

# **COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

## **REPORT ON THE THIRTIETH SESSION**

**(15-25 February 1984)**

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1984**

**SUPPLEMENT No. 5**



**UNITED NATIONS**

**New York, 1984**

**NOTE**

**Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.**

**E/1984/15  
E/CN.6/1984/12**

CONTENTS

| <u>Chapter</u>   | <u>Paragraphs</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|--|-------------------|-------------|
| I. MATTERS REQUIRING ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL .....   | 1 - 2             | 1           |
| A. Draft resolutions .....   | 1                 | 1           |
| B. Draft decision .....  | 2                 | 13          |
| II. REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR AND THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE SECOND HALF OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN DURING THE PERIOD 1982-1983: (A) REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF PROGRESS MADE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL; (B) MEASURES TAKEN BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF ORGANIZATIONS AND BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW STRATEGIES FOR WOMEN AND WORK AIMED AT THE FOLLOW-UP AND HARMONIZATION OF ACTIONS OF VARIOUS BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM ..... | 3 - 52            | 16          |
| III. CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN .....  | 53 - 64           | 31          |
| IV. COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING THE STATUS OF WOMEN .....  | 65 - 76           | 34          |
| V. PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE STRUGGLE FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND AGAINST COLONIALISM, RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, FOREIGN AGGRESSION AND OCCUPATION, AND ALL FORMS OF FOREIGN DOMINATION .....   | 77 - 107          | 37          |
| VI. PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK, INCLUDING THE DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION .....  | 108 - 141         | 44          |
| VII. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON ITS THIRTIETH SESSION .....   | 142               | 50          |
| VIII. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION .....  | 143 - 155         | 51          |
| NOTES .....  |                   | 54          |
| <u>Annexes</u>   |                   |             |
| I. Attendance .....  |                   | 56          |
| II. Agenda of the thirtieth session .....  |                   | 59          |
| III. List of documents before the Commission at its thirtieth session .....  |                   | 60          |

Chapter I

MATTERS REQUIRING ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

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

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination  
against Women\*

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking into account that one of the purposes of the United Nations set forth in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction of any kind, including any distinction as to sex,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/80 of 18 December 1979, by which the Assembly adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women contained in the annex thereto,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 35/140 of 11 December 1980, 36/131 of 14 December 1981, 37/64 of 3 December 1982, 38/18 of 22 November 1983 and 38/109 of 16 December 1983, as well as Council resolution 1983/1 of 17 May 1983,

Having taken note of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 1/

1. Notes with appreciation the increasing number of Member States that have ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
2. Expresses its grave concern over continuing discrimination against women and infringement of their rights in a number of States;
3. Urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible, taking into account the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1985;

---

\* See paras. 62-64 below.

4. Welcomes the fact that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women began its work successfully and, in particular, adopted general guidelines regarding the form and content of reports received from States parties under article 18 of the Convention;

5. Decides to include on the agenda of the thirty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women the question of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

## DRAFT RESOLUTION II

### Equal opportunity for women employed in the United Nations system\*

#### The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind the long-standing commitment of the United Nations to the equal rights of women and men as expressed in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and, in particular, Article 8 of the Charter of the United Nations on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in the work of the Organization,

Concerned by the lack of progress towards increasing the proportion of women in the Secretariat, in particular, the failure to reach by 1982 the target of 25 per cent of the total number of women in posts subject to geographical distribution which was set by the General Assembly in section III of resolution 33/143 of 20 December 1978,

Keeping in mind that the 25 per cent target should not be viewed as a limit on the number of women employed and paying particular attention to those areas of the United Nations system where compliance with General Assembly resolution 33/143 has lagged,

Reaffirming section III of General Assembly resolution 33/143, section V of Assembly resolution 35/210 of 17 December 1980 and Assembly resolutions 37/235 B of 21 December 1982, and 38/231 of 20 December 1983, as well as resolution 24 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 2/ in which the World Conference, inter alia, called upon the Secretary-General and the heads of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to end all forms of discrimination based upon sex in the recruitment, promotion and training of women and to increase the proportion of women employed, particularly at the senior levels,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to implement the relevant recommendations of the General Assembly and the Joint Inspection Unit and, in particular, to promote the recruitment and hiring of women in Secretariat Professional posts at middle and high levels, whether as permanent, temporary or fixed-term appointees, or as experts and consultants;

---

\* See paras. 33 and 34 below.

2. Calls on Member States to include the names of qualified women in the list of candidates nominated for appointment to advertised United Nations posts;

3. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to consider at its thirty-first session strategies for the achievement of equal employment opportunities for women in the United Nations system on the basis of the biennial reports prepared by the Joint Inspection Unit on the status of women in the Professional category and above and of any other relevant reports;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, through the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to invite organizations within the United Nations system to provide information to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session on measures taken and results achieved in pursuit of equal opportunity for women within their organizations.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION III

##### Concerns of women within the United Nations system\*

###### The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the terms of reference of the Commission on the Status of Women set forth by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 48 (IV) of 29 March 1947,

Noting that within the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, women are listed as only one of several specific population groups, that are disadvantaged, 3/

Reaffirming the central but not exclusive role of the Commission on the Status of Women within the United Nations in considering matters relating to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Reaffirming that within the United Nations system the Branch for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat remains the focal point for co-ordination, consultation, promotion and advice on matters relevant to women,

Recognizing that planning for, as well as monitoring of, efforts is essential to advancing the status of women in the United Nations system,

Recognizing also the efforts made by the specialized agencies to integrate women into their ongoing programmes and especially into the establishment of cross-sectoral mechanisms,

Concerned about the need to strengthen and go beyond the present integrated reporting system,

---

\* See paras. 128 and 129 below.

Deeply concerned that international efforts on behalf of women should keep pace with the heightened national efforts to concentrate on more effective national machineries and resources to ensure the integration of women into all stages of planning, monitoring and development activities,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to examine the ways in which the needs and concerns of women can be integrated in all planning and programme activities of the United Nations system and the implications of doing so, and to report the findings of such an examination to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session;

2. Also requests the Secretary-General to provide in the programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987 and the revised medium-term plan for a special financial component within existing overall budgetary resources that will reflect the need for ongoing analysis of the impact of programmes on the advancement of women;

3. Recommends the General Assembly to request the specialized agencies to ensure continued co-operation and co-ordination with the Commission on the Status of Women beyond the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1985, in order to achieve the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at each session on all significant developments pertaining to the advancement of women within the United Nations system that have occurred since the previous session.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

##### Question of elderly women\*

##### The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the important conclusions and recommendations of the Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging adopted by the World Assembly on Aging, in particular, paragraphs 11, 20 (b) and (c), 25 (m), 31 (g), 45, 66 (recommendations 25 and 26), 67 (recommendations 27, 28 and 29), 72 (recommendations 36 (c)) and 89, concerning elderly women, 4/

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 38/27 of 22 November 1983 in which the Assembly recognized that women had a longer life expectancy than men and that they would increasingly constitute a majority of the elderly population of the world,

Reaffirming resolution 4 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 5/ in which it emphasized that the increase in the life expectancy of women had not been dealt with comprehensively,

---

\* See paras. 35-39 below.

