

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

REPORT ON THE 1987 SESSION

(12–16 January 1987)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1987

SUPPLEMENT No. 2



UNITED NATIONS

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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

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Chapter I

MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Draft resolutions

1. The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

System-wide medium-term plan for women and development and system-wide co-ordination of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women*

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the measures to promote institutional co-ordination contained in chapter V of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 1/

Recognizing the need to systematize intersecretariat arrangements for the co-ordination of administrative, operational and programme activities having a bearing on the status of women,

Welcoming the significant contribution made by the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development for the period 1990-1995 and emphasizing the need to focus on activities at the regional and international levels,

1. Urges the five regional commissions to implement the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and to make every effort to develop fully its regional dimensions;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the plan to the attention of all intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations working in the field of economic development;

3. Requests the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation to include a section on women and development in his annual report on operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

* For the discussion, see paras. 37-38 below.

1/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A, paras. 338-344.

4. Recommends the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to make appropriate arrangements for implementing the system-wide medium-term plan, once adopted, including, as necessary, the designation of lead agencies and arrangements for ad hoc meetings of focal points on women, and for monitoring the implementation of the plan, including the assignment of this responsibility to a subsidiary body, and to report thereon to the Council through the Commission on the Status of Women;

5. Reiterates its request to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to initiate in 1987 a cross-organizational programme analysis on matters related to the advancement of women for consideration in 1989, in order to provide baseline data for monitoring the implementation of the system-wide medium-term plan, and, in that context, requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the proposed general framework and approach of that cross-organizational programme analysis to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-second session;

6. Urges the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system to endorse the system-wide medium-term plan, particularly as it affects their own work programmes, and to make provision for its implementation in their medium-term plans, or equivalent documents, and programme budgets;

7. Requests all organizations concerned to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the measures taken or proposed to implement the system-wide medium-term plan.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women*

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the importance attached by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace to monitoring and review and appraisal as outlined in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 2/

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, in which the Assembly recommended, inter alia, the further development of the integrated reporting system for monitoring and review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women, and noting also General Assembly resolution 41/111 of 4 December 1986,

* For the discussion, see paras. 54-56 below.

2/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A, paras. 317-321.

Stressing the importance of the submission of regular and relevant reports to the Commission on the Status of Women by all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, to provide statistical information and analysis on the situation of women at the national, regional and international levels,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the reporting system for periodic review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women, which identifies past and present problems and suggests remedial measures, 3/

Recognizing that effective monitoring and review and appraisal should be conducted at the sectoral, national, regional and international levels to achieve optimal results,

Mindful of the need to avoid duplication of reporting obligations, especially given the burden that coexisting reporting systems place on Member States, especially those with limited resources, and the financial stringencies facing the United Nations system,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in further developing and implementing the reporting system for monitoring and review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women, to take into account the following guidelines:

(a) Questionnaires and data-gathering instruments should be as simple, clearly focused and practical as possible, and, to the extent possible, existing reporting systems should be relied on;

(b) A clear and relevant set of statistical and other measurable indicators, such as the level of participation of women in decision-making, in the paid labour force and in the informal sector, comparative earnings of women and men, literacy, training and education and life expectancy, should be identified to facilitate the collection, comparison and analysis of data and the identification of shortfalls in information requirements;

(c) United Nations focal points should be strengthened and regular inter-agency meetings should be held to promote co-ordination among organizations of the United Nations system in review and appraisal;

(d) Reporting at the global level should address the priority themes identified by the Commission on the Status of Women in its future programme of work, and the reports should be made available to the Commission for its consideration of these themes;

(e) The reports submitted by States to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women are of direct relevance to the Commission's task of monitoring and appraising the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

3/ E/CN.6/1986/2 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

2. Affirms the appropriateness of a two-year cycle of system-wide monitoring of progress made in implementing the Forward-looking Strategies and a five-year cycle of longer-term review and appraisal to continue the cycle established by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;

3. Invites Member States to co-operate fully with the Commission on the Status of Women in its monitoring and review and appraisal activities and, in particular, to take into account the needs of the United Nations in this regard when developing national machinery and reporting systems;

4. Invites the Secretary-General, the executive secretaries of the regional commissions, and the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to develop and implement, as an integral part of their programmes, a simple, concise and direct form of reporting to the Commission on the impact of their programmes and activities on women and the effectiveness of those programmes and activities in bringing the interests and needs of women into the mainstream of their organizations, and to ensure that such reports are submitted in a timely manner to permit them to be taken into account in the United Nations programming and budgeting process;

5. Authorizes the Commission on the Status of Women, in consultation with the Statistical Commission, the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and other appropriate bodies, to establish formal arrangements for the collection and distribution of the information required for the Commission on the Status of Women to carry out its monitoring and review and appraisal functions;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to report, through the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-second session, to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1988, on the implementation of the present resolution, with particular regard to paragraph 1.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations*

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind paragraph 356 of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 4/ in which it was recommended that the United Nations system, inter alia, take all necessary measures to achieve an equitable balance between women and men staff members at the managerial and professional levels in substantive areas, as well as in field posts,

* For the discussion, see paras. 57-58 below.

4/ See Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Recalling its resolution 1986/19 of 23 May 1986,

Recognizing that the participation of women within the United Nations system, in particular in the follow-up and co-ordination of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies and at policy-making levels, is an essential means of bringing the experience of women to bear on all aspects of the policies and programmes of the organizations that shape global development,

Aware that, as at 30 June 1986, the percentage of women in the United Nations Secretariat in posts subject to geographical distribution at the executive levels of P-5, D-1 and D-2 was 9.7 per cent, 8.7 per cent and 2.3 per cent, respectively, 5/

Concerned that, owing to the ongoing financial crisis of the United Nations, the percentage of women in posts subject to geographical distribution may be notably reduced during 1987 and 1988,

Aware that, in resolution 41/206 D of 11 December 1986, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to increase the number of women in posts subject to geographical distribution with a view to achieving, to the extent possible, an overall participation rate of 30 per cent of the total by 1990, without prejudice to the principle of equitable geographical distribution of posts,

1. Requests all organs of the United Nations system to improve the mechanisms through which vacant posts are announced, with a view to improving the access of women to them;

2. Reiterates its request to all Member States to continue to support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to increase the proportion of women in the Professional category and above by, inter alia, nominating more women candidates;

3. Urges the Commission on the Status of Women to review the evolution of the employment of women in the secretariats of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and to monitor the progress achieved.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Future world conferences on women*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, in which the Assembly endorsed the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 6/

* For the discussion, see paras. 59-63 below.

5/ A/41/627, table G.

6/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Recognizing the importance of periodically assessing at the global level the activities undertaken to implement the Forward-looking Strategies,

1. Recommends that a session of the Commission on the Status of Women of extended duration be held in 1990, with high-level representation of member States, to review and appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

2. Calls on non-governmental organizations to co-operate in and support activities undertaken to implement the Forward-looking Strategies and the preparations for the session of the Commission in 1990;

3. Recommends that world conferences to review and appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies be held during the decade of the 1990s, at a date to be determined by the General Assembly not later than 1990, and in 2000;

4. Decides that the Commission on the Status of Women shall be designated as the preparatory body for those world conferences.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Improving the ability of the Commission on the Status of Women to carry out its mandate*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the mandate of the Commission on the Status of Women, which is to promote the rights, status and the advancement of women, a matter of the highest priority for the United Nations,

Recalling also the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, in which it was stated that the functions of the Commission should include the monitoring of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies to the year 2000, 7/

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, by which the Assembly approved the recommendations of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, 8/

* For the discussion, see paras. 77-81 below.

7/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A, para. 319.

8/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49).

Reaffirming the need to minimize financial implications and maximize substantive results, as well as the importance of giving higher priority to the concerns of women in United Nations programmes,

Bearing in mind the need for the Commission to monitor and review and appraise the Forward-looking Strategies in order to ensure that they are implemented expeditiously,

Aware that, as currently scheduled, the Commission will meet only seven times between 1988 and 2000,

Convinced that the current schedule of meetings is inadequate if the Commission is to carry out its mandate and to monitor and review and appraise the implementation by the United Nations of the recommendations contained in the Forward-looking Strategies,

1. Decides that, commencing with its thirty-second session, the Commission on the Status of Women shall meet annually until the year 2000, with a long-term programme of work that will allow sufficient preparation for each session;

2. Recommends that in order to enhance the effectiveness of the work of the Commission, the officers elected to the bureau of the Commission serve for a term of office of two years.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Measures to strengthen the role and functions of the Commission on the Status of Women*

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its 1987 session,

Recalling its resolutions 11 (II) of 21 June 1946, 48 (IV) of 29 March 1947, 76 (V) of 5 August 1947, 304 I (XI) of 14 and 17 July 1950 and 1983/27 of 26 May 1983, concerning the terms of reference of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Considering that over the years the functions of the Commission on the Status of Women have in practice been expanded to include monitoring of the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the

* For the discussion, see paras. 82-83 below.

Objectives of the International Women's Year 9/ and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 10/ and reviewing and appraising progress made in achieving the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Considering also the necessity of strengthening the capacity of the Commission on the Status of Women to carry out the tasks deriving from the world conferences on women and of improving its effectiveness and its efficiency,

1. Decides to expand the terms of reference of the Commission on the Status of Women to include the functions of promoting the objectives of equality, development and peace, monitoring the implementation of measures for the advancement of women, and reviewing and appraising progress made at the national, subregional, regional, sectoral and global levels;

2. Decides to structure the agenda for the future sessions of the Commission around its functions, namely programming, co-ordination, monitoring and policy development, as shown in the annex to the present resolution;

3. Decides that all requests for documentation for the Commission on the Status of Women shall:

(a) Take into account all ongoing and planned research activities, in order to avoid duplication, rationalize procedures and reduce the reporting burden on Governments;

(b) Where appropriate and feasible, be explicitly related to the United Nations medium-term plan and programme budget.

9/ 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.

10/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Annex

AGENDA FOR FUTURE SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION
ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

	<u>Number of meetings proposed, subject to the approval by the Commission at each session</u>
1. Election of officers	0.5
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters	0.5
3. Programming and co-ordination matters related to the United Nations and the United Nations system	2
4. Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women This item will deal with all issues in the Strategies - equality, development, peace, areas of special concern, international and regional co-operation - at the international, regional, subregional and national levels	4
5. Priority themes The themes are determined in the long-term programme of work of the Commission, on the basis of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women	8
6. Provisional agenda for the next session of the Commission	0.5
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission	0.5

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

Enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women*

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in promoting and monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 11/

Bearing in mind the responsibilities of the Commission as the competent intergovernmental body on matters concerning the status of women,

Also bearing in mind that any decision on increased representation should be based on the principle of equitable, balanced geographical representation,

Accepting, in principle, the need for an increase in the membership of the Commission,

Decides to refer the matter to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-second session, and requests the Commission to submit proposals to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1988.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

Long-term programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women to the year 2000**

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in promoting and monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 12/ in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985,

* For the discussion, see paras. 84-85 below.

