

mendations for action by Governments, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations and which would explain the relevance of the implementation of the Plan to the daily lives of men and women throughout the world;

20. *Decides* to convene in 1980, at the mid-term of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, a world conference of all States to review and evaluate the progress made in implementing the objectives of the International Women's Year as recommended by the World Conference of the International Women's Year and, where necessary, to readjust existing programmes in the light of new data and research available.

2441st plenary meeting
15 December 1975

3521 (XXX). Equality between men and women and elimination of discrimination against women

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the results of the World Conference of the International Women's Year,⁶⁴ held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

Recalling the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations which, *inter alia*, emphasize the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion and for the equality of men and women,

Firmly convinced that discrimination against women is incompatible with human dignity and prevents social progress and the achievement of the goals of development,

Mindful that the continuation of armed conflicts, the arms race, colonialism, foreign occupation, racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* hinders the effective realization of equal rights for women and prevents the improvement of the situation of women and their wider participation in all spheres of life,

Noting conventions and recommendations concerning the rights of women adopted under the aegis and within the framework of the United Nations and its specialized agencies and the progress achieved in their implementation,

Noting that all States are not yet parties to relevant conventions and other instruments elaborated by the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other United Nations bodies,

Expressing concern in connexion with continuing discrimination in many countries against women in many fields, in particular in labour relations and general and professional education and training,

Aware that women, enjoying fully the rights provided for in the relevant international instruments, should play an equal role with men in all spheres of life, including the ensuring of peace and the strengthening of international security, and should fully participate in political life,

Confident that the relaxation of international tension contributes to the development and implementation of standards in all fields of concern to women,

⁶⁴ See Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1).

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so to ratify the international conventions and other instruments concerning the protection of women's rights and the elimination of discrimination against women and to implement effectively the provisions of these conventions and other instruments, including declarations of the United Nations and recommendations of the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

2. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to complete, in 1976, the elaboration of the draft Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

3. *Calls upon* all States to promote vigorously wider participation of women in the strengthening of international peace and in extending the relaxation of international tension, on the basis of full respect for the Charter of the United Nations as well as for United Nations resolutions, in settling the problems of disarmament, in the elimination of colonialism, foreign occupation, racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* and in all other forms of political life, contributing in this way to the creation of the most favourable conditions for the complete elimination of discrimination against women.

2441st plenary meeting
15 December 1975

3522 (XXX). Improvement of the economic status of women for their effective and speedy participation in the development of their countries

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that many women in low-income countries are engaged in various economic activities on a self-reliant basis not normally taken into account when considering the gross national product,

Convinced that the contribution of such economic activities by women to the over-all national economic development is substantial,

Further convinced that credit facilities are a necessary prerequisite for the improvement of economic activities of women engaged in self-reliance projects,

Recognizing the continued benefits that can accrue from access to even moderate financial resources, when such become available,

Concerned that many lending and financial institutions continue to practise discrimination against women, considering them poor credit risks, and that local and national practices and customs in many parts of the world bar women from engaging in responsible financial transactions,

Reaffirming resolution 10, entitled "Access of women to financial assistance",⁶⁵ adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

1. *Urges* Governments and governmental and non-governmental organizations to support more vigorously official and private efforts to extend to women the facilities now being offered only to men by financial and lending institutions;

2. *Requests* Governments to encourage all efforts by women's organizations, co-operatives and lending

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*, chap. III.