Appreciating that in the proceedings of the World Assembly on Aging 5/ special attention was given to the problems faced by some elderly women - income security, education, employment, housing, health and community support services and absence of social contacts,

Believing that more data on the situation of the aging should be collected, specifically to determine the needs of elderly women and to formulate appropriate solutions,

Recalling the request made by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace in its resolution 4 that such data should be submitted to Member States participating in the World Conference and to the Commission on the Status of Women, 6/

1. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, within existing budgetary resources and in accordance with established priorities of the work of the Commission on the Status of Women, an information report on the status and situation of elderly women in their societies and their social, health, and economic needs, as well as on their entitlements as compared to those of men, and comparing single, divorced and married women and widows on the basis of reports, discussions and recommendations, in particular of the World Assembly on Aging;

2. Further requests the Secretary-General to present that report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirtieth session with a view to recommending necessary action relating to the plight of elderly women throughout the world;

3. Decides to include the question of elderly women under the appropriate item of the agenda of the thirty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION V

#### Violence in the family\*

#### The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the sub-theme. Employment, Education and Health,

Recalling resolution 5 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace on battered women and violence in the family, 7/

Recalling also its resolution 1982/22 of 4 May 1982 on abuses against women and children,

Recognizing that violence within the family has serious negative consequences for all the individuals concerned and follows patterns of abuse that are frequently cyclical, presenting serious problems for society as a whole,

---

\* See paras. 40-44 below.

Further recognizing that violence within the family is found among various population groups,

Concerned that information on the nature of this problem and its causes is often concealed and thus is not widely available and that efforts to prevent violence in the family, to provide assistance to the victims and to prevent recurrences need greater public awareness and publicity,

Aware that many Governments and non-governmental organizations have conducted research into this issue and initiated programmes both to support victims and to treat abusers,

Recognizing that the problem of family violence is a long-standing and complex issue and needs serious and thoughtful attention,

Convinced that a more thorough exchange of information and experiences on this subject between States Members of the United Nations, organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations could draw increasing attention to this problem and contribute to the development of international solutions,

1. Calls upon the Secretary-General to invite Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to provide the United Nations Secretariat with information on the subject of family violence and descriptions of successful programmes on this subject or to supplement information already provided on this subject;

2. Urges Member States to take appropriate steps to effect a systematic exchange of information on this subject, to draw attention to the negative consequences of family violence for the men, women, and children involved and for society as a whole, and to formulate solutions at the national level;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to convene a seminar of experts on family violence, with emphasis on its effects on women, within the resources for the biennium 1986-1987, taking into account what may emanate on this subject from the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held in 1985 with a view towards making recommendations to combat this abuse;

4. Decides to include the subject of family violence under the appropriate item of the agenda of the thirty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women on the basis of information to be supplied in response to paragraph 1 of the present resolution.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

##### Promotion of opportunities for young women\*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing that 1985 is the culminating year of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

---

\* See paras. 45-48 below.

Recognizing also that 1985 has been declared International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace, 8/

Recognizing further that 1985 presents an opportunity to focus on the roles of young women and their participation in all activities, such as festivals, meetings and other international youth forums to mark the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace,

Bearing in mind that young women were singled out for priority attention by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held at Copenhagen in 1980, particularly in its resolution 27, 9/

Affirming that youth is the period of growth, development and apprenticeship for the adult roles of work, citizenship and parenthood, from which all of society will benefit,

Affirming also that youth should be a period of discovery and joy in living,

Considering that young women who become mothers too early are not only deprived of their youth but are not prepared for the responsibilities of parenthood and are subject to a higher health risk,

Further recognizing that, while young women and girls are found in societies at all levels of development, the world is in a period of technological revolution affecting all and women must therefore be equal partners with men in shaping and benefiting from that revolution,

Stressing that those young women who lack sufficient nutrition, education, appropriate training and health are ill prepared for their adult roles in this changing world and are thus vulnerable to economic, social and sexual exploitation,

1. Recommends that States Members take appropriate steps to ensure that girls and young women are motivated to choose and sufficiently trained to be chosen for work at all levels and for all the functions of a developing economy and society;
2. Recommends that States Members should assist families to give equal support, guidance and encouragement to young women and men;
3. Recommends also that States Members should direct special assistance to girls and young women who are socially and economically disadvantaged;
4. Recommends that specialized agencies should undertake projects to promote global, regional and local action to accelerate the improvement in the education and training, employment and health status of young women and girls in accordance with their needs and with global, regional and local conditions;
5. Recommends also that specialized agencies, States Members and non-governmental organizations should undertake projects to develop cultural and sports activities aimed at promoting better international understanding and the equal right of female and male youth to fitness;
6. Recommends that special attention should be paid, in multilateral and bilateral co-operation programmes and projects, to the training and development of young women as managers of projects and as participants in articulating the development needs of youth;

7. Recommends that the United Nations Advisory Committee on the International Youth Year and the Secretary-General should, in all their reports, take special account of the needs of female youth in rural and urban areas and of the problems they face.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

##### Implementation of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace\*

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering General Assembly resolutions 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975 and 35/136 of 11 December 1980,

Reaffirming the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Emphasizing the importance of undertaking, at the conclusion of the Decade, a critical review and appraisal of progress at the international, regional and national levels in the achievement of the goals of the Decade - equality, development and peace - and of the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, and also in developing a forward-looking perspective on the status of women,

Looking ahead to the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1985, at which the achievements of the Decade and the need to continue such achievements beyond the end of the Decade will be reviewed and appraised,

Conscious that further efforts are necessary to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women in every area of human activity,

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

Noting that until genuine disarmament is achieved, women and men throughout the world must maintain their vigilance and do their utmost to achieve peace,

Taking into account that millions of women are still meeting with untold sufferings and violations of human dignity resulting from different forms and manifestations of colonialism, foreign domination, apartheid and racial discrimination,

---

\* See paras. 49-52 below.

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

2. Emphasizes that foreign occupation, colonialism, apartheid, racism and racial discrimination and the denial of the right of peoples to self-determination, as well as of all universally recognized human rights, are serious impediments to peace and development;

3. Recommends that States, especially militarily significant States, in preparing their national programmes for social and economic development, should consider taking measures to convert some resources spent for military purposes to the promotion of social progress;

4. Considers that the objectives of the Decade - equality, development and peace - as reflected in the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, have not yet been achieved;

5. Considers that the activities of the world community and of the United Nations should continue beyond the end of the United Nations Decade for Women and should be directed towards equal treatment for women and their full integration in development under conditions of peace.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

##### Women under apartheid\*

##### The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of women and children living under racist minority régimes and in the occupied Arab territories and other occupied territories, 10/

Bearing in mind the conclusions of the International Conference on Women and Apartheid, held at Brussels from 17 to 19 May 1982, and of the Declaration adopted by the Conference, 11/

Noting the wide observance of 9 August annually as the International Day of Solidarity with the Struggle of Women in South Africa and Namibia, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/172 K of 17 December 1981,

---

\* See paras. 101 and 102 below.