** For the discussion, see paras. 97-100 below.

11/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

12/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Bearing in mind the responsibilities of the Commission as the competent intergovernmental body on matters concerning the status of women, especially with regard to its function of policy development,

Aware of the continued importance of the interrelatedness of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women - equality, development and peace - and the subtheme - employment, health and education,

Mindful of the importance of adopting a co-ordinated and integrated approach to the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies by the United Nations system, whereby recommendations of the Commission would take into account the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and relate to medium-term plans,

Reaffirming its resolution 1982/50 of 28 July 1982 on the revitalization of the Economic and Social Council, especially as it relates to the subsidiary bodies of the Council, particularly paragraph 4 of the annex thereto, in which the Council called for the streamlining of documentation and programmes of work in order to enable its subsidiary bodies to perform effectively the functions entrusted to them,

1. Endorses the priority themes for the next five sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women set out in the annex to the present resolution; the themes should be considered at regular sessions of the Commission under an agenda item entitled "Priority themes", notwithstanding world conferences and preparatory meetings or any process of review and appraisal that might take place; the first set of priority themes should be considered by the Commission at its thirty-second session;

2. Decides that the work of the Commission in relation to the priority themes should be closely related to the relevant provisions of the Forward-looking Strategies and of other policy documents, the programmes elaborated in the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and the relevant chapters of the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, ^{13/} with a view to ensuring the effective implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies and lasting improvement in the situation of women; the recommendations of the Commission should be addressed, at the national level, primarily to Governments, but also to non-governmental organizations - in particular women's groups - and research institutions, and, at the regional and international levels, to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and research institutions;

3. Agrees that in the discussion of the priority themes, appropriate emphasis should be placed on issues of women and development, in recognition of the number and complexity of subject areas addressed in chapter II of the Forward-looking Strategies and in the programmes of the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development;

^{13/} United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.3.

4. Recommends, as part of the regular programme of work of the United Nations Secretariat in areas related to the advancement of women, in particular that of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, when regular budget or extrabudgetary resources are available, the convening of expert group meetings, as required by the Commission, to assist in the preparation of the work of the Commission on priority themes; the expert groups should be composed of an appropriate number of specialists, taking into account equitable geographical distribution and the involvement of non-governmental organizations, in the field or fields of study addressed under specific priority themes in order to prepare an analysis and preliminary proposals to assist the Commission in making informed, practical and action-oriented policy recommendations; each expert group meeting should be structured like the Expert Group Meeting on Violence in the Family, held at Vienna from 8 to 12 December 1986, and should be timed so as to permit the results of the Meeting to be made available to Member States in advance of sessions of the Commission;

5. Recommends that every effort be made to avoid duplication in the collection of data and production of documentation for expert group meetings and for sessions of the Commission, and that the documentation include, where possible, an indication of the extent of major research undertaken or planned in the fields of study addressed under a particular priority theme;

6. Invites the Commission, at each session, when considering the provisional agenda for its next session, to identify and develop the specific work programme required to prepare for the in-depth consideration of the priority themes scheduled for that session.

Annex

PRIORITY THEMES FOR THE THIRTY-SECOND TO THIRTY-SIXTH SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

At each session, the Commission shall deal with three themes, one under each of the three objectives - equality, development and peace - in the order in which they are listed.

A. Equality

1. National machinery for monitoring and improving the status of women.
2. Equality in economic and social participation.
3. Equality in political participation and decision-making.
4. Vulnerable women, including migrant women.
5. Elimination of de jure and de facto discrimination against women.

B. Development

1. Problems of rural women, including food, water resources, agricultural technology, rural employment, transportation and environment.
2. Women and education, eradication of illiteracy, employment, health and social services, including population issues and child care.
3. Negative effects of the international economic situation on the improvement of the status of women.
4. National, regional and international machinery for the effective integration of women in the development process, including non-governmental organizations.
5. Integration of women in the process of development.

C. Peace

1. Access to information, education for peace, and efforts to eradicate violence against women within the family and society.
2. Full participation of women in the construction of their countries and in the creation of just social and political systems.
3. Women in areas affected by armed conflicts, foreign intervention, alien and colonial domination, foreign occupation and threats to peace.
4. Refugee and displaced women and children.
5. Equal participation in all efforts to promote international co-operation, peace and disarmament.

B. Draft decisions

2. The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

Draft programme of work for the biennium 1988-1989*

The Economic and Social Council, reaffirming the importance attached to the monitoring and co-ordination of the implementation of the Nairobi

* For the discussion, see paras. 31-34 below.

Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 14/ by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and by the General Assembly in resolutions 40/108 of 13 December 1985 and 41/111 of 4 December 1986, convinced of the need to expand the terms of reference of the Commission on the Status of Women to include the function of monitoring the status of women at the national, regional and international levels, noting that the strategies for subprogrammes 3, 4 and 5 of programme 1 of chapter 21 of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 place great emphasis on the function of monitoring the status of women at the national, regional and international levels, and taking note of the statement made by the representative of the United Nations Secretariat to the Commission on the Status of Women on 16 January 1987 on the incorporation of activities concerned with monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989, 15/ requests the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and other bodies reviewing the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 to examine the relationship among the programme budget proposals concerned with monitoring and review and appraisal of the Forward-looking Strategies in the light of the views expressed by the Third Committee at the forty-first session of the General Assembly 16/ and by the Assembly in resolution 41/203 of 11 December 1986.

DRAFT DECISION II

Provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women*

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its 1987 session and approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-second session of the Commission set out below.

* For the discussion, see paras. 103-104 below.

14/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

15/ Annex III.

16/ A/C.5/41/59 and Corr.1.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE THIRTY-SECOND SESSION
OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

1. Election of officers.

(Legislative authority: rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council)

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII); rules 5 and 7 of the rules of procedure)

3. Programming and co-ordination matters related to the United Nations and the United Nations system.

(Legislative authority: Programme planning regulation 3.12; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1985/46, 1986/65 and 1986/71)

Documentation

Draft proposals of the Secretary-General for the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995 as they relate to the advancement of women and draft intersectoral analysis

Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on arrangements for implementing the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development

Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed general approach of the cross-organizational programme analysis on the advancement of women 17/

Documentation for information

System-wide medium-term plan for women and development, as adopted by the Economic and Social Council

4. Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolutions 40/108 and 41/111; Economic and Social Council resolutions 76 (V), 304 I (XI), 1984/18 and 1986/64 and draft resolutions II and III)

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the reporting system for monitoring and review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women

17/ Subject to a decision to undertake a cross-organizational programme analysis.

Report of the Secretary-General on the update of the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a list of non-confidential communications that deal with the principles relating to the promotion of women's rights in the political, economic, civil, social and educational fields

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a list of confidential communications concerning the status of women

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of Palestinian women living within and outside the occupied Arab territories

Report of the Secretary-General on new developments concerning the situation of women under apartheid in South Africa and Namibia, and measures of assistance to women from South Africa and Namibia who have become refugees as a result of the practice of apartheid

5. Priority themes:

(Legislative authority: draft resolution VIII)

- (a) Equality: National machinery for monitoring and improving the status of women;
- (b) Development: Problems of rural women, including food, water resources, agricultural technology, rural employment, transportation and environment;
- (c) Peace: Access to information, education for peace, and efforts to eradicate violence against women within the family and society.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on national machinery for monitoring and improving the status of women

Report of the Secretary-General on problems of rural women

Report of the Secretary-General on access to information and education for peace

Report of the Secretary-General on efforts to eradicate violence against women within the family and society

6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-second session.

C. Resolutions and decision of the Commission brought to the attention of the Council

3. The following resolutions and decision adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Council:

Resolution 1. Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation and preparation of the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Affirming the interrelationship of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace as regards the advancement of women and their full integration in economic, political, social and cultural development, for which purpose the objectives of the Decade, in conformity with the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 18/ shall remain in effect in the operational strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000,

Recalling that the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, in adopting the Forward-looking Strategies for the period to the year 2000, recognized that women should participate fully in all efforts to strengthen and maintain international peace and security and to promote international co-operation,

Expressing the need for the equal participation of women in the decision-making process, including that related to peace, disarmament and security, at the national, regional and international levels, including the level of the United Nations system,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 37/63 of 3 December 1982, by which the Assembly proclaimed the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation,

Wishing to encourage the active participation of women in promoting international peace and security and co-operation,

Bearing in mind that the Commission on the Status of Women will review the relevant chapters of the proposed medium-term plan of the United Nations for the period 1990-1995 at its thirty-second session,

* For the discussion, see paras. 16-20 below.

18/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

1. Recalls General Assembly resolution 41/109 of 4 December 1986, in which the Assembly recommended that future medium-term plans of the United Nations and the specialized agencies should, in accordance with the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, contain intersectoral presentations of the various programmes dealing with issues of concern to women, including those related to the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation;

2. Invites all appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, that have not yet done so, to develop and implement comprehensive policies for the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation and incorporate them into their medium-term plans, statements of objectives, programmes and other major policy statements;

3. Recommends the Secretary-General, in formulating the proposed medium-term plan, to include a specific subprogramme on women and peace, in accordance with the Forward-looking Strategies;

4. Also recommends the Secretary-General to take into account the need to maintain the linkages among, and to pay due attention to, the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women - equality, development and peace - as set out in the Forward-looking Strategies.

Resolution 2. Women and equality and preparation of the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Affirming the importance and interrelationship of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the need to uphold them in the future,

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 19/ adopted by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Mindful of the extreme importance of eliminating discrimination against women in order to ensure their economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights,

* For the discussion, see paras. 21-25 below.

19/ See Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Recalling the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 20/

Recognizing the need for greater coherence and efficiency in the policies and programmes of the organizations of the United Nations system relating to women's equality,

1. Recommends the Secretary-General to integrate fully the objective of equality, as embodied in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in his proposals for the medium-term plan of the United Nations for the period 1990-1995;

2. Recommends also that the Secretary-General take into account the need to maintain the linkages among, and to pay due attention to, the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women - equality, development and peace - as set out in the Forward-looking Strategies;

3. Urges all bodies in the United Nations system including the regional commissions and specialized agencies, that have not yet done so, to formulate and put into effect comprehensive policies on the equality of women and to incorporate them into their medium-term plans, statements of objectives, programmes, including those stemming from the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and other important policy documents in conformity with the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women - equality, development and peace - as set out in the Forward-looking Strategies and other relevant documents.

Resolution 3. Inclusion of women and development in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Noting that the programme narrative of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 is still being reviewed by the Secretary-General,

Noting that the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 will be the first biennial programme formulated since the adoption of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 21/

Expressing its appreciation for the high priority that the Secretary-General has given to activities for the advancement of women in his instructions for the preparation of the proposed programme budget,

* For the discussion, see paras. 26-28 below.

