

would be assisted by activities at the international level of the organs, organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and organizations of disabled persons,

*Recognizing* that such activities will be difficult to finance at present and that every effort must be made to reallocate existing resources within the United Nations system,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assist in the early implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons by ensuring its wide distribution and promotion;

2. *Requests* Member States to develop plans for the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons, as well as for prevention and rehabilitation, and thereby ensure early implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;

3. *Requests* all organs, organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to formulate and undertake measures within their respective spheres of competence, through a reallocation of existing resources, to ensure early implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and requests, in particular, the regional commissions to implement suitable programmes, on the understanding that effective consultation and co-ordination between the various bodies are essential;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish inter-organizational task forces, as recommended by the Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons at its third and fourth sessions,<sup>48</sup> in order to provide support services, as described in paragraph 17 of General Assembly resolution 36/77, within the existing arrangements for inter-agency co-ordination in order to support national and regional activities in the developing regions in the fields of prevention of disability, rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities for disabled persons;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to find the means to provide the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat with the necessary resources to enable it to ensure follow-up to the International Year of Disabled Persons and to facilitate the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue consultative services to Member States concerning the design of national programmes for the prevention of disability, for rehabilitation and for equalization of opportunities for disabled persons, to develop a practical check-list dealing with the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons which could be used by consultants in discussion with Governments of Member States and to compile and distribute information on available technical and financial resources to assist developing countries in the prevention of disability, rehabilitation and the equalization of opportunities;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to give appropriate priority, within the programmes for disabled persons, to activities related to organizations of disabled persons;

8. *Again urges* all organs, organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to undertake new measures or expedite those already under way to improve employment opportunities for disabled persons within those bodies at all levels and to improve access to their buildings and facilities and to their information sources, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on these measures to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Governments, to examine the need and possibility of continuing the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Year of Disabled Persons for the purpose of assisting Governments, at their request, in the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session;

10. *Requests* all Governments in a position to do so, the United Nations Development Programme and all relevant United Nations organs, organizations and agencies to assist Governments of developing countries, at their request, in the formulation of national policies and programmes for disabled persons;

11. *Proclaims* the period 1983-1992 United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons as a long-term plan of action, on the understanding that no additional resources from the United Nations system will be needed for this purpose, and encourages Member States to utilize this period as one of the means to implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;

12. *Encourages* Governments to proclaim national days for the disabled;

13. *Urges* international organizations and funding bodies to give higher priority to human resources development, in particular to training activities in the fields of prevention of disability and rehabilitation, and to enhance the equalization of opportunities and the participation of disabled persons;

14. *Requests* the organizations of the United Nations system to recognize the needs of disabled persons in their activities relating to the International Youth Year and in the international and regional congresses and meetings that they sponsor;

15. *Requests* the World Health Organization, in the light of the experience of the International Year of Disabled Persons, to review its definitions of impairment, disability and handicap in consultation with organizations of disabled persons and other appropriate bodies;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of convening in 1987 a meeting of experts, consisting largely of disabled persons, to prepare a report that would enable him to help the General Assembly at its forty-second session to evaluate the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, as provided for in paragraph 3 of resolution 37/52;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons.

*90th plenary meeting  
3 December 1982*

### **37/54. World social situation**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 33/48 of 14 December 1978 on world social development, 34/59 of 29 November 1979 on the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development and 34/152 of 17 December 1979 on the world social situation,

*Recalling* its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, con-

<sup>48</sup> See A/36/471/Add.1, annex, sect. IV, recommendation 3 (III) and A/37/351/Add. 1 and Add.1/Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 2 (IV).

taining the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation, 35/56 of 5 December 1980, containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, and 36/194 of 17 December 1981, in which it endorsed the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries,<sup>49</sup>

*Recalling also* its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980 on the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women,

*Recalling further* its resolution 36/28 of 13 November 1981 on the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace,

*Recalling* its resolutions 37/52 and 37/53 of 3 December 1982 on the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,

*Recalling also* its resolution 37/51 of 3 December 1982 on the World Assembly on Aging,

*Recalling further* its resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, in which it, *inter alia*, requested the Secretariat to prepare, on a regular basis, global economic and social surveys and projections,

*Bearing in mind* that social progress and development are founded on respect for the dignity and value of the human person,

*Bearing in mind also* that the ultimate aim of development is the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population on the basis of its full participation in the process of development and a fair distribution of the benefits therefrom, and that the pace of development in the developing countries as a whole should be accelerated substantially in order to enable them to achieve this goal,

*Mindful* that the existing inequities and imbalances in international economic relations are widening the gap between developed and developing countries, and thereby constitute a major obstacle to the development of the developing countries and adversely affect international relations and the promotion of world peace and security,

*Conscious* that each country has the inalienable right to adopt the economic and social system that it deems the most appropriate and that each Government has a primary role in ensuring the social progress and well-being of its people,

*Reaffirming* that economic growth must go hand in hand with qualitative and structural changes, the reduction of social and economic disparities and the adoption of measures to ensure the effective participation of all peoples in the preparation and execution of national policies for economic and social development,

*Convinced* of the necessity rapidly and completely to eliminate colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, *apartheid*, aggression, foreign occupation and alien domination and all other forms of inequality, exploitation and subjugation of peoples which constitute major obstacles to economic and social progress as well as to the promotion of world peace and security,

*Reaffirming* the existence of the undeniable link between peace and development and the imperative need to halt the arms race, thereby releasing valuable additional resources which could be used for the development of the developing countries and could contribute to the well-being and prosperity of all,