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Special Committee against Apartheid and its Task Force on Women and Children for giving special attention to the plight of women and children under apartheid, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/172 K;
2. Expresses its appreciation to the International Committee of Solidarity with the Struggle of Women in South Africa and Namibia for undertaking activities in support of women and children living under apartheid, and urges the Committee to put more effort into the support of women and children living under apartheid;
3. Urges all Governments, United Nations bodies, international, regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, women's and anti-apartheid groups and other concerned groups to give the highest priority to measures of assistance to women in South Africa and Namibia through the end of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and beyond;
4. Invites the Special Committee against Apartheid and its Task Force on Women and Children to continue its activities in promoting the widest possible dissemination of information concerning women and children living under apartheid;
5. Appeals to all Governments, United Nations bodies, international, regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, women's and anti-apartheid groups and other concerned groups to support the various projects of the national liberation movements and front-line States designed to assist refugee women and children from South Africa and Namibia;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a preliminary report on measures of assistance provided to women inside South Africa and Namibia and to women from South Africa and Namibia who have become refugees as the result of the practice of apartheid to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session;
7. Calls upon all women's organizations to support the women of Namibia in their efforts to attain independence, in accordance with Security Council resolution 435 (1978) of 29 September 1978.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION IX

##### Situation of Palestinian women within and outside the occupied Arab territories\*

The Economic and Social Council,

Deeply concerned about the prevailing living conditions of Palestinian women living inside and outside the occupied Arab territories,

Recognizing that the mass uprooting of Palestinian women from their homeland seriously affects their participation and integration in the development process,

Noting that no comprehensive study relating to the status of Palestinian women inside and outside the occupied Arab territories has been conducted within the

---

\* See paras. 103-107 below.

United Nations system since the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held at Copenhagen in 1980,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other appropriate United Nations organizations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of women and children in the occupied Arab territories contained in chapter II of document E/CN.6/1984/10, presented to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirtieth session;

1. Requests the Secretary-General to submit an updated version of that report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session;

2. Also requests the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report on the situation of Palestinian women living inside and outside the occupied Arab territories and to present it to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-second session;

3. Further requests the Secretary-General to present an interim report on the preparation of that study to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session;

4. Invites all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and United Nations bodies to extend all necessary assistance to the Secretary-General in this regard.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION X

##### Physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex\*

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting with grave concern that the Commission on the Status of Women, in the report on its thirtieth session 12/ under the agenda item "Communications concerning the status of women", drew attention to a pattern of physical violence against women - cases of rape and other sexual abuse, including violence against pregnant women - while detained,

Considering that women are especially vulnerable to sexual violence,

Considering also that pregnant women require special protection and care by society,

Recalling its resolutions 76 (V) of 5 August 1947 and 304 I (XI) of 14 and 17 July 1950,

Recalling also its resolutions 1980/39 of 2 May 1980 and 1983/27 of 26 May 1983, by which it reaffirmed the mandate of the Commission on the Status of

---

\* See paras. 74-76 below.

Women to consider communications relating to the status of women, including the replies of Governments thereon, if any, and to draw to the attention of the Council emerging trends and patterns so that the Council may decide what action to take,

1. Calls upon the Member States concerned to take appropriate measures urgently to eradicate such violations,

2. Invites all Member States to submit their views on physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex to the Secretary-General to enable him to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session under the appropriate agenda item,

3. Decides to authorize the Secretary-General to provide, from within existing budgetary resources, the services and facilities necessary for the implementation of the present resolution.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION XI

##### Future work of the Commission on the Status of Women\*

###### The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Commission on the Status of Women established by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 11 (II) of 21 June 1946,

Considering that the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace continue to be valid, are closely interrelated and constitute a significant basis for the work of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Considering that, as the end of the Decade approaches, it is urgently necessary to reinforce the future work of the Commission on the Status of Women so that it may discharge its important role in promoting the implementation of the strategies for the year 2000 that will emanate from the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1985,

Emphasizing the importance of the role of women in development as both agents and beneficiaries,

Taking into account resolution 40 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 13/ General Assembly resolutions 2263 (XXII) of 7 November 1967, 2626 (XXV) of 4 October 1970 and 35/56 of 5 December 1980, Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/38 of 2 May 1980 and any other relevant resolutions,

Welcoming the decision of the General Assembly to proclaim 1986 the International Year of Peace 14/ as a contribution to the improvement of the international climate, which will alleviate existing tensions and the grave threats to the maintenance of peace which jeopardize the possibility of improving the status of women,

---

\* See paras. 130-132 below.

1. Recommends that the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session, as a contribution to the International Year of Peace, should consider recommendations for concrete proposals to ensure the full participation of women in the establishment of conditions conducive to the maintenance of peace and to the elimination of inequality and poverty;

2. Also recommends that the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session should propose concrete measures to overcome the general and specific trends that impede the advancement of women, in particular by proposing the establishment, by other organs of the United Nations, of training programmes and socially and economically profitable projects that give women a part in the development process on a footing of equality.

#### B. Draft decision

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

#### Provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women\*

The Economic and Social Council approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women set out below:

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
3. Results of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace

[Legislative authority: General Assembly resolutions 3520 (XXX), 33/186, 36/126 and 37/60; Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/38; draft resolution III recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Economic and Social Council]

#### Documentation

Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace

Note by the Secretary-General on the reporting system for periodic review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women at national, regional and international levels

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

---

\* See paras. 108-127 below.

4. Elimination of discrimination against women in accordance with the aims of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

[Legislative authority: General Assembly resolution 34/180; draft resolutions I, II and V recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Economic and Social Council]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (for information)

Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit on the status of women in the Professional category and above and other relevant reports (for information)

Report of the Secretary-General on information on family violence provided by Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations

5. Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation

[Legislative authority: General Assembly resolutions 37/63 and 38/105; draft resolutions VIII, IX and XI recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Economic and Social Council]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on measures of assistance for women inside South Africa and Namibia and for women from South Africa and Namibia who have become refugees as a result of the practice of apartheid

Progress report of the Secretary-General on the preparation of a comprehensive report on the situation of women living inside and outside the occupied Arab territories

6. Role of women in development

[Legislative authority: General Assembly resolutions 35/56, 35/136, 36/74 and 36/127; draft resolutions IV and XI recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Economic and Social Council]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the status and situation of elderly women

7. Communications concerning the status of women

[Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolutions 76 (V), 304 I (XI) and 1983/27; draft resolution X recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Economic and Social Council]

## Documentation

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

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

Report of the Secretary-General on information provided by Member States on physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex

8. Programme of future work, including the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-second session
9. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-first session

## Chapter II

REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR AND THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE SECOND HALF OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN DURING THE PERIOD 1982-1983: (A) REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF PROGRESS MADE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL; (B) MEASURES TAKEN BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF ORGANIZATIONS AND BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW STRATEGIES FOR WOMEN AND WORK AIMED AT THE FOLLOW-UP AND HARMONIZATION OF ACTIONS OF VARIOUS BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

3. The Commission considered agenda item 3 at its 2nd to 6th, 8th, and 12th to 16th meetings, from 15 to 20 and from 22 to 24 February 1984. It had before it the following documents reporting on progress made both at the national level and by the United Nations system of organizations and by intergovernmental organizations:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/38/406);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the situation of women in rural areas (A/39/58-E/1984/5);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations activities during the biennium 1982-1983 in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women (E/CN.6/1984/2);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of new strategies for women and work aimed at the follow-up and harmonization of action of the various bodies of the United Nations system (E/CN.6/1984/3);

(e) Progress report of the Secretary-General on technical co-operation activities of the United Nations system for the advancement of women (E/CN.6/1984/4);

(f) Report of the International Labour Organisation on its activities regarding women workers (E/CN.6/1984/5);

(g) Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on its activities of special interest to women (E/CN.6/1984/6);

(h) Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on its activities to improve the status of women (E/CN.6/1984/7);

(i) Report of the World Health Organization on its activities regarding women, health and development (E/CN.6/1984/8);

(j) Report of the Inter-American Commission of Women on its activities on the status of women (E/CN.6/1984/9);

(k) Report of the Commission on the Status of Arab Women on its programme and activities relating to Arab Women (E/CN.6/1984/11).