20/ General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

21/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/65 of 23 July 1986 on strengthening the work of the United Nations in integrating women effectively in economic development programmes and activities,

Also recalling the financial constraints faced by the Organization and the need to redeploy resources to priority areas,

Recognizing the importance of the programme budget as a working document of the Commission and the need for transparency in its presentation,

Recommends the Secretary-General, in preparing the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989:

(a) To ensure that the programmes of the regional commissions include activities related to women and incorporate the needs and concerns of women;

(b) To make provision for work related to the advancement of women consistent with development issues and policies relating to, inter alia, food and agriculture, energy, environment, international trade, international protection of refugees, natural resources, transnational corporations, and transport and communications;

(c) To identify activities related to women where not apparent in output citations, in accordance with the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, 22/ in particular in areas related to international co-operation for economic and social development and to co-ordination and management of the economic and social activities of the United Nations;

(d) To fully implement the revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989, 23/ as modified by the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, 24/ as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1986/51 of 22 July 1986, taking into account the views of the Main Committees of the General Assembly, in particular those expressed by the Third Committee concerning the promotion and monitoring of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women; 25/

(e) To accord the highest priority to the programme elements concerned with policy development in support of the Commission on the Status of Women and include activities to this effect in subprogramme 5 on participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation of the programme on global social development issues;

22/ General Assembly resolution 37/234, annex.

23/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/41/6).

24/ Ibid., Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/41/38 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. III, sect. C.2.

25/ See A/C.5/41/59 and Corr.1.

(f) To ensure that the output citations of reports to be submitted to the Commission at its thirty-second session conform to the provisional agenda for that session.

Resolution 4. Integration of women in economic and social development programmes and preparation of the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Noting that the process of preparing the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995 is just beginning,

Aware that in accordance with programme planning regulation 3.12, 26/ the Commission will review, at its thirty-second session, the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995 in respect of the advancement of women,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, in which the Assembly endorsed the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 27/

Welcoming the opportunity to provide broad guidance on this matter to the Secretary-General at an early stage,

Recommends the Secretary-General, in formulating his proposals for the medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995 concerning the advancement of women:

(a) To identify the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the status of women in general as a global priority for the period 1990-1995 in the introduction to the medium-term plan;

(b) To take into account the need to maintain the linkages among, and to pay due attention to, the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women - equality, development and peace - and its subtheme - health, employment and education - as set out in the Forward-looking Strategies;

(c) To use the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development, once approved, as a framework for plan proposals related to women and development;

* For the discussion, see paras. 29-30 below.

26/ General Assembly resolution 37/234, annex.

27/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

(d) To bear in mind the relationship of the plan proposals of the United Nations to those of the specialized agencies, with a view to achieving joint approaches to problems and issues and to avoiding duplication of work;

(e) To include the specific subprogramme on monitoring and review and appraisal of the Forward-looking Strategies;

(f) To include activities related to the advancement of women in the major programmes on development issues and policies, energy, environment, food and agriculture, human settlements, international assistance to refugees, international trade, natural resources, population, social development and humanitarian affairs, statistics, transnational corporations, and transport and communications, at the regional and global levels, as appropriate.

Resolution 5. System-wide medium-term plan for women and development*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the measures to promote institutional co-ordination contained in chapter V of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 28/

Recognizing the need to systematize intersecretariat arrangements for the co-ordination of administrative, operational and programme activities bearing on the status of women,

Welcoming the significant contribution made by the draft system-wide medium-term plan for women and development 29/ and emphasizing the need to focus on activities at the regional and international levels,

Requests that, in preparing the final draft of the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development, the guidelines on the presentation of the plan and the specific recommendations contained in the annex to the present resolution be taken into account, with particular attention given to the overall introduction to the plan, the introductory analytical narrative for each programme, and the constituent elements of each subprogramme.

* For the discussion, see paras. 35-36 below.

28/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A, para. 339.

29/ E/CN.6/1987/2.

Annex

RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE SYSTEM-WIDE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT

I. PRESENTATION OF THE PLAN

1. The following recommendations are made on the presentation of the plan, the content of the introduction and the nature of the components of its programmes and subprogrammes.

A. Introduction to the plan

2. The introduction to the plan is a key integral element of the planning process. It should deal comprehensively with each of the following essential elements:

(a) The basic purpose of the plan and the reasons for its formulation;

(b) The overall objectives and policies of the international community with regard to the status of women, briefly surveying the major mandates from relevant international conferences and outlining their relationship to the plan;

(c) The scope and philosophy of the plan indicating its main thrust, in particular the medium-term objectives, strategies and trends as derived from the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

(d) The programme structure of the plan and the rationale for it, including the relationship between substance (programmes 1-4), instruments (programme 5) and co-ordination mechanisms and procedures (programme 6);

(e) The arrangements for implementing the plan, in particular:

(i) Responsibilities of individual organizations;

(ii) Relationship between the system-wide plan and the plans and programme budgets of individual organizations;

(iii) Regional dimensions;

(iv) Monitoring and evaluation processes;

(v) Monitoring of resource allocations in individual programme budgets, including resources from both assessed and voluntary contributions;

(vi) Review of the plan every two years;

(f) A clear description of and demarcation between the roles and responsibilities of intergovernmental bodies and their secretariats.

B. Programmes

3. Each programme should have an introductory narrative analysing the current situation of women in the area in question, identifying problems and describing the progress made by the international community in solving those problems. It should also outline the relationship between the programme and the Forward-looking Strategies and the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development.

4. The introduction should:

- (a) Define the objectives of the programme as a whole;
- (b) Give the rationale for selecting the objectives and the subprogrammes intended to attain them;
- (c) Describe the linkages with other programmes;
- (d) Outline the relationship among the constituent subprogrammes.

5. The introduction to each programme should also specify which objectives will be addressed by the United Nations system as a whole and which objectives will be primarily under the responsibility of one or more organizations, and identify the organizations concerned. In addition, the role of the United Nations unit with central responsibility for women's issues should be clearly defined.

C. Subprogrammes

6. The subprogramme is the main unit of analysis, review and evaluation in the United Nations planning and programming system. It consists of all activities within a programme that are directed at the accomplishment of one medium-term objective or several closely related objectives.

7. Each subprogramme should include the following components:

(a) Introduction. The introductory narrative should set out the general orientation, main features and linkages with other subprogrammes of the programme;

(b) Intergovernmental objectives. The intergovernmental objectives should be derived from the mandates identified in the preceding section, and the intergovernmental bodies responsible for implementation should be listed;

(c) United Nations system objectives. The objectives of the secretariats required to support the achievement of the intergovernmental objectives identified in the preceding section should be stated, and the secretariats responsible for implementation should be listed;

(d) Problems addressed. The specific problems in the area in question should be succinctly identified and analysed;

(e) Strategy. The activities to be undertaken in order to solve problems and meet objectives should be described.

8. In addition, the following aspects should be included in the report called for in operative paragraph 7 of draft resolution I recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Legislative authority. Relevant decisions of the respective governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations and the United Nations system and of international conferences held since the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women should be listed;

(b) Cross-references. Each subprogramme should be cross-referenced to related subprogrammes in medium-term plans and programme budgets of individual organizations.

II. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

9. The following amendments to the draft plan contained in document E/CN.6/1987/2 are suggested, recognizing current budgetary constraints and therefore the need to ensure maximum redeployment of resources in order to carry out the plan. Most of the amendments relate directly to stated intergovernmental objectives and involve clarification of the proposed strategy.

Programme 1. Elimination of legal and attitudinal forms of discrimination

10. Programme 1 should be reinforced by:

(a) Including a subprogramme entitled "Promoting understanding of the causes and consequences of discrimination and the means to overcome it", as originally proposed in document E/1986/8. The objectives and strategy sections of this subprogramme should not duplicate subprogramme 6.1;

(b) Incorporating subprogramme 4.1, which should be entitled "Participation in management and the decision-making process", inasmuch as barriers to the equal participation of women in decision-making constitute a widespread form of practical discrimination against women (see para. 36 below);

(c) Adding a new subprogramme entitled "Participation in groups, associations, co-operatives, trade unions and other non-governmental organizations".

Subprogramme 1.2. Promoting more positive attitudes towards the role of women in development

11. The following changes should be made in the strategy:

(a) The aims and objectives of the women's television series are unclear and should be specifically stated. The cost-benefits of the television series should be viewed in the light of the more urgent priority needs of women as

outlined in the plan. The possibility of co-production with commercial or national television networks should be considered;

(b) The training programme for journalists, whether men or women, should be designed to promote positive attitudes towards the role of women in development;

(c) In determining measures to redress stereotyping of roles by both men and women, the strategy should include work on the development of international guidelines for applications within the media industry;

(d) The strategy should include measures to reach the objective of making the women's radio programme available in more languages.

Programme 2. Employment, productive resources and income

12. The title originally proposed for programme 2, "Access to productive resources, income and employment", which was endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1986/71, should be reinstated.

Subprogramme 2.1. Overall trends and policies in women's employment

13. The United Nations system objectives need to be expanded so that the employment implications of structural adjustment and of technological change are taken into consideration. In redrafting, this additional aspect needs to be brought forward in the strategy (see United Nations system objective (i)).

14. In the strategy, Governments should be consulted on the preparation of the detailed questionnaire in order to ensure the inclusion of such policies as targeting, child care, parental leave and benefits under social security. In particular, information is required relating to the entry and re-entry of lone parents into the labour force.

Subprogramme 2.2. Vocational training

15. Regarding intergovernmental objective (i), the words "especially young women" should be amended to read "especially girls and young women". This reference should be brought forward in the United Nations system objectives and strategy section of the subprogramme.

16. The strategy includes a review of vocational training programmes; it is argued that the review should make reference to the successful ways in which Governments have overcome barriers to women's participation.

Subprogramme 2.3. Food and agriculture

17. The strategy should include measures to increase women's participation in the decision-making process at the local or regional level.

18. The strategy should emphasize making the delivery of existing services more efficient.

19. The strategy should include a review of available assistance, access to assistance and an evaluation of how problems have been addressed.

Subprogramme 2.4. Industry

20. In regard to United Nations system objectives (i) and (iii), industrial projects and policy should be clarified to ensure that small-scale projects are included.

Subprogramme 2.5. Trade, commerce, money and finance

21. A more appropriate title for subprogramme 2.5 might be "Entrepreneurship and access to credit".

Programme 3. Social services and infrastructure

22. The title of the programme should be "Access to services", as proposed in document E/1986/8.

Subprogramme 3.1. Health, nutrition and family planning

23. The proposed strategy should include a review of various Governments' responses to reproductive technology and a work plan to develop international guidelines to protect the rights of those involved.

24. The strategy should also include a commitment to the development of statistics disaggregated by sex on morbidity, mortality and health care.

Subprogramme 3.2. Literacy and education

25. In intergovernmental objective (ii), the words "equal access to formal education" should be amended to read "equal access to formal and informal education". The United Nations system objectives and the strategy need to be amended accordingly.

26. The strategy should give careful attention to the delivery of services, with functional literacy being tied to practical training programmes.