*Re-emphasizing* that the primary responsibility for the development of developing countries rests upon themselves,

but that, however great their own efforts, these will not enable them to achieve the desired development goals as expeditiously as they must unless just and equitable economic and commercial relations between developed and developing countries are established and, to that end, increasing financial resources and technological know-how are assured,

*Having considered* the 1982 Report on the World Social Situation,<sup>50</sup>

1. *Notes with deep concern* that the economic and social situation in the world today is not only disturbing but is also deteriorating rapidly;

2. *Notes also with great concern* the lack of implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development<sup>51</sup> and of the objectives and overall development goals adopted and reaffirmed in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

3. *Reaffirms* that the social aspects and goals of development are an integral part of the overall development process and that their implementation must take into account national priorities, levels of economic development and cultural tradition and values;

4. *Emphasizes again* the importance of the establishment of the new international economic order for the achievement of social progress;

5. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to implement the socio-economic development objectives established by the international community and contained in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, *inter alia*, the elimination of hunger and malnutrition, the achievement of full employment by the year 2000, health for all by the year 2000, appropriate population policies, the reduction of the infant mortality rate, the availability of safe water and adequate sanitary facilities by 1990, the attainment of a life expectancy of 60 years as a minimum by the year 2000, universal primary school enrolment by the year 2000 and the securing of the full participation of women, both as agents and beneficiaries, in all sectors and at all levels of the development process;

6. *Reaffirms also* the need to implement the socio-economic objectives of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries;

7. *Calls upon* all Member States to promote economic growth and social progress by the formulation and implementation of an interrelated set of policy measures to achieve their goals and objectives, within the framework of national priorities and interests, in the fields of employment, education, health, nutrition, housing facilities, crime prevention, the well-being of children, equal opportunities for the disabled and the aged, full participation of youth in the development process and the full integration and participation of women in development;

8. *Calls upon* the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to mobilize the necessary resources so as to undertake measures aimed at improving social conditions and achieving the main objectives set forth in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development and in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

9. *Emphasizes again* that rapid socio-economic progress of developing countries requires substantially enhanced multilateral and bilateral financial and technological contributions to national development efforts, rendered within

<sup>49</sup> Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), part one, sect. A.

<sup>50</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.IV.2.

<sup>51</sup> Resolution 2542 (XXIV).

the framework of the development plans of developing countries;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Social Development at its twenty-eighth session to give high priority to the examination and discussion of the 1982 *Report on the World Social Situation* and to submit its views and observations to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session through the Economic and Social Council;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the 1982 *Report on the World Social Situation* to other United Nations bodies concerned with operational activities and to the regional commissions for their consideration;

12. *Invites* Member States to convey to the Secretary-General their comments on the 1982 *Report on the World Social Situation* so as to facilitate the preparation of the 1985 report;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to issue the 1985 report on the world social situation, taking into consideration the provisions of the present resolution and including an analysis of the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development in the light of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, and taking into account the comments of delegations on this question made during the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly and to be expressed during the thirty-eighth session as well as the comments received by the Secretary-General from Member States and the observations made by the Commission for Social Development, through the Economic and Social Council;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing the 1985 report on the world social situation, to take into account the recommendations made in section II of General Assembly resolution 34/152 and to report thereon periodically to the Economic and Social Council;

15. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, when presenting the 1985 report on the world social situation, to submit an analysis of the co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the collection of social statistics and the preparation of reports on social issues;

16. *Invites* the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to co-operate fully with the Secretary-General in the preparation of future reports by making available all relevant information pertaining to their respective areas of competence;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the wide dissemination of all future reports;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "World social situation".

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**37/55. Popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the realization of human rights**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 34/152 of 17 December 1979,

*Recalling also* the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, contained in General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, in which, *inter alia*, it was emphasized that all peoples and all human beings have the right to live in dignity and freedom and to enjoy the fruits of social progress and should, on their part, contribute to it,

*Bearing in mind* that social progress and development are founded on respect for the dignity and value of the human person and should ensure the promotion of human rights and social justice,

*Stressing* the importance of the adoption of measures to ensure the effective participation, as appropriate, of all elements of society in the preparation and implementation of national economic and social development policies and of the mobilization of public opinion and the dissemination of relevant information in support of the principles and objectives of social progress and development,

*Recognizing* that popular participation, including the participation of workers in management and workers' self-management in countries where they exist, constitutes an important factor of socio-economic development as well as of respect for human rights and dignity of the human person,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>52</sup> on the International Seminar on Popular Participation, held at Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, from 17 to 25 May 1982,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Invites* Member States to take into consideration in their development policies and programmes the recommendations of the International Seminar on Popular Participation, keeping in view their specific economic and social conditions;

3. *Calls upon* the organs and organizations of the United Nations system to promote, as appropriate, popular participation in the execution of their programmes to the extent and in the form appropriate to the nature of their work;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit his report on the Seminar to Member States and the relevant United Nations bodies for their consideration;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to consider at its thirty-ninth session the question of popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the realization of human rights, taking into account, *inter alia*, the results of the deliberations of the Seminar, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General, and to submit to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate suggestions for the more complete realization of human rights;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive progress report on the implementation of the present resolution, taking account of the suggestions made in the Commission on Human Rights, and to submit his report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session, under the item relating to the world social situation, a subitem entitled "Popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the realization of human rights" in order to review the progress made in this field.

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**37/56. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 36/128 of 14 December 1981, in which it underlined the importance of the contributions of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to the work of all United Nations

<sup>52</sup> A/37/442.