4. The Director of the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs noted in her introductory statement that the review and appraisal of progress achieved during the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace would be mainly discussed by the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace. She expressed the hope that the Commission would continue its review and appraisal role after the World Conference was held in 1985.

5. Referring to item 3 (a), the Director clarified the note by the Secretary-General on the situation of women in rural areas (A/39/58-E/1984/5). She explained that the questionnaire on the review and appraisal of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, which had been distributed to Governments in 1983, contained a chapter on rural development.

6. On item 3 (b), the Director advocated a multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral approach to the review and appraisal of progress and emphasized the importance of utilizing resources to the maximum. She suggested that the Commission should consider the issue of studies to be undertaken by the United Nations Secretariat, in collaboration with United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other organizations concerned, on the means to increase, on a system-wide basis, the allocation of resources for activities for the advancement of women and the means to increase the effectiveness and impact of existing programmes of the United Nations. In conclusion, she expressed the hope that co-ordination and co-operation within the United Nations system would be strengthened, particularly in the implementation of forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women up to the year 2000 which would be considered by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1985. She assured the Commission that the Secretariat would explore ways of implementing such co-ordination and co-operation.

7. Many representatives commented on the role of the United Nations as a catalyst for the advancement of women at national, regional and global levels, emphasizing the proclamation of International Women's Year (1975) 15/ and the United Nations Decade for Women (1976-1985) 16/ and the adoption of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City in 1975, 17/ and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held at Copenhagen in 1980. 18/ While the broad policy and programmatic framework had been established, the objectives of the Decade were far from being achieved. Some representatives noted that the worsening international political and economic situation threatened the practical implementation of international development strategies. Several representatives emphasized that the basic obstacles to the achievement of the aims of the Decade were the arms race, colonialism, racism, apartheid, racial discrimination, aggression, intervention in the internal affairs of States, any form of foreign domination and the existence of fascism and neo-fascism.

8. It was generally agreed that opportunities for the advancement of women had increased during the past biennium, in pursuance of the objectives of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action, Governments had established or strengthened national machinery for the advancement of women. National women's offices, councils or committees were actively participating in the review and

appraisal of national policies and programmes; some had set up sub-committees to deal specifically with the theme and subtheme of the United Nations Decade for Women. Cross-sectoral and administrative strategies designed to enable national machineries to play a central role in programme budget formulation and implementation and evaluation of national policies and programmes for the advancement of women were described. National interministerial or interdepartmental task forces on women had been formed. Consultative bodies had been created or strengthened to enhance the channels of communication and modes of co-operation between non-governmental women's organizations and Governments. One representative reported that her Government had recently announced an increase from \$3.3 million to \$15.3 million over the next four years in support to women's non-governmental organizations.

9. Some representatives identified issues that should be given priority in forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women. A few representatives suggested that one decade was not sufficient to correct the neglect of centuries and suggested that the focus on the advancement of women should be extended to the year 2000. Some representatives noted that among the questions requiring urgent measures at the national level were the effects of the new technologies on women and the consequences of technological change for women's health and conditions of work, as well as the need for training and retraining and further education to ensure that women participated equally in the use and benefits of the new technologies.

10. Some representatives noted the importance of the United Nations questionnaire to Governments for the review and appraisal of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. One representative indicated that her Government had responded to the request of the Secretary-General of the World Conference to provide technical assistance to the less developed of the developing countries to complete that questionnaire. At the same time, some representatives reserved the right to express themselves in detail on the questionnaire in the course of the session of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

11. Increases in the percentages of women elected to positions in national parliaments were reported, but the need for more women to participate in local and national policy-making was stressed. In one country, the percentage of women voters had risen above that of men; in other countries women had become increasingly involved in political action campaigns on both national and international issues.

12. Although many representatives commented favourably on changes for the advancement of women in their national legislation, they also noted the difference between the de jure and de facto situation in their countries. It was noted that to achieve genuine equality of women in all spheres of life, constant attention and efforts were necessary on the part of society as a whole and above all on the part of national legislative bodies.

13. A number of representatives reported on changes in nationality laws to give women better protection; changes in the economic sector to improve tax credits for child-care, enforce child-support laws, eliminate inheritance taxes that resulted in hardships for widows and reduce tax penalties imposed on working couples; amendments in laws to increase protection for women, particularly against sexual

harassment and discrimination on the basis of pregnancy and marital status; amendments of the criminal code regarding sexual assault; and examination of sexually abusive broadcasting, prostitution and pornography. Some representatives reported on efforts by their Governments to tackle the problem of family violence. One representative stressed the need for more information from national organizations for women on their legal situations in order to determine the applicability of international instruments in particular countries and to assess which of those could eventually be used by each country. She stressed the need to disseminate in a simple and accessible way in every country guidelines for the advancement of women and to concentrate on national projects that have the greatest practical viability in each country.

14. Progress was noted on the part of Governments in involving increasing numbers of women in national development planning and in focusing development strategies on issues of concern to women. However, participants called for more opportunities for women to obtain greater expertise and to fill decision-making posts. A shift of emphasis from social welfare to economic development was noted. It was considered that the mass media should be used to enhance a new image of women as participants in economic development and as planning experts contributing to national development and programming.

15. Peace was considered by many to be a prerequisite to the realization of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women, and the importance of the participation of women in the promotion of peace and co-operation at national, regional and global levels was repeatedly stressed. Some representatives considered that the advancement of women depended to a great extent on local political, economic and social conditions. Others said that peace could be obtained through economic and social justice and stressed the importance of disarmament in the realization of the goals of the Decade. The increasing numbers of women actively participating in peace marches was cited as an indication that peace was an integral part of the values of women throughout the world. The Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation and General Assembly resolutions 38/105 and 38/108 of 16 December 1983 were cited as reaffirmations of the need for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace to consider the issue in 1985. It was recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 37/16 of 16 November 1982, had proclaimed 1986 the International Year of Peace.

16. Some representatives stressed the importance of women's access to employment as being one of the most decisive factors for the emancipation of women. They explained that in their own countries, the realization of the right to work for both men and women had brought about not only de jure but also de facto equality. Some participants described measures taken during the biennium 1982-1983 to increase women's access to employment and occupational training services, provide employment counselling, diversify the occupations for which women were trained, increase maternity benefits and provide child-care for parents in the work-force. However, women in a number of countries continued to cluster in low-paid, traditionally female occupations. National experiences were cited to demonstrate that the number of working women was increasing. While a few representatives stated that in their countries equal pay was given for work of equal value, it was pointed out that women in many countries did not have guarantees to equal right to work and equal remuneration. One representative noted that though new job

opportunities for women were constantly opening in her country, there was a lack of trained women managers. Action to provide pensions for wives and to meet the social security needs of elderly women were mentioned. Some representatives stated that although the International Labour Organisation (ILO) had under its consideration the problem of employment of women, it did not pay enough attention to the most urgent problems of the working women, such as unemployment, unequal pay and the like.

17. National efforts to provide primary health-care facilities, particularly in the developing countries, were discussed. Several representatives noted the need to improve the accessibility and quality of health care for women and children for reproductive health, infant care, nutrition, family planning, water and sanitation. A few representatives indicated that their Governments had undertaken numerous water projects, both to improve sanitation and to increase the water supply to remote villages.