27. The strategy should include the promotion of the retention of girls within the educational system.

Subprogramme 3.3. Housing, settlement, water, energy and transport

28. As the strategy includes efforts to actively recruit women architects, planners and engineers for service within the United Nations system, targets should be established for women's participation in these occupations.

29. Furthermore, the strategy should include greater involvement of women in any apprenticeship activity.

30. Consistent with intergovernmental objective (ii), women as consumers should be consulted in the construction of housing. This consultative process needs to come forward in the strategy.

31. The strategy should also aim at including women's needs in construction of housing in the training programme of engineers, architects and of planners.

32. The strategy should make provision for a sociological study of the effects on women of technological innovation in the area concerned.

33. The United Nations system objectives and the strategy should include activities in the transport sector to the extent that they can be developed.

34. The strategy section should be reorganized to emphasize activities of benefit to all women, rather than specific groups of women.

Subprogramme 3.4. Other social infrastructure and support services

35. It is proposed to add a fifth intergovernmental objective: "(v) To prevent and reduce family violence". The United Nations system objective and strategy should be based on the outcome of the recent expert group meeting on violence in the family.

Programme 4. Decision-making

Subprogramme 4.1. Participation in management and decision-making

36. The strategy proposed should include a review of how various Governments and organizations have actively promoted the participation of women and some preliminary conceptual work on new initiatives in this area (see para. 10 (b) above).

Programme 5. Improving instruments for international action

37. In order to reflect clearly the programme content, the title should be amended to read: "Improving means of international action".

Subprogramme 5.1. Development of statistics and indicators

38. In United Nations system objective (ii) the word "health" should be inserted after the words "employment and wages".

39. The strategy should make reference to the need to avoid duplication and should take into consideration the work currently being carried out under the auspices of the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women. The need to ensure proper consultation with the Statistical Commission should also be mentioned.

40. The strategy should also include a review of definitions (such as labour force and national accounts) to ensure that the implications for women are given appropriate treatment.

41. Furthermore, the strategy should include the promotion of training of women as demographers and statisticians.

Subprogramme 5.2. Information networks

42. The strategy should emphasize the dissemination of information and requirements at the regional level.

43. Subprogramme 5.2 should be merged with subprogramme 5.5 under the title "Public information".

Subprogramme 5.4. Dissemination of research and technical findings

44. Subprogramme 5.4 should be merged with subprogramme 5.3 under the title "Research, policy analysis and dissemination".

45. In United Nations system objective (iv), the words "in each developing region" should be amended to read "in each region with priority given to developing regions".

Subprogramme 5.5. Public information

46. In the strategy, after the third sentence, a new sentence should be added, reading: "Subject to the establishment of an electronic information network, women's issues should become an integral part of the information flow".

47. The strategy should be reformulated to take into account the communications capabilities of the United Nations system. In particular, the proposal to create electronic bulletin boards and data bases for dissemination of information throughout the system appears impractical.

Subprogramme 5.6. Technical co-operation

48. Subprogramme 5.6 should be retitled "Technical co-operation, training and advisory services".

49. United Nations system objective (i) should be replaced by the following: "To increase the amount of technical co-operation available to benefit women in direct consultation with the intended beneficiaries".

Programme 6. Comprehensive approaches to women and development

50. A fourth subprogramme should be added, entitled "Co-ordination of system-wide approaches to women and development".

Subprogramme 6.1. Analysis of the interrelationship of factors affecting women and development

51. The strategy, which proposes a number of specific issues based on legislative guidance, should be redrafted so as to identify more specifically the issues that will be involved.

52. The strategy should include the development of comprehensive guidelines for monitoring and review and appraisal of activities related to women and development.

Table. Organizational entities participating in the implementation of the plan

53. A clear distinction should be made between secretariats and intergovernmental bodies.

54. The World Health Organization should be included among the organizations with responsibility for subprogramme 2.3 (Food and agriculture).

Decision 1. Priority themes for the thirty-second to thirty-sixth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women*

At its 7th meeting, on 16 January 1987, the Commission on the Status of Women took note of the report of the Secretary-General on proposed guidelines for the long-term programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women to the year 2000, 30/ and, bearing in mind the proposed structure of the agenda for its future sessions annexed to draft resolution VI recommended for adoption by the Economic and Social Council, decided to include in the programme of work for its next five sessions the themes set out below, based on the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 31/ for discussion under the agenda item entitled "Priority themes", and, at each session, to deal with three themes, one under each of the three objectives - equality, development and peace - in the order in which they were listed.

PRIORITY THEMES FOR THE THIRTY-SECOND TO THIRTY-SIXTH SESSIONS
OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

A. Equality

1. National machinery for monitoring and improving the status of women.
2. Equality in economic and social participation.
3. Equality in political participation and decision-making.
4. Vulnerable women, including migrant women.
5. Elimination of de jure and de facto discrimination against women.

B. Development

1. Problems of rural women, including food, water resources, agricultural technology, rural employment, transportation and environment.
2. Women and education, eradication of illiteracy, employment, health and social services, including population issues and child care.

* For the discussion, see paras. 101-102 below.

30/ E/CN.6/1987/3 and Corr.1.

31/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

3. Negative effects of the international economic situation on the improvement of the status of women.
4. National, regional and international machinery for the effective integration of women in the development process, including non-governmental organizations.
5. Integration of women in the process of development.

C. Peace

1. Access to information, education for peace, and efforts to eradicate violence against women within the family and society.
2. Full participation of women in the construction of their countries and in the creation of just social and political systems.
3. Women in areas affected by armed conflicts, foreign intervention, alien and colonial domination, foreign occupation and threats to peace.
4. Refugee and displaced women and children.
5. Equal participation in all efforts to promote international co-operation, peace and disarmament.

Chapter II

IMPLICATIONS OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN FOR PROGRAMME PLANNING IN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

4. The Commission considered item 3 of its agenda at its 1st to 5th and 7th meetings, from 12 to 14 and on 16 January 1987. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on measures for the integration of the needs and concerns of women in planning and programme activities of the United Nations system (E/CN.6/1986/3);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General containing the draft system-wide medium-term plan for women and development (E/CN.6/1987/2);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the revisions to chapters 10 to 24 of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 with a view to integrating the Forward-looking Strategies fully into both economic and social development programmes (E/CN.6/1987/4);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on integrating the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women into the medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995 (E/CN.6/1987/5);

(e) Draft programme of work for the biennium 1988-1989 in areas related to the advancement of women (E/CN.6/1987/CRP.1).

5. In introducing the item, the Director of the Interorganizational Co-operation and Joint Planning Branch of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, said that the medium-term plan and the programme budget, the main instruments to ensure the translation of policy into programme, were closely linked. The approved medium-term plan of the United Nations for the period 1984-1989 had been revised by the General Assembly at its forty-first session. The Assembly had approved a recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination that incorporated activities in monitoring and review and appraisal in existing subprogrammes 3, 4 and 5 of the programme in social development and humanitarian affairs rather than adding a new subprogramme as had been proposed by the Secretary-General. ^{32/} The programme budget proposals for the biennium 1988-1989 reflected the decision taken. The draft programme of work before the Commission had not yet been reviewed by the bodies in the Secretariat responsible for review of programme budget proposals. The process of preparing the medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995 was just beginning. The Commission would comment on the content of the proposed medium-term plan for 1990-1995 at its thirty-second session. At its current session, the Commission could have a direct influence on the new medium-term plan through its

^{32/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/41/6).

comments on the current plan, which would indicate aspects to be given prominence, and in its discussion of the system-wide medium-term plan.

6. The proposed system-wide medium-term plan on women and development would provide a framework for the preparation of plans and programmes of the system as a whole. Once revised on the basis of the Commission's comments, it would be reviewed by the organizations of the United Nations system and submitted to the Economic and Social Council. The Commission should consider the content of the plan, its priorities and orientation, and provide guidance to the Secretary-General and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination in translating the Forward-looking Strategies into a work programme of the United Nations system as a whole.

7. Many delegations emphasized the important role of the Commission in programming and co-ordination in order to ensure that the Forward-looking Strategies were fully integrated into the programme planning and budgeting processes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Success in doing so would help to ensure co-ordinated implementation of activities by the system. The Commission's task was to provide clear and concise direction to the system. One delegation noted that the Commission's failure to deal with medium-term planning at its thirty-first session had been an opportunity lost. One delegation stressed the need for members of the Commission to maintain close contacts with their Government's representatives in the intergovernmental bodies dealing with programme planning and budgeting.

8. Several delegations commented on the proposed programme narratives for the programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989 and on the programme budget generally. One delegation noted that 1988-1989 was a key, transitional biennium, the first for which a programme had been prepared since the Forward-looking Strategies had been adopted. Several delegations said there was a need for a special subprogramme on monitoring and review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women. Another delegation noted that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination had recommended that the work on monitoring and review and appraisal be distributed among the existing subprogrammes rather than creating a new subprogramme. One delegation said that although much had been done to increase the work related to women in accordance with the Secretary-General's allocation of high priority to that area, activities in behalf of women did not yet appear in several important programmes, including those of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Environment Programme, the development issues and policies programme of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the work of the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation. Similarly, in such programme areas as population and family planning, food and agriculture, energy, environment and transport and communications, the Forward-looking Strategies had not been given effect. It was noted that the allocation of low priority to programme elements concerned with policy development for the advancement of women was not consistent with the priorities likely to be set in the long-term work programme of the Commission.

9. A number of delegations said that the draft system-wide medium-term plan for women and development was a detailed, comprehensive, practical and action-oriented document: it demonstrated the serious intent of the system to translate the Forward-looking Strategies into concrete actions and provided a sound basis for the Commission's review. Several delegations noted that the programme structure could

be useful for organizing national action, provided that appropriate adjustments to national needs and priorities were made. Some delegations noted the efforts of organizations of the United Nations system to implement the Forward-looking Strategies in their current activities and referred to their past contribution to the advancement of women. The representatives of a number of regional commissions and specialized agencies reported on their work and noted its relationship to the system-wide medium-term plan. Many delegations suggested that the draft text would benefit from further refinement in the presentation of intergovernmental objectives and strategies and in the allocation of responsibilities among organizations. A number of delegations noted the necessity of paying more attention in the plan to the aspect of peace.

10. Some delegations emphasized the indivisibility of the three objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women - equality, development and peace - and stressed the importance of dealing with the broad obstacles to the advancement of women in the system-wide medium-term plan. Several delegations suggested the need to include women and peace and women and equality in the medium-term plans of the system. Several delegations stressed the need to emphasize work on global problems, since the practical problems of women in developing countries reflected global economic and political factors, including, especially, the persisting economic crisis, the debt situation of developing countries and the effects of adjustment policies. Other delegations singled out additional economic issues that might be given importance in the system-wide medium-term plan, such as the right of women to employment, the promotion of women's entrepreneurial skills, and the effects of the transfer of technology and new industrial technology on the employment of women.

11. Some delegations indicated areas that merited attention, including the effect of national policies on women in general and on vulnerable groups, in particular the question of violence against women, the problems of refugee women, the improvement of education for women and the situation of rural women.

