and mass communication systems will greatly help preserve and enhance the cultural values of a country and will be one of the most efficient methods for transmitting scientific and technological knowledge and the cultural values of a country,

Desirous that the benefits of co-operation and assistance in the application and the establishment and/or improvement of national information and mass communication systems for social progress and development be considered with a view to disseminating those benefits to all countries regardless of their stages of economic and social development,

Acknowledging the important contributions made and the significant roles being played by the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations, regional economic and social commissions, non-governmental organizations and regional communication media training and research institutions in assisting developing countries in the field of mass communications,

Noting with appreciation the relevant decisions taken by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its nineteenth session in the field of mass communications,⁷⁵

Convinced that consideration of ways and means of achieving the application and improvement of national information and mass communication systems for social progress and development will pave the way for improved international co-operation in the field of mass communications,

⁷² Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. II, sect. A.

⁷³ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/10034), pp. 99 and 100, item 79.
74 See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 3 (E/5768), chap. XX, sect. B.

⁷⁵ See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Records of the General Conference, Nineteenth Session, vol. 1, Resolutions.