18. Several representatives noted that social norms and practices in some countries perpetuated stereotyped attitudes and discriminatory behaviour towards women. In many national educational systems girls and young women were still under-represented. The value of free education was emphasized and increases in the attendance of young women in technical schools reported. However, absenteeism of girls and young women was still a problem. Certain programmes on science and technology for women were outlined, and a few representatives said that their Governments had made increasing use of radio, television, films and the press to promote participation by girls and young women in both formal and informal educational and training courses.

19. National actions to enhance women's role in food production and agriculture and the needs of women in rural areas were reported on. One representative said that radical changes had been made in her country to overcome inequalities between rural and urban women. Those rural women now benefited from higher pay, modern equipment to alleviate work and better facilities for community use. Their access to health services, pensions, leisure-time, maternity leave, paid leave and qualifications for employment had improved. She recalled General Assembly resolution 37/59 of 3 December 1982 on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas and considered that the question of rural women merited special attention. She wanted to know why the Secretariat had not prepared a report on that question for the current session of the Commission. A representative of the Secretariat explained that in conformity with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 37/59 and to avoid duplication of effort, the subject of the situation of women in rural areas had been included in the questionnaire sent to Governments on the review and appraisal of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. A report based on an analysis of the answers to that questionnaire would be presented to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session.

20. Several representatives spoke of the connection between research, data collection and analysis, on the one hand, and technical co-operation, training and advisory services, on the other, in such fields as rural development, employment generation, education, health, and water supply and sanitation. The valuable role of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women was noted in connection with such work. Yet, while there was appreciation of the considerable progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action, it was felt that there should be a strengthening of system-wide communication and co-operation on concrete projects for the advancement of women. Some representatives noted that

there had been a shift of emphasis from a social welfare to an economic development approach and that the reports before the Commission (E/CN.6/1984/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 and A/38/406) reflected that shift. Gratitude was expressed to those agencies that had attempted to quantify that work, especially as reflected in the progress report of the Secretary-General on technical co-operation activities of the United Nations system for the advancement of women (E/CN.6/1984/4), and greater allocations for technical assistance for the advancement of women were called for.

21. Some representatives emphasized the role of the Commission as the focal point in the United Nations system for efforts to raise the status of women. They proposed that it should continue to operate as a catalyst for action throughout the United Nations system to mobilize energies and resources to strengthen women's role in economic development. They particularly wanted the Commission to address itself increasingly to substantive development issues, monitoring and assessing progress more rigorously than it had done before and providing guidance for both Governments and United Nations bodies in ways of accelerating progress, especially towards the year 2000. A number of representatives stressed the importance of co-ordinating the activities related to the advancement of women, including research, data collection and technical co-operation. One representative noted that it would be useful to have information on the nature of the status of women co-ordinating mechanism in each of the specialized agencies in order to gauge continuing effectiveness. The leading role of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs in co-ordinating United Nations activities on improving the status of women was also noted.

22. The representative of ILO introduced the report of the Organization regarding women workers (E/CN.6/1984/5). In reporting on ILO activities within the Decade for women workers and on measures taken to eliminate discrimination and to promote equality of opportunity and treatment of men and women in employment, she noted that one of the main activities had been the development of international labour standards to promote international and national actions to guarantee women equal rights to employment. The ILO representative noted that, in spite of many national measures, women remained the principal victims of social injustice and exploitation. Women constituted 35 per cent of the total world labour force of 1,800 million. Many families relied on the income of women. According to the ILO forecast, it would be necessary to create one billion new jobs by the end of the century in order to provide all women and men with employment. At the current important stage of the preparatory work it was necessary to ask if existing development strategies within the context of the United Nations Decade for Women were at least beginning to meet the minimum needs of women, or if women were being left even further behind. The 1985 International Labour Conference would bring to the attention of the World Conference to be held in 1985 its conclusions and recommendations relating to crucial problems in the situation of women workers and to measures to promote the equality of women workers.

23. The representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) introduced the report of the Organization on its activities for improving the status of women (E/CN.6/1984/7), stating that from its earliest days, UNESCO had worked in its field of competence for the advancement of women through collaboration with non-governmental organizations, educational projects, seminars and studies. Its programmes encouraged equality of educational opportunity for girls and women. The second medium-term plan of UNESCO (1984-1989) envisaged activities for analysing aspects of the image of women presented by the mass media, particularly those running counter to the dignity and rights of women.

Other activities proposed in the plan concerned the participation of women in decision-making, the development of training, the employment and promotion of women in the communications profession and the encouragement of their recruitment to high-level posts in media organizations. Studies on women would take the form of pilot projects, studies or an international meeting of experts on the subject, and it was hoped that the results of such research would be sent to the World Conference to be held in 1985. Some representatives drew attention to the useful work of UNESCO in studying the causes of discrimination against women, particularly in the field of education.

24. The representative of the World Bank reported that World Bank research was contributing to more effective development planning for women. The World Bank was increasingly involving non-governmental organizations in its work, including those specifically concerned with the advancement of women. It had been stepping up its efforts to improve the methodology and indicators for monitoring the effectiveness of projects financed with its loans in reaching women. The representative drew the attention of the Commission to the apparent lack of information on the opportunities available to women in projects financed with World Bank loans to women's organizations, many of which when established included the monitoring of international assistance in their terms of reference. Consequently, few women contributed to project design or implementation, and opportunities for the advancement of women were wasted. The World Bank regarded the advancement of women as important for economic and social development and to that end would continue its collaboration with the United Nations system.

25. The representative of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) stated that the Organization had a clear mandate to promote the integration of women in industrial development. The UNIDO secretariat was fully aware that all its programmes affected, directly or indirectly, the role and situation of women. With that in mind, UNIDO was developing a broad programme of technical assistance to enhance the employment opportunities of women in developing countries. Parallel with that, UNIDO had undertaken a study of the working conditions of women in specific industrial branches. The extensive training programme of UNIDO aimed, among other things, at facilitating the contribution of women to industrial policy-making and planning and at developing their entrepreneurial skills. A series of regional workshops to accelerate the integration of women in the processes of industrial development would break new ground for UNIDO in the African, Asian and Caribbean regions.

26. The Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women brought to the attention of the Commission the report on the activities of the Institute (A/38/406), which provided information on the work of the Institute, as requested by the Commission at its twenty-ninth session. She highlighted the major objectives and results of the Institute programmes oriented to setting up a methodological framework for the participation of women in development that should place the role of women at the centre of all development efforts rather than treating them only within a social, demographic or welfare context. The decentralized nature of those programmes, based on international networks, was pointed out. The Director explained the priorities of the recently approved Institute programmes, such as the series of studies on women and international economic relations and subsequent high-level meetings. Programmes in different fields leading to increased technical co-operation that would reach women were also brought to the attention of the Commission.

27. The observer for the League of Arab States explained that the endeavour of the General Secretariat to bring about benefits for Arab women was reflected in the

social strategies to be implemented during the Decade of Arab Development, 1981-1990. She pointed out that, for the preparations of the World Conference to be held in 1985, the Secretariat had asked the Arab States to prepare a regional study on women. She stated that the Plan for the Advancement of Arab Women included a number of programmes and projects aimed at the improvement of their situation during the first half of the Decade of Arab Development. The Plan identified the basic needs of women in rural areas, especially Bedouin and Palestinian women. She reported that the League of Arab States had developed programmes to raise women's status within the overall social development strategy, conducted surveys and studies on the situation of women and families in the Arab world and abroad, undertaken measures for the education and training of women, particularly in scientific and technical fields in co-operation with national Arab and international agencies, and made the Arab public aware of the problems relating to women and the family.