12. Several delegations stressed the importance of a regional emphasis, since regions included countries with common aspirations, similar levels of development and, frequently, similar cultures, making action at that level both desirable and effective. The use of regional institutions to implement the plan was stressed.

13. Some delegations made specific suggestions on improvements in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies. One delegation said that it was not merely a question of increasing the number of women journalists and engineers or of women in other professions but also of ensuring that issues related to the advancement of women were incorporated in the training of both men and women. Another delegation proposed the holding of a seminar with the participation of governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations for the purpose of incorporating the Forward-looking Strategies in national plans and programmes. The need to avoid vague statements in strategies was stressed and a preference expressed for setting concrete targets, with particular reference to the subprogrammes on food and agriculture and literacy and education. Emphasis was also placed on the need to ensure the consonance of the system-wide medium-term plan with other plans of action, such as those dealing with the economic crisis in Africa. It was noted that in addition to increasing the enrolment of girls in school, it was important to ensure that they stayed in school. Concerning the transfer of technology, it was suggested that the dissemination of appropriate technology through a flow of information on existing technology and the

establishment of computerized data banks on women in the developing countries would be a positive addition to the medium-term plan.

14. Several delegations noted that the United Nations was in the midst of a process of reforms and was facing a financial crisis. They emphasized that high priority should be given to women's activities and that there should be no reduction in the resources available for them.

15. Several delegations emphasized that the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development could serve to establish accountability by the system and noted that monitoring and evaluation should be an important aspect of the implementation of the plan and be linked to the overall monitoring and review and appraisal of the Forward-looking Strategies.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation and preparation of the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995

16. At the 7th meeting, on 16 January 1987, the Commission had before it a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.6) entitled "Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation", which had been submitted by the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic. The draft resolution read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Affirming the unity, inseparability and interdependence of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace as regards the advancement of women and their full integration in economic, political, social and cultural development, for which purpose the objectives of the Decade, in conformity with the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, should remain in effect in the operational strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000,

"Recalling that the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held at Nairobi from 15 to 26 July 1985, in adopting the Forward-looking Strategies for the period up to the year 2000, recognized that women should participate fully in all efforts to strengthen and maintain international peace and security and to promote international co-operation,

"Expressing the need for equal participation of women in the decision-making process, including that related to peace, disarmament and security at national, regional and international levels, including the United Nations system,

"Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 37/63 of 3 December 1982, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation,

"Wishing to encourage the active participation of women in promoting international peace and security and co-operation,

"Bearing in mind that the Commission on the Status of Women will review the relevant chapters of the draft medium-term plan of the United Nations for the period 1990-1995 at its thirty-second session in 1988,

"1. Recalls General Assembly resolution 41/109 of 4 December 1986, in which it recommends that future medium-term plans of the United Nations and the specialized agencies should, in accordance with the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, contain intersectoral presentations of the various programmes dealing with issues of concern to women, including those related to the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation;

"2. Invites all bodies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies which have not yet done so, to develop and implement comprehensive policies for the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation and incorporate them into their medium-term plans, statements of objectives, programmes and other major policy statements;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to take the initiative in formulating a system-wide medium-term plan for the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation, taking into account the priorities recommended by the Economic and Social Council, the recommendations of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the relevant decisions of the respective governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system, to be submitted, through the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-second session, to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-eighth session and to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1988."

17. Also at the 7th meeting, the Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark), introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.18) entitled "Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation and preparation of the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995", submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/CN.6/1987/L.6.

18. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 1).

19. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/CN.6/1987/L.18, draft resolution E/CN.6/1987/L.6 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

20. The representative of the German Democratic Republic made a statement.

Women and equality and preparation of the United Nations
medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995

21. At the 7th meeting, the Commission had before it a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.7) entitled "Women and equality", which had been submitted by Bulgaria, 33/ the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, 33/ and Poland. 33/ The draft resolution read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Affirming the importance and interrelationship of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the need to uphold them in the future,

"Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, adopted by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

"Mindful of the extreme importance of eliminating discrimination against women in order to ensure the economic, social, cultural, political and civil rights of women,

"Recalling the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

"Recognizing the need for greater coherence and efficiency in the policies and programmes of organizations in the United Nations system relating to women's equality,

"Recalling also its resolution 1986/17, which recommends the inclusion of an item on the elimination of discrimination against women and the exercise of their rights in the agenda of the 1988 session of the Commission on the Status of Women,

"Bearing in mind that the Commission on the Status of Women at its 1988 session will review the relevant chapters of the draft medium-term plan from the United Nations for the period 1990-1995,

"1. Urges all bodies in the United Nations system which have not yet done so, including regional commissions and specialized agencies, to formulate and put into effect a comprehensive policy on women's equality and to incorporate it into their medium-term plans, statements of objectives, programmes and other important policy documents;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to take the initiative in formulating a system-wide plan for women and equality, bearing in mind the priorities recommended by the Council, the recommendations of the World

33/ In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the relevant decisions of the various legislative bodies of the United Nations system to be submitted, through the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-third session, to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its thirty-eighth session and to the Council at its second regular session of 1988."

22. Also at the 7th meeting, the Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark) introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.19), entitled "Women and equality and the preparation of the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995", submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/CN.6/1987/L.7.

23. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 2).

24. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/CN.6/1987/L.19, draft resolution E/CN.6/1987/L.7 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

25. The observer of Sweden made a statement.

Inclusion of women and development in the proposed programme
budget for the biennium 1988-1989

26. At the 7th meeting, the Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark) introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.15), entitled "Inclusion of women and development in the United Nations proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

27. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 3).

28. The representative of Australia made a statement.

Integration of women in economic and social development programmes
and preparation of the United Nations medium-term plan for the
period 1990-1995

29. At the 7th meeting, the Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark) introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.17), entitled "Integration of women in economic and social development programmes and preparation of the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

30. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 4).

Draft programme of work for the biennium 1988-1989

31. At the 7th meeting, the representative of Canada introduced a draft decision (E/CN.6/1987/L.10), entitled "Draft programme of work for 1988 and 1989".

32. Also at the 7th meeting the representative of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs made a statement on the incorporation of activities concerned with monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 (annex III).

33. At the same meeting, the representative of Canada orally revised draft decision E/CN.6/1987/L.10 as follows:

(a) The last preambular paragraph which read:

"Confirming the view expressed by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/203 of 11 December 1986 that activities to promote, monitor and co-ordinate implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies should constitute a specific subprogramme in the medium-term plans and programme budgets of the United Nations",

was replaced by the following text:

"Taking note of the statement made by the representative of the United Nations Secretariat to the Commission on the Status of Women on 16 January 1987 on the incorporation of activities concerned with monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989, as annexed to the report of the Commission";

(b) The operative paragraph, which read:

"Recommends that the activities proposed in the draft programme of work for the biennium 1988-1989 (E/CN.6/1987/CRP.1) in areas related to the advancement of women to meet the intergovernmental mandates for monitoring and co-ordinating the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women should be incorporated in a specific and separate subprogramme (subprogramme 5A of programme 5 of section 6 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989".

was replaced by the following text:

"Requests the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and other bodies reviewing the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 to examine the relationship among the programme budget proposals concerned with monitoring and review and appraisal of the Forward-looking Strategies in the light of the views expressed by the Third Committee at the forty-first session of the General Assembly (A/C.5/41/59 and Corr.1) and by the Assembly in resolution 41/203 of 11 December 1986".

34. At the same meeting, having heard statements by the representative of Gabon, as well as the Chairman and the Secretary of the Commission, the Commission approved the draft decision, as orally revised, for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision I).

System-wide medium-term plan for women and development

35. At the 7th meeting, the Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark), introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.12), entitled "System-wide medium-term plan for women and development and system-wide co-ordination of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

36. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 5).

System-wide medium-term plan for women and development and system-wide co-ordination of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

37. At the 7th meeting, the Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark), introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.13), entitled "System-wide medium-term plan for women and development and system-wide co-ordination of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

38. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the draft resolution for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I).

Reports considered in connection with agenda item 3

39. At the 7th meeting, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission took note of the report of the Secretary-General containing the draft system-wide medium-term plan for women and development (E/CN.6/1987/2) and the report of the Secretary-General on integrating the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women into the medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995 (E/CN.6/1987/5).

Chapter III

MONITORING AND REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

40. The Commission considered item 4 of its agenda at its 1st to 5th and 7th meetings, from 12 to 14 and 16 January 1987. It had before it the note by the Secretary-General on the reporting system for periodic review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women at the national, regional and international levels (E/CN.6/1986/2 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1). It also had before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (A/41/623).

41. In introducing the item, the Director of the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs said that the issues of monitoring and review and appraisal of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women were complex, as they touched upon both organizational and substantive matters. She emphasized the importance of a continual monitoring function, distinct from but necessary for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Strategies. In that regard, she referred to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies (A/41/623) and to other monitoring activities in the form of Women News and Women 2000. She also referred to the reporting system proposed in document E/CN.6/1986/2 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, which should be given due attention by the Commission. Another crucial task for the Commission would be to link the monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies with the priority themes identified by the Commission and to strengthen the activities in its programme of work to the year 2000.

42. Many delegations stressed the importance of the monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies for achieving the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women. A few delegations emphasized that the monitoring process should be concerned with both substantive and administrative matters.

43. Some delegations said that the United Nations had a central role to play in monitoring and implementing the Forward-looking Strategies, including the convening of world conferences every five years. In that regard, reference was made to the increasing need for system-wide co-ordination and harmonization of the activities related to women's issues among various organizations and bodies of the United Nations system.

44. Other delegations stated that integration of women's concerns into United Nations programmes should be in line with all mandates and with system-wide planning.

45. Some delegations stated that monitoring of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies should be an integral part of all United Nations programmes aimed at the elimination of obstacles hindering the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women - equality, development and peace. Efforts in this direction should be intensified in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/108. Some delegations said that the report of the

Secretary-General (A/41/623) provided a basis for consideration of the monitoring activities within the United Nations system.

46. One delegation emphasized that the monitoring processes and mechanisms should be broadly understandable and accessible and that monitoring and review processes should involve specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, as appropriate.

47. Some delegations pointed out the distinction between monitoring, which was viewed as an ongoing process, and review and appraisal, which should take place every five years. They considered monitoring one of the Commission's major functions, as confirmed in the Forward-looking Strategies (paras. 317-321) and in General Assembly resolution 40/108 (paras. 15 and 16).

48. Some delegations said that in the process of monitoring and review and appraisal, development should not be separated from peace and equality - the three objectives should all be given equal attention and be considered interdependent and mutually reinforcing. Some delegations were in favour of global themes and approaches; others expressed their preference for more specific and concrete issues. Several delegations welcomed the efforts to integrate the Forward-looking Strategies into all economic and social development programmes of the United Nations.

49. A number of delegations focused on the crucial role of national machineries in implementing the Forward-looking Strategies, in monitoring progress and in integrating the needs of women at all levels of policy-making. Many delegations referred to the activities undertaken at the national level in following up the Forward-looking Strategies. One delegation emphasized, in particular, the need for strengthening activities and addressing fundamental issues emerging at regional levels.

50. Some delegations emphasized the importance of periodic reviews and reports on the activities of the United Nations system for monitoring the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies. A few delegations stressed the importance of five-year cycles for those reviews.

51. In regard to the preparation of periodic reports, some delegations stressed the need to simplify the questionnaires used for monitoring and review so as to facilitate the formulation of responses. The need for the development of simple, direct indicators of the status of women and for rational utilization of the available documentation was emphasized. A few delegations said that efforts should be made to avoid duplication of work, to provide timely and reliable information at the national, regional and global levels, and to utilize properly existing sources of information, such as reports prepared by other United Nations bodies. One delegation proposed that guidelines for the preparation of the reports be formulated and used instead of questionnaires.

52. In regard to the machinery for co-ordination and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies, some representatives favoured world conferences; others, special sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, which should be organized either every five years or at some time in the 1990s.

53. Many representatives emphasized the central role of the Commission in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies. Some delegations reiterated that the Commission should ensure that equal attention was given to all three objectives - equality, development and peace - and particular attention to the elimination of obstacles to the achievement of those objectives.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

Monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

54. At the 7th meeting, on 16 January 1987, the representative of Australia, on behalf of Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Denmark, Indonesia ^{34/}, Kenya, ^{34/} and the Philippines, introduced a revised draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.8/Rev.1) entitled "Monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women", and orally revised operative paragraph 1 (b) by inserting the words "and other measurable" after the word "statistical" and by replacing the word "data" by the word "information".

55. At the same meeting, having heard a statement on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution made by the representative of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Commission approved the revised draft resolution, as further revised orally, for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II).

56. The representative of Australia made a statement.

Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations

57. At the 7th meeting, the representative of Venezuela, on behalf of Australia, Brazil, Chile, ^{34/} China, Colombia, ^{34/} Costa Rica, ^{34/} Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, ^{34/} Ecuador, Greece, Guatemala, ^{34/} Honduras, ^{34/} India, Jamaica, ^{34/} Mexico, Nicaragua, the Philippines, the United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia, ^{34/} introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.11) entitled "Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations".

58. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the draft resolution for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution III).

Future world conferences on women

59. At the 7th meeting, the Chairman, on the basis of informal consultations, orally proposed a draft resolution entitled "World conferences", which was subsequently circulated as document E/CN.6/1987/L.21.

^{34/} In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

60. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the draft resolution proposed orally by the Chairman for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution IV).

61. After the draft resolution was approved, the representative of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs stated that the Secretariat had just received the draft resolution. Thus, it had not had available to it the normal time to undertake the necessary consultations within the Secretariat to determine the programme budget implications of the draft resolution. Under those circumstances, no statement of programme budget implications was before the Commission. Therefore an appropriate statement would be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at a later date.

62. The representative of France made a statement.

63. The representative of the United States of America made a statement in which she said that her delegation had joined in the consensus on the question of world conferences in the spirit of co-operation which had allowed the Commission to accomplish so much at the current session. However, her delegation continued to have serious reservations concerning the draft resolution. She wanted to see real progress on the part of the Commission in following the new agenda of work. It was the position of the United States of America that a major international review in the mid-term was in order but that, given the work of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, the Commission should give itself options as to how that review would be carried out. She did not believe that a world conference was the only or the best way to carry out such a review. Her delegation reserved the right to reopen the issue in future sessions of the General Assembly.

Chapter IV

STRENGTHENING THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

64. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its 3rd to 5th and 7th meetings, on 13, 14 and 16 January 1987. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on alternative measures to strengthen the Commission on the Status of Women (E/CN.6/1986/13) and the note by the Secretariat on the administrative and financial implications of the proposals contained therein (E/CN.6/1986/L.1).

65. In introducing the item, the Director of the Advancement of Women Branch requested the Commission to reconsider its methods of work in order to perform its role in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. The added task of reviewing the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies and the Commission's role as the focal point in the United Nations system for all issues related to the advancement of women had made it necessary for the Commission to reconsider its capacity and methods of work in discharging its multiple and varied functions in order to implement the Forward-looking Strategies within the next 15 years.

66. Delegations agreed that the Commission should be strengthened and become more efficient. Referring to the preparations for the Nairobi Conference, one delegation stated that the Commission had proved to be an effective organ of the United Nations system. The need to strengthen the Commission arose from the role it had to perform.

67. Many delegations emphasized that the Commission should meet annually rather than biennially for several reasons: the Commission had the central role in monitoring the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies; the Commission could carry out more detailed and serious work; and the Commission was the main functional body dealing with the status of women. One delegation supported annual sessions for a limited time period.

68. Some delegations suggested that a decision on the frequency of the Commission's sessions was premature; the Commission should postpone a decision on annual sessions to its thirty-second session, when the Economic and Social Council would have approved the long-term programme of work of the Commission to the year 2000.

69. One delegation stated that annual sessions would not necessarily contribute to more effective work and doubted that adequate preparations could be made at such short intervals. The delegation referred to the recommendation of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, that the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council should move towards biennial sessions.

70. Another delegation expressed doubts concerning the timeliness of proposing annual sessions in view of the unprecedented financial crisis confronting the United Nations. The recommendations of the General Assembly on that matter could not be overlooked.

71. Another delegation proposed the setting up of working groups which would meet during the sessions of the Commission to consider specific issues. It was necessary to ensure that the proposal would not require additional resources. One delegation proposed the establishment of working groups which could meet during sessions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and report to the Commission.

72. One delegation expressed doubts about setting up special working groups outside the Commission. The outcome of the working group might not be approved by the Commission, since the membership of the Commission was constantly changing. In addition, there would be no reduction in the costs involved.

73. Many delegations suggested convening world conferences and retaining a cycle of five years for the review and appraisal of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies. Holding world conferences would help to mobilize Governments and the Commission on the Status of Women.

74. Some delegations preferred the convening of a world conference in 1992 or 1993 rather than in 1990, which was considered too soon for the necessary preparations to be made.

75. Many delegations proposed the enlargement of the membership of the Commission, since it no longer reflected the composition of the States Members of the United Nations. Two other functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council had already expanded their membership. The increase in membership had to be based on equitable geographical distribution. The Latin American and Caribbean Group in particular considered its representation in the Commission inadequate.

76. One delegation stated that the enlargement of the membership of the Commission should be carefully studied before a decision was made. Another representative opposed the enlargement owing to the financial constraints on the United Nations.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

Improving the ability of the Commission on the Status of Women to carry out its mandate

77. At the 7th meeting, on 16 January 1987, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of Algeria, 34/ Austria, 34/ Bangladesh, Barbados, 34/ the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chile, 34/ China, Comoros, 34/ Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the Dominican Republic, 34/ Ecuador, Egypt, 34/ the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Honduras, 34/ India, Indonesia, 34/ Italy, Jamaica, 34/ Mauritius, Mexico, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, 34/ the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, 34/ Zaire and Zambia, introduced a revised draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.3/Rev.1) entitled "Improving the ability of the Commission on the Status of Women to carry out its mandate to promote the advancement of women and to review and appraise the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000". She orally revised operative paragraph 2 by replacing the words "Also decides" by the word "Recommends".

78. The Commission had before it a statement (E/CN.6/1987/L.16) of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council. (A more detailed statement of the programme budget implications will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council.)

79. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the revised draft resolution, as further revised orally, for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution V).

80. Before the draft resolution was approved, the Commission heard a statement by the representative of France in which she said the following:

"The delegation of France wishes to explain its position on draft resolution E/CN.6/1987/L.3/Rev.1.

"My delegation, which firmly supports the improvement of the status of women, has always adopted an open and constructive attitude towards any proposal that would improve the functioning of our Commission.

"The Commission can work harder, and more effectively.

"Yet, the proposal to hold annual sessions of the Commission - to which we have no substantive objection - does not seem reasonable to us in the current context.

"Firstly, we have scarcely had time to seriously evaluate the cost-effectiveness of the proposal, given the increased resources required and the work-load of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. We have completely neglected the question of resource allocation.

"Secondly, we have not taken account of the unprecedented financial crisis facing the Organization. This crisis has led to the cancellation of programmes and meetings of major organs of the United Nations, to a recruitment freeze in the Secretariat, and to sacrifices of all kinds that the States Members of the United Nations have borne with fortitude, and that impel all to adopt a rigorous and rational approach.

"Thirdly, this recommendation runs counter to the recommendations put forward and adopted by our own delegations less than a month ago in the General Assembly, which led to the adoption by consensus of resolution 41/213 on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

"The recommendation relating to the holding of annual sessions of the Commission must naturally be reconsidered from this perspective.

"Given the importance which the delegation of France attaches to the question of women, we have not wished to undermine the consensus on draft resolution E/CN.6/1987/L.3/Rev.1. My delegation will thus associate itself with the draft resolution, while reserving its position in the Economic and Social Council and in the budgetary and administrative organs of the United Nations."

81. After the draft resolution was approved, the representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan and Australia made statements.

Measures to strengthen the role and functions of the Commission
on the Status of Women

82. At the 7th meeting, the representative of Greece, on behalf of Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Greece, Guatemala, 35/ Guyana, 35/ Indonesia, 35/ Italy, Kenya, 35/ Mexico, Nicaragua, the Philippines, the Sudan, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, 35/ the United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, 35/ and Zaire, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.9) entitled "Measures to strengthen the role and functions of the Commission on the Status of Women".

83. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the draft resolution for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VI).

Enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women

84. At the 7th meeting, the Chairman, on the basis of informal consultations, orally proposed a draft resolution entitled "Enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women", which was subsequently circulated as document E/CN.6/1987/L.22.

85. At the same meeting, having heard statements by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Federal Republic of Germany, India and Australia, as well as by the observers for the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Sweden and Guatemala and the Secretary of the Commission, the Commission approved the draft resolution for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VII).

35/ In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Chapter V

FUTURE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

86. The Commission considered item 6 of its agenda at its 3rd to 5th and 7th meetings, on 13, 14 and 16 January 1987. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on proposed guidelines for the long-term programme of work of the Commission to the year 2000 (E/CN.6/1987/3 and Corr.1) and a draft provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission. 36/

87. In introducing the item, the Director of the Advancement of Women Branch presented the proposed guidelines for the future programme of work of the Commission, placing them in the context of the history of the Commission and the need for continuity and an active approach to the advancement of women. The guidelines presented the substantive issues proposed to be considered at future sessions of the Commission to enable it to conduct in-depth work on the seven priority themes that the Secretary-General believed constituted the essence of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. The themes identified had been cross-referenced to the programme areas of the draft system-wide medium-term plan for women and development. It was proposed to study each of these themes from the perspective of equality, development and peace in order to ensure complete and balanced coverage. In line with the Commission's efforts to rationalize the work of the United Nations system in this area, it was proposed to study the themes with the assistance of the regional commissions and the specialized agencies. The resulting organizational implications were presented in the guidelines. It was also pointed out that the Commission should be aware that existing mandates should be reviewed, taking into account the available and expected resources.