28. The observer from the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) said that during the United Nations Decade for Women, CIM had carried out a series of actions that fitted into its regional plan of action. It was planning to organize national meetings in 1984 to make reports and to hold an inter-American seminar for working out the strategies to be adopted for the period after 1985 and to be presented at the World Conference in 1985. The most important activities during the period 1982-1983 related to employment and education. A project for appropriate technology for rural women had been consolidated in Bolivia and Ecuador. The project manual had been published and the projects were being implemented in eight countries. Projects that integrated women in development and provided for vocational training or national office for women were given support. In 1983, the Inter-American Year of the Family had been celebrated. With the support of the Organization of American States 18 February had been designated Day of Women of the Americas, and 1986 had been declared Inter-American Year of Peace. The ties between the organizations of the inter-American system and the United Nations had been strengthened in the common endeavour to integrate women in development.

29. The observers for the United Towns Organization and the International Centre of Social Gerontology, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, categories I and II, respectively, drew the attention of the Commission to the needs of elderly women. One observer noted that that important matter was mentioned neither in the questionnaire sent to Governments on the review and appraisal of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women nor in the agenda for the World Conference to be held in 1985.

30. The observer for the International Catholic Child Bureau, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category II, underlined the importance of the question of violence in the family, and the negative consequences for children. He expressed the hope that the Commission would review that question not only in the context of the World Conference to be held in 1985 but also in the Commission's own programme of future work. The observer for the International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I, emphasized the issue of new technologies and the ways that they were changing employment patterns and opportunities for women in both developed and developing countries. She noted that a network was required to inform women about that problem and related future work perspectives. She requested the Commission to include the question of new technologies and the changing working conditions of women in its programme of work. She suggested that the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and

Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs should convene an expert group meeting on that topic.

31. The Chief of the Implementation Unit of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs summarized the major accomplishments of the Fund since its establishment in 1976 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 31/133 of 16 December 1976. The Fund had provided over \$20 million towards projects for the advancement of women. The emphasis from the start had been on rural and poor urban women, especially in the least developed of the developing countries. The Consultative Committee on the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, which advised the Secretary-General on the management of the Fund, was currently composed of representatives of the German Democratic Republic, India, Jamaica, Kenya and Norway.

32. She stated that the Fund had been emphasizing three approaches: (a) involving women in large-scale development and co-operative activities; (b) initiating specific women's projects that had potential for replication and expansion; and (c) strengthening national institutions, including planning ministries, national machineries on women in development and non-governmental organizations. For the World Conference to be held in 1985, the Secretariat was preparing a forward-looking assessment that included independent evaluations of 45 country projects. A knowledge bank had been set up by the Secretariat to provide easily accessible information on what had been learned. A number of representatives noted that the Fund had been a catalyst for new approaches for the integration of women in the development process. Its projects had shown that the strengthening of women's economic capability contributed significantly to the achievement of national development goals. They expressed their gratitude to the Fund for its pioneering work and concluded that the Commission should monitor system-wide technical co-operation projects for the advancement of women.

### Consideration of draft resolutions

#### Equal opportunity for women employed in the United Nations system

33. At the 12th meeting, on 22 February 1984, the representative of Australia introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1984/L.10), entitled "Equal opportunity for women employed in the United Nations system". In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Australia, taking into account a proposal made by the observer for Nigeria, orally revised the text by adding the following new paragraph as operative paragraph 2:

"2. Calls on Member States to include the names of qualified women in the list of candidates nominated to advertised United Nations posts".

Subsequently, Austria,\* Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, France,\* Germany, Federal Republic of, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Nigeria,\* Pakistan, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

---

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

34. At the 13th meeting, on 23 February, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II).

#### Question of elderly women

35. At the 12th meeting, on 22 February 1984, the observer for Austria,\* on behalf also of Canada, Egypt, France,\* Germany, Federal Republic of, India, Japan, Pakistan, the Philippines, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Question of elderly women" (E/CN.6/1984/L.5). Subsequently, Australia, China, Ecuador, Kenya, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States of America joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

36. At the 13th meeting, on 23 February, the observer for Austria,\* taking into account a proposal made by the representative of the German Democratic Republic, orally revised the fourth preambular paragraph by inserting the word "some" before "elderly women" and by deleting the words "in their societies".

37. At the same meeting, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics proposed to insert the words "and within the framework of the projected studies on women" after the words "budgetary resources" and to replace the words "a comprehensive report" by the words "an information report".

38. At the 14th meeting, on 23 February, the observer for Austria, on behalf of the sponsors, taking into account the proposal made by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, orally revised operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution by inserting the words "in accordance with established priorities of the work of the Commission on the Status of Women" after the words "budgetary resources" and by replacing the words "a comprehensive report" by the words "an information report".

39. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution IV).

#### Violence in the family

40. At the 12th meeting, on 22 February 1984, the representative of the United States of America, introduced, on behalf also of Canada, Denmark, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, the Philippines, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a draft resolution entitled "Violence in the family" (E/CN.6/1984/L.7). Australia, Egypt, Finland,\* France,\* the Netherlands,\* Norway,\* Pakistan and Spain subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

41. At the 13th meeting, on 23 February, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of the sponsors, taking into account a proposal by the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, orally revised the fifth preambular paragraph by replacing the words "among groups at all levels of socio-economic standing" by "among various population groups" at the end of the paragraph.

---

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

42. At the same meeting, following an exchange of views, the representative of the United States of America, orally revised operative paragraph 3, which read:

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to convene a seminar of experts on this subject, within the resources for the 1986-1987 biennium, in order to prepare an in-depth report on family violence with proposals for action in the judicial process, treatment of victims, and successful measures to reduce this widespread abuse",

to read as follows:

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to convene a seminar of experts on family violence, with emphasis on its effects on women, within the resources for the 1986-1987 biennium, taking into account what may emanate from the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (1985) on this subject, with a view towards making recommendations to combat this abuse".

43. At the 14th meeting, on 23 February, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution V).

44. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Indonesia stated that while her delegation had no difficulty with the adoption of the draft resolution, she wished to point out that the subject matter of the draft resolution was not a general phenomenon prevailing in her country.