88. A number of delegations indicated that the items on the current agenda of the Commission were interrelated and that the future programme of work of the Commission could not be separated from the question of the strengthening of the Commission - including the holding of annual sessions - its role in monitoring and conducting reviews and appraisals, and the convening of world conferences. It was also stressed that the Forward-looking Strategies had expanded the mandate of the Commission and that the Commission should play a central role in their implementation, without, however, ignoring the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year 37/ and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, 38/

36/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1986, Supplement No. 4 (E/1986/24 and Corr.1 and 2), para. 174.

37/ 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.

38/ 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.

as well as other documents constituting integral parts of the Forward-looking Strategies, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation, and regional plans.

89. Many delegations made concrete suggestions concerning the content of the future programme of work. They stressed the need for establishing priorities and proposed suitable methods of determining the priorities to be discussed by the Commission and related working methods. They then made proposals on the structure and content of future agenda of the Commission.

90. It was agreed that the Forward-looking Strategies should serve as a basis for determining the priorities in the future programme. Several countries endorsed the seven themes proposed by the Secretary-General. However, one delegation stated that the themes needed to be clarified. Several others stressed the need to focus on the objectives of the Strategies - equality, development and peace - and on the interrelations between them. Broad themes such as the global economic crisis and unemployment trends among women, should be highlighted, including consideration of ways to eliminate obstacles to the achievement of the objectives of the Strategies and the causes of discrimination against women. A functional approach within the themes could be useful. According to some delegations, specific political issues affecting women could not be ignored. Several delegations stressed the importance of the regional dimension of the priority themes and the exchange of information on national experience. Some delegations reminded the Commission of such problems as apartheid and the Israeli occupation of Arab territories and their negative effects on women.

91. Many delegations were of the view that the priority themes should include specific issues, such as education (including the eradication of prejudice, societal perceptions of women, the promotion of entrepreneurship, training and skills in new technologies) and economic justice in training and employment. Health, nutrition and family planning should also be considered priorities. Several delegations considered the situation of rural women, water resources and energy, and the role of women in decision-making to be high-priority areas. Peace was also proposed as a priority issue by several delegations, since it affected all other issues concerning women. The positive impact of the realization of disarmament was stressed. The effects of the economic crisis, foreign debt and the arms race, which diverted resources from women, were of priority for some delegations. Others also considered specific topics such as the family, the relation of women to the new international economic order, data banks on equality, and the elderly as worthy of the attention of the Commission.

92. Rather than being specific at this stage, a few delegations proposed that the priority themes be identified through consultations with Governments. Others stressed the urgency of deciding at the current session. Some delegations suggested giving preference to selected themes, while another delegation suggested that areas be dealt with as they appeared in the Forward-looking Strategies. One delegation proposed, on the basis of annual sessions, that one theme be selected under each of the three objectives - equality, development and peace - for each session, thus permitting the Commission to discuss 15 themes in five years. Another delegation proposed setting the priorities for a period of five years.

93. Several delegations proposed to establish a working group to assist the Commission in preparing in-depth discussions of the priority themes selected. They considered that such a working group would be useful, particularly since it could help the Commission to streamline its debates and assist it in making decisions. Another delegation suggested that such working groups meet only during sessions of the Commission in order to avoid increased costs. Several delegations considered that a working group would not be helpful to the Commission; as shown by experience, it would be too weak to be useful, since it would have no decision-making authority and its recommendations might be rejected by the Commission. Other problems related to such working groups were their composition and cost. The same delegations considered that annual sessions of the Commission would be preferable. In that connection, one delegation suggested that both policy makers and experts participate in the sessions of the Commission.

94. Many delegations stressed the need for timely distribution of documents and made proposals concerning the preparation of material for the themes selected. They stated that it would be desirable to use existing materials, avoid lengthy, difficult and unbalanced questionnaires, and request the Secretariat to provide guidelines for national reports, which would help to rationalize data collection. One delegation proposed that questionnaires focus on the regional level; another proposed that the volume of documentation be limited.

95. The agenda for future sessions of the Commission also received considerable attention. It was agreed that the agenda should facilitate in-depth discussion of issues and be structured to encourage the efficiency of the Commission and permit it to discharge its functions, particularly those involving the preparation of policy recommendations for the Economic and Social Council. Several delegations stressed that the agenda should be drawn up in such a way as to avoid duplication of issues that were mainly the responsibilities of other committees or bodies of the United Nations and that it should be limited to a number of specific topics at each session.

96. In the view of several delegations, the agenda should focus primarily on the Forward-looking Strategies, but it should also cover other functions of the Commission, such as programming, co-ordination and monitoring (including review and appraisal). Several delegations stressed that the agenda should also include items for which there were continuing mandates. One delegation proposed to include communications concerning the status of women, as specified by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1983/27. Some delegations suggested that one or several priority themes could be discussed at each session of the Commission or that the themes could be alternated on a priority basis.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

Long-term programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women to the year 2000

97. At the 7th meeting, on 16 January 1987, the representative of Canada introduced a revised draft resolution (E/CN.6/1987/L.4/Rev.1) entitled "Long-term programme of work of the Commission to the year 2000" and orally revised operative paragraph 4 as follows:

(a) The words "when regular budget or extrabudgetary resources are available" were inserted after the words "Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs";

(b) The words "as required by the Commission" were inserted after the words "the convening of expert group meetings".

98. At the same meeting, the representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic proposed that, in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, the word "special" be replaced by the word "appropriate".

99. Also at the same meeting, a statement on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution was made by the representative of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs.

100. Following statements by the representatives of France, Canada, Greece, the United States of America and Australia, the Commission approved the revised draft resolution as further revised and amended orally, for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VIII).

Priority themes for the thirty-second to thirty-sixth sessions
of the Commission on the Status of Women

101. At the 7th meeting, the Chairman introduced a draft decision (E/CN.6/1987/L.14) entitled "Future programme of work and provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women", submitted on the basis of informal consultations, and orally revised it by adding, at the end of the draft decision, the following text:

"at each session, the Commission shall deal with three themes, one under each of the three objectives - equality, development and peace - in the order in which they are listed".

102. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. C, decision 1).

Provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-second session
of the Commission on the Status of Women

103. At its 7th meeting, the Commission considered a draft provisional agenda for its thirty-second session, together with the list of the requested documentation (E/CN.7/1987/L.20), submitted by the Secretary-General in compliance with paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII).

104. At the same meeting, the Commission, on the proposal of the Chairman, decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of a draft decision in which it would take note of the report of the Commission on its 1987 session and approve the provisional agenda and documentation for its thirty-second session (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision II).

Chapter VI

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON ITS 1987 SESSION

105. At its 7th meeting, on 16 January 1987, the Commission adopted the report on its 1987 session (E/CN.6/1987/L.5 and Add.1-5), as orally revised.

Chapter VII

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

106. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/30, the Commission on the Status of Women met at United Nations Headquarters from 12 to 16 January 1987. The Commission held seven meetings and a number of informal meetings.

107. The session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs. On behalf of the Secretary-General, he paid tribute to the Assistant Secretary-General and Officer-in-Charge of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, who had assumed charge of the Centre during the past year while fulfilling other responsibilities, including those of the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

108. The Under-Secretary-General stressed that the international consensus on the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women had a critical bearing on most national and international problems and could be considered a milestone in enabling the international community, the United Nations system and the Commission in particular, to achieve concrete progress on this vital question.

109. In introducing the agenda for the session, the Assistant Secretary-General stated that the financial crisis of the United Nations and the determination of the Commission to streamline its programme presented both a challenge and an opportunity to move the programme forward in both scope and substance. The diversity of issues dealt with by the Commission throughout its history and the emergence of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace represented a clear and coherent development of the mandate of the Commission.

110. She acknowledged two major achievements of the Commission. The first was the support it had given to the establishment of national focal points. They had the potential of becoming key institutions for promoting the advancement of women, although a system to ensure their effective international co-ordination remained to be designed. The second achievement of the Commission had been its work in preparing the Forward-looking Strategies. The Commission should consider how best to pursue the tasks remaining. Of immediate concern were the relations between the Commission and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. Not only should duplication of work be avoided, but the Commission should also devise a means of ensuring that it maintained its policy and guidance functions in implementing the Forward-looking Strategies, as called for in General Assembly resolution 40/108. The Forward-looking Strategies represented a turning point. The shift was from women as beneficiaries to women as agents of change for a better and more just world. The Commission's role could take on added significance and its contribution could be invaluable.

B. Attendance

111. The session was attended by 32 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and one non-member State also attended. Representatives of specialized agencies and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended. A list of participants is given in annex I to the present report.

C. Election of officers

112. At its 1st meeting, on 12 January 1987, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman: Olga Pellicer (Mexico)

Vice-Chairmen: Hanne Severinsen (Denmark)
Lombe Chibesakunda (Zambia)
Rabia Bhuiyan (Bangladesh)

Rapporteur: Elena Kostantinovna Ramanovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic)

D. Agenda and organization of work

113. At its 1st meeting, on 12 January, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.6/1987/1. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Implications of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women for programme planning in the United Nations system.
4. Monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.
5. Strengthening the Commission on the Status of Women.
6. Programme of future work and provisional agenda for the next session.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission.

114. Also at its 1st meeting, the Commission approved the organization of the work of the session (E/CN.6/1987/L.2).

E. Documentation

115. The documents before the Commission at its 1987 session are listed in annex II to the present report.

F. Consultation with non-governmental organizations

116. Written statements submitted by non-governmental organizations in accordance with rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council are also listed in annex II to the present report.

Annex I

ATTENDANCE

Members

Australia: Suzanne Brooks, Susan Pascoe, John Quinn, Roger Muller

Banqladesh: Rabia Bhuiyan, B. A. Siddiky, Begum Monsura Mohiuddin,
A. H. G. Mohiuddin, Rafiq Ahmed Khan

Brazil: Thereza Maria Machado Quintella, Jacqueline Pitanquy, Ruth Escobar,
Maria Ercília Borges Alves, Luiz Carlos Galindo de Medeiros

Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic: E. K. Ramanovich, N. P. Buzo,
V. G. Stchastniy

Canada: Lindsay Niemann, Kay Stanley, Freda Paltiel, Walter McLean,
Sheila Regehr, Hélène Lafortune, Chris Greenshields, Barbara Gibson

China: Huang Ganying, Guo Yuanhui, Zou Xiaoqiao

Côte d'Ivoire: Marie Christine Bocoum

Cuba: Olga Finlay Saavedra, Esther Veliz Villalvilla

Czechoslovakia: Dagmar Molková, Václav Mikulka, Jaromír Rada

Denmark: Hanne Severinsen, Grethe Fenget Moller, Agnete Andersen,
Christian Hoppe, Niels Mikkelsen

Ecuador: Lily Pilataxi de Arenas

France: Danièle Refuveille, Sylvie Alvarez, Serge Telle, Geneviève Debard

Gabon: Laurent Biffot, J. P. Tchibena-Makosso, Faustin Mintsa Zue Ondo

German Democratic Republic: Helga E. Hoerz, Heinz Duehring, Norbert Poerschke

Germany, Federal Republic of: Ellen Wolf,* Rudolf Schmidt, Bernd Braun,
Briqitte Behne, Jan Friedrich, Klaus Aurisch

Greece: Aleca Fexis, Maria Zacharopoulos

India: C. R. Gharekhan, Bhaswati Mukherjee

Italy: Tina Anselmi, Alessandro Busacca, Vincenza Lo Monaco

Japan: Makiko Sakai, Yukiko Kawahashi, Hideyuki Suzuki, Mitsu Kimata,
Kenji Miyata, Nobuko Matsubara, Ritsuko Fukuda

* Did not attend.