#### Promotion of opportunities for young women

45. At the 12th meeting, on 22 February 1984, the representative of Canada, on behalf also of Australia, Austria,\* Denmark, Germany, Federal Republic of, Japan, the Netherlands,\* Spain, the United States of America and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Promotion of opportunities for young women" (E/CN.6/1984/L.9). China and France\* subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recognizing that 1985 is the culminating year of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

"Recognizing also that 1985 has been declared International Youth Year,

"Bearing in mind that young women were singled out for priority by the mid-decade World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace at Copenhagen in 1980, particularly in resolution 27,

Affirming that youth is the period of growth, development and apprenticeship for adult roles of work, citizenship and parenthood from which all of society will benefit,

"Affirming also that youth is a period of discovery and joy in living,

---

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

"Considering that young women who become mothers too early are deprived of their youth,

"Further recognizing that while young women and girls are found in societies at all levels of development, the world is in a period of technological revolution affecting all, and that women must be equal partners with men in shaping and benefiting from that revolution,

"Stressing that young women who lack sufficient education, appropriate training, health and nutrition are ill prepared for the adult roles in this changing world and thus vulnerable to economic, social and sexual exploitation,

"1. Recommends that States Members take appropriate steps to ensure that girls and young women are trained and motivated to choose and be chosen for work at all levels and in all functions and efforts of a developing economy and society;

"2. Recommends that States Members support and assist families to give support, guidance and encouragement equally to their young women and men;

"3. Recommends that States Members direct special assistance to girls and young women who are socially and economically disadvantaged;

"4. Recommends that specialized agencies undertake projects to promote global, regional and local action to result in an accelerated improvement in education and training, employment and health status of young women and girls in accordance with global, regional and local needs;

"5. Recommends that specialized agencies, States Members and non-governmental organizations undertake projects of international co-operation to develop sports and cultural activities aimed at the promotion of better international understanding and equal fitness of female and male youth;

"6. Recommends that special attention be paid in multilateral and bilateral co-operation programmes and projects, to the training and development of young women as managers of projects and as participants in articulating the development needs of youth;

"7. Recommends that the United Nations Advisory Committee on the International Youth Year and the Secretary-General in all their reports take special account of the needs and risks of female youth in rural and urban areas."

46. At the 15th meeting, on 24 February, the representative of Canada, on the basis of consultations, introduced a revised text of the draft resolution (E/CN.6/1984/L.9/Rev.1) on behalf of the sponsors, now joined by Trinidad and Tobago.

47. At the same meeting, the representative of Canada, on behalf of the sponsors, taking into account part of a proposal made by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, orally revised the last preambular paragraph of the revised draft resolution by inserting the word "those" after the words "Stressing that" and also accepted a proposal made by the observer for the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic\* to add the words "Participation, Development, Peace" at the end of the second preambular paragraph.

48. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the revised draft resolution, as further revised orally (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VI).

Implementation of the Objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace

49. At the 12 meeting, on 22 February 1984, the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace" (E/CN.6/1984/L.6). Subsequently, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic and Poland\* joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. The text of the draft resolution read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Considering General Assembly resolution 3520/XXX of 15 December 1975, in which the Assembly endorsed the proposals for action set forth in the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year, adopted at the World Conference held in Mexico City in 1975,

"Referring to General Assembly resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, by which the Assembly endorsed the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, as adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, held in Copenhagen in 1980,

"Reaffirming the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

"Emphasizing the importance of undertaking, at the conclusion of the Decade, a critical review and appraisal of progress at the international, regional and national levels in the achievement of the goals of the Decade - equality, development and peace - and the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, and also of developing a forward-looking perspective on the status of women,

"Stressing also the need to identify the most effective strategies and methods of work at the international level and to establish priorities for the United Nations system,

"Looking ahead to the World Conference to be held in 1985, at which the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, and the need to continue such achievements beyond the end of the Decade, will be reviewed and appraised,

"Conscious that, since the primary object of development is to bring about sustained improvement in the well-being of the individual and of society and to bestow benefits on all, development should be seen not only as a desirable goal in itself but also as the most important means of furthering equality of the sexes and the maintenance of peace,

---

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

"Conscious that further efforts are necessary to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women in any area of human activity,

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

"Expressing its deep concern over the constant deterioration of international relations as well as the intensification of the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race, which directly threatens international peace and security and increases the danger of the outbreak of war, in particular nuclear war,

"Noting that until genuine disarmament is achieved, women and men throughout the world must maintain their vigilance and do their utmost to achieve peace,

"Recognizing that discrimination against women is still taking place,

"Recalling that the flames of war in the world have inflicted great pain, especially on women and children,

"Taking into account that millions of women are still meeting with untold sufferings and the violations of human dignity resulting from different forms and manifestations of colonialism, foreign domination, apartheid and racial discrimination,

"Noting with concern the deterioration of the social situation in many countries of the world, which threatens the achievement of the objectives and tasks set out in the Declaration on Social Progress and the Development and the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, as well as those of the United Nations Decade for Women,

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

"2. Expresses its firm conviction that all peoples and all individuals have an inherent right to life, and that the safeguarding of this foremost right is an essential condition for the enjoyment of the entire range of economic, social and cultural, as well as civil and political, rights;

"3. Stresses the foremost importance of the implementation of practical measures of disarmament for releasing substantial additional resources, which should be utilized for social and economic development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries;

"4. Emphasizes that foreign occupation, colonialism, apartheid, racism and racial discrimination and the denial of the right to self-determination of peoples and of all universally recognized human rights, are serious impediments to peace and development;

"5. Calls upon States, in preparing their national programmes for social and economic development, to take measures to convert the resources spent for military purposes to the promotion of social progress;

"6. Recognizes that the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women, as reflected in the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, have not yet been achieved;

"7. Invites the Secretary-General to ask the opinion of the governments of Member States on the progress made and the obstacles that still have to be overcome in achieving the objectives of the Decade, and their views on the priorities and strategy to be followed up to the year 2000;

"8. Considers that the activities of the world community and of the United Nations for the improvement of the status of women should continue, beyond the end of the Decade, to be directed to the achievement of equality, development and peace, since the attainment of these goals constitutes the basic prerequisite for the genuine advancement of women."

50. At the 15th meeting, on 24 February, the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, on the basis of consultations, introduced a revised text of the draft resolution (E/CN.6/1984/L.6/Rev.1). In introducing the revised text, she made the following oral revisions:

(a) In operative paragraph 3, the words "to take measures to convert the resources spent" were replaced by the words "should consider taking measures to convert some resources spent";

(b) In operative paragraph 5, the words "beyond the end of the Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace" were deleted at the end of the paragraph; the words "beyond the United Nations Decade for Women" were inserted after the words "should continue"; and the words "in their full integration" were replaced by the words "and their full integration".

51. At the 15th meeting, on 24 February, the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, after consultations on proposals made by the representatives of Pakistan, China, Ecuador and Indonesia, further orally revised operative paragraph 3 by inserting the words "especially militarily significant States" after the words "Recommends that States".

52. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the revised draft resolution, as further revised orally (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VII).

### Chapter III

#### CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

53. The Commission considered agenda item 4 at its 2nd to 7th, 11th and 13th meetings, from 15 to 20 and on 22 and 23 February 1984. It had before it the following documents for information:

(a) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its first session (A/38/45);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the Status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/38/378).

54. In introducing the item, the Director of the Branch for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs recalled that both the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session and the Economic and Social Council, by its resolution 1982/17 of 4 May 1982, reaffirmed that the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the implementation of its provisions were important for the attainment of the three objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace. Furthermore, she related that the Council had requested the Secretary-General to transmit the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to the Commission on the Status of Women for its information and had recommended that the Commission should include the status of the Convention in the agenda of the thirtieth session.

55. She stated that as of 1 February 1984 the total number of ratifications and accessions was 55, and she indicated that a list of countries that had signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention was available. Regarding the Committee set up to monitor the Convention, she explained that while the report on the first session of the Committee contained its rules of procedure, the report on the second session (CEDAW/C/7) contained guidelines for the form and content of reports that States parties were to submit pursuant to article 18 of the Convention. In addition, the Committee had considered seven national reports. She concluded by noting that the report of the Committee on its second session would be considered and adopted at its third session, to be held from 26 March to 6 April 1984 at Headquarters, and she indicated that the Committee had decided to submit the reports on the second and third sessions as background documents to the World Conference to be held in 1985.