Mauritius: Liliane DuBois

Mexico: Olga Pellicer, Margarita Diéquez, Miguel Angel Ortega,
Luis Alberto Barrero

Nicaragua: Vilma Núñez Escorcía*

Pakistan: Begum Salma Ahmed, Musa Javed Chohan, Shahid A. Kamal

Philippines: Mary Concepción Bautista, Mary Ann Arquillas, Cecilia Rebona

Sudan: Fatima S. El Beely, Osman M. O. Dirar

Togo: Kwam Kouassi, Kati Korqa

Tunisia: Abdelmajid Karoui, Samir Koubaa, Tarek Ben Hamida

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: T. N. Nikolaeva, A. N. Samoilov,
A. G. Khodakov, Y. N. Kondrashov

United States of America: Maureen Reagan, Virginia Allan, Lewis Amselem,
Esther Coopersmith, Cecille Fox, Stephanie Lee Miller,
Albert Nahas, Chester Norris, Suzanne Rich

Venezuela: Sonia Scambatti, Adriana Pulido, Eala Abrahams

Zaire: Baqbeni Assumani

Zambia: Lombe Chibesakunda,* Encyla Sinjela

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Democratic Kampuchea, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia

Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See

* Did not attend.

United Nations Secretariat

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic Commission for Africa, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, World Food Council

United Nations bodies

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, United Nations Development Fund for Women

Specialized agencies

International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, World Bank, International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Intergovernmental organizations represented by observers

Commonwealth Secretariat, European Economic Community, Inter-American Commission of Women, League of Arab States, Organization of African Unity

Other organizations represented by observers

African National Congress of South Africa, Palestine Liberation Organization, Pan Africanist Congress of Azania, South West Africa People's Organization

Non-governmental organizations

Category I: International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities, International Chamber of Commerce, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Council of Women, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Soroptimist International, Zonta International

Category II: All Pakistan Women's Association, Associated Country Women of the World, Bahá'í International Community, Baptist World Alliance, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, General Arab Women Federation, Institute of Social Studies Trust, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Council of Jewish Women, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of University Women, International League for Human Rights, Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association, St. Joan's International Alliance, Women's International Zionist Organization, World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, World Women's Christian Temperance Union, World Young Women's Christian Association, Worldview International Foundation

Roster: International Society for Community Development, International Women's Anthropology Conference, Inc., International Women's Tribune Centre

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE COMMISSION AT ITS 1987 SESSION

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
A/41/623	4	Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women: report of the Secretary-General
E/1986/24 and Corr.1 and 2	6	Draft provisional agenda for future sessions of the Commission
E/CN.6/1986/2 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1	4	Reporting system for periodic review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women, at the national, regional and international levels: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1986/3	3	Measures for the integration of the needs and concerns of women in planning and programme activities of the United Nations system: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1986/13	5	Alternative measures to strengthen the Commission on the Status of Women: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1987/1	2	Annotated provisional agenda
E/CN.6/1987/2	3	Draft system-wide medium-term plan for women and development: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1987/3 and Corr.1	6	Proposed guidelines for the long-term programme of work of the Commission to the year 2000: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1987/4	3	Revisions to chapters 10 to 24 of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 with a view to integrating the Forward-looking Strategies fully into both economic and social development programmes: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1987/5	3	Integrating the Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women into the medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995: report of the Secretary-General

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
E/CN.6/1987/CRP.1	3	Draft programme of work for the biennium 1988-1989 in areas related to the advancement of women: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.6/1986/L.1	5	Administrative and financial implications of the proposals contained in document E/CN.6/1986/13: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.6/1987/L.1	2	State of preparedness of documentation for the session: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.6/1987/L.2	2	Organization of work of the session: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.6/1987/L.3	5	Algeria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Chile, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, Greece, Honduras, India, Italy, Jamaica, Mauritius, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1987/L.3/Rev.1	5	Algeria, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Chile, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, Greece, Honduras, India, Italy, Jamaica, Mauritius, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia: revised draft resolution
E/CN.6/1987/L.4	6	Canada: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1987/L.4/Rev.1	6	Canada: revised draft resolution
E/CN.6/1987/L.5 and Add.1-5	7	Draft report of the Commission
E/CN.6/1987/L.6	3	Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia and German Democratic Republic: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1987/L.7	3	Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary and Poland: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1987/L.8	4	Australia, Denmark and Kenya: draft resolution

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
E/CN.6/1987/L.8/Rev.1	4	Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Denmark, Indonesia, Kenya and Philippines: revised draft resolution
E/CN.6/1987/L.9	5	Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Greece, Guatemala, Kenya, Mexico, Nicaragua, Philippines, Sudan, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1987/L.10	3	Canada: draft decision
E/CN.6/1987/L.11	4	Australia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Greece, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Philippines, United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1987/L.12	3	Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark)
E/CN.6/1987/L.13	3	Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark)
E/CN.6/1987/L.14	6	Draft decision proposed by the Chairman of the Commission
E/CN.6/1987/L.15	3	Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark)
E/CN.6/1987/L.16	5	Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution E/CN.6/1987/L.3
E/CN.6/1987/L.17	3	Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark)
E/CN.6/1987/L.18	3	Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark)
E/CN.6/1987/L.19	3	Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mrs. Hanne Severinsen (Denmark)

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
E/CN.6/1987/L.20	6	Draft provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.6/1987/L.21	4	Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Commission
E/CN.6/1987/L.22	5	Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Commission
E/CN.6/1987/NGO/1	3	Economic contribution of unpaid work: statement submitted by International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities, International Council of Women, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Society for International Development, Soroptimist International, World Federation of Trade Unions, World Federation of United Nations Associations, World Veterans Federation and Zonta International, non-governmental organizations in consultative status, category I; African Association of Education for Development, Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, All-India Women's Conference, Anti-Slavery Society for the Protection of Human Rights, Arab Lawyers Union, Associated Country Women of the World, International Commission of Jurists, International Council of Jewish Women, International Federation of Human Rights, International Federation of Social Workers, International Federation of University Women, International Federation of Women Lawyers, International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples, International Union of Students, Socialist International Women, World Federation of Methodist Women, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations and World Young Women's Christian Association, non-governmental organizations in consultative status, category II; and World Federation of Teachers' Unions, a non-governmental organization on the Roster

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
E/CN.6/1987/NGO/2	3	<p>Refugee women: statement submitted by International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities, International Council of Women, Soroptimist International and World Federation of Trade Unions, non-governmental organizations in consultative status, category I; All-India Women's Conference, Arab Lawyers Union, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, International Catholic Migration Commission, International Council for Adult Education, International Council of Jewish Women, International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples, International Social Service, Socialist International Women, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations, World Federation of Methodist Women, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, World University Service and World Young Women's Christian Association, non-governmental organizations in consultative status, category II; and World Federation of Teachers' Unions, a non-governmental organization on the Roster</p>
E/CN.6/1987/NGO/3	3	<p>Position paper on female circumcision: statement submitted by International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, Soroptimist International and Zonta International, non-governmental organizations in consultative status, category I; Arab Lawyers Union, International Council of Jewish Women, International Federation of Social Workers, International Federation of Women Lawyers, International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples, International Union of Family Organizations, Socialist International Women, World Federation of Methodist Women and World Young Women's Christian Association, non-governmental organizations in consultative status,</p>

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
		category II; and World Federation of Teacher's Unions, a non-governmental organization on the Roster
E/CN.6/1987/NGO/4	6	<p>Women in the United Nations: statement submitted by International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities, International Council of Women, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Soroptimist International, Women's International Democratic Federation, World Federation of Trade Unions, World Federation of United Nations Associations and Zonta International, non-governmental organizations in consultative status, category I; Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, All-India Women's Conference, Anti-Slavery Society for the Protection of Human Rights, Arab Lawyers Union, Associated Country Women of the World, International Commission of Jurists, International Council of Jewish Women, International Federation of Resistance Movements, International Federation of University Women, International Federation of Women in Legal Careers, International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples, International Union of Students, Socialist International Women, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Federation of Methodist Women, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations and World Young Women's Christian Association, non-governmental organizations in consultative status, category II; and World Federation of Teachers' Union, a non-governmental organization on the Roster</p>

Annex III

STATEMENT MADE BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED NATIONS
SECRETARIAT TO THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN ON
16 JANUARY 1987 ON THE INCORPORATION OF ACTIVITIES
CONCERNED WITH MONITORING AND REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME
BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1988-1989

The Secretariat interprets the decision of the General Assembly in its resolution 41/203, which is reflected in draft resolution E/CN.6/1987/L.15 on the inclusion of women and development in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989, in the following way. The Secretary-General is to implement the revisions to the medium-term plan as modified by the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, taking into account the views expressed by the Third Committee of the General Assembly on the promotion and monitoring of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies. This means that a separate subprogramme on monitoring and review and appraisal cannot be included in the programme budget but that the full content of the work on that subject which had been called for in the Secretary-General's proposal for such a subprogramme a/ should be included in the programme budget.

The decision of the Assembly that the views of the Third Committee should be taken into account means that all documentation relevant to this question, including the Secretary-General's proposed revisions to the medium-term plan, a/ will be used in the Secretary-General's review of programme budget proposals and will be made available to the intergovernmental programme review bodies.

It should be noted that the programme proposals considered by the Commission in document E/CN.6/1987/CRP.1 were prepared prior to the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 41/203. These programme narratives have not yet been reviewed by the Secretary-General. In undertaking this review, the Secretary-General will ensure that his final proposals fully correspond to the strategy of proposed subprogramme 5A. To the extent that work in implementation of this strategy does not produce formal output, the Secretary-General's proposals will contain additional explanatory text citing intermediate outputs.

Finally, in presenting these proposals to the intergovernmental programme review bodies, the Secretariat will make available an analysis showing the relationship between the proposals in the programme narratives and the strategy set out in proposed subprogramme 5A.

a/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/41/6), chap. 21, programme 1, subprogramme 5A.