56. Great satisfaction was expressed with both the current status of the Convention and the report on the first session of the Committee. Some representatives noted as a positive fact that the Committee had developed guidelines for the preparation of information reports on the implementation of the Convention. The hope was expressed that the Committee would make a constructive contribution to the preparation and holding of the World Conference in 1985. One representative expressed concern at the decision of the Committee to consider only seven reports at its next meeting. If that rate were to become the norm for the Committee's work, she said, her country's second report would be due before the first one had been reviewed. She requested a clarification of that point by the Secretariat.

57. In reply, the representative of the Secretary-General explained that the Committee had requested the Secretariat to submit not more than seven reports for consideration at its third session so as to leave time for discussion and the adoption of the reports on its second and third sessions. Both reports would have to be submitted through the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1984, and then to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session. She said that the initial reports that were then being considered by the Committee contained very comprehensive information and their consideration required more time than the progress reports that Governments were required to submit. Furthermore, she noted that, at its fourth session, the Committee would probably be able to consider 10 reports, and at future meetings might increase that number. She concluded that article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention provided that the Committee should normally hold one session annually for a period of not more than two weeks. She indicated that additional meetings would have financial implications that would have to be approved by the General Assembly.

58. Several representatives expressed their appreciation of the fact that the Convention unified previous international instruments on such sectoral rights as political, economic, socio-cultural, employment, health, and educational rights into one comprehensive cross-sectoral instrument. They noted that their Governments hoped to ratify the Convention by the end of the United Nations Decade for Women. A few representatives said that national reviews were being undertaken of domestic laws and regulations, with a view to proposing amendments in conformity with the Convention. Several representatives commented that the fact that their Governments had not yet ratified the Convention did not mean that there was discrimination against women in their countries.

59. Some representatives expressed the belief that the increasing number of ratifications or accessions to the Convention would confer upon that international legal document a more universal character. They noted that while many Governments had already incorporated those rights for women into their national constitutions and that process was being strengthened by the increasing numbers of ratifications or accessions to the Convention, there remained a gap between de jure and de facto rights for women in many countries. Some representatives noted that the set of rights ensuring the equality of women and their full participation in development was ensured by means of the implementation of programmes of social and economic development. It was also noted that in a number of countries national legislation gave more rights to women than were laid down in the Convention. They concluded that progress could be achieved by increased international co-operation and exchange of views and experience on that question, as well as through intensified efforts to implement those rights in concrete ways at national, provincial and local levels for the advancement of women.

60. A few representatives stressed that the tangible application of the Convention would mean significant social changes in values and attitudes in many countries, especially in those in which women were deprived of such basic rights as equal pay for equal work, social security, and education and training. One representative distinguished between mass participation of women in political, economic, social, cultural and family life and symbolic appointments of a few women to high management positions. Others supported that view and linked it to the fundamental importance of socio-economic justice for all members of society and to the participation of women in the struggle for the strengthening of international peace and security and against colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, foreign aggression and occupation and all forms of foreign domination.

61. Several representatives stated that the Commission should stimulate more effective implementation of the Convention in all countries of the world, encouraging more States to ratify or accede to the Convention. They expressed the view that that would be an important contribution of the Commission to the World Conference to be held in 1985. Various representatives made the following suggestions:

(a) Specific attention should be given in the preparatory work of the World Conference to the situation of women and children in countries that were not parties to the Convention in order to have a more objective picture of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women;

(b) All States that had not already done so should be called upon to become parties to the Convention, taking the World Conference as an opportunity to do so.

One representative expressed regret that the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women had not been submitted to the Commission for its consideration.

#### Consideration of the draft resolution

##### Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

62. At the 11th meeting, on 22 February 1984, the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, on behalf also of Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, German Democratic Republic and the Philippines, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women" (E/CN.6/1984/L.4).

63. At the same meeting, the representative of India proposed the deletion of the words "that have not so far become parties to the Convention" at the end of operative paragraph 2. The representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, on behalf of the sponsors, accepted that proposal and further orally revised operative paragraph 3 by adding the words "taking into account the forthcoming 1985 World Conference on Women" at the end of the paragraph.

64. At the 13th meeting, on 23 February, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I).

## Chapter IV

### COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING THE STATUS OF WOMEN

65. The Commission considered agenda item 5 at its 9th, 13th and 15th meetings, on 21, 23 and 24 February 1984.

66. 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, made an introductory statement in which she referred to Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27 of 26 May 1983, entitled "Communications concerning the status of women". In that resolution the Council reaffirmed the mandate of the Commission to consider confidential and non-confidential communications on the status of women, and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission, beginning at its thirtieth session, a report on confidential and non-confidential communications on the status of women, which should include, in addition to communications received under Council resolution 76 (V) of 5 August 1947 and 304 I (XI) of 14 and 17 July 1950 communications received by the specialized agencies, regional commissions and other United Nations bodies, together with information on action that might have been taken following the receipt of such communications, and to solicit the co-operation of the specialized agencies, regional commissions and other United Nations bodies in compiling the report.

67. She indicated that the Secretariat had invited the specialized agencies, regional commissions and other United Nations bodies to forward copies of any communications concerning the status of women, together with information on action. She reported that the Council had also authorized the Commission to appoint a working group consisting of not more than five of its members, selected with due regard for geographical distribution, to hold closed meetings during the session. It would be the responsibility of the working group to consider all communications, to bring to the attention of the Commission those that appeared to reveal a consistent pattern of reliably attested injustice and discriminatory practices against women and to prepare a report that indicated the categories in which communications were most frequently submitted to the Commission. The Commission should examine the report of the working group and make recommendations to the Economic and Social Council, which would then decide on the action to be taken. All actions envisaged by the Commission would remain confidential until it had decided to make recommendations to the Economic and Social Council. Before resolution 1983/27 had been adopted, all communications received by the Advancement of Women Branch had been forwarded to the Centre for Human Rights at the United Nations Office at Geneva in order to permit it to take any necessary action, such as contacting the Governments concerned. The Advancement of Women Branch had been empowered to take similar steps only recently, and therefore the Commission would find only a few replies of Governments to communications concerning the status of women received directly by the Branch in Vienna.

68. At the first meeting, on 15 February 1984, the confidential list of communications on the status of women (S.W. Communications List No. 21) was distributed in a sealed envelope to the representative of each State member of the Commission attending the thirtieth session.

69. The Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women was appointed by the Commission at its 8th meeting, on 20 February, and held three private meetings.\* It had before it the confidential list of communications on the status of women (S.W. Communications List No. 21) and a non-confidential list (E/CN.6/CR.27 and Corr.1). Note: Corr. 2, F and S only.

70. At its 13th meeting, on 23 February, the Commission, in closed session, heard the report of the Working Group. After informal discussion, the Commission decided to adopt the report of the Working Group and to incorporate it, together with the comments thereon, in the report of the Commission. The report of the Working Group read as follows:

"Report of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women"

"The Working Group studied a list of 121 communications and the replies of some Governments and noted, among these, some cultural issues affecting women which the Working Group decided were being adequately addressed by the Governments concerned.

"The Working Group analysed the varied nature of the matters raised and observed there were many communications concerning the separation of families and of persons wishing to marry. However the Working Group considered that these were not within its mandate, in so far as they did not relate specifically to women only, but applied equally to men and women. It considered that these communications should be referred to the Commission on Human Rights for its attention.

"The Working Group identified only one trend which it wished to draw to the attention of the Commission. This was the widespread physical violence against women while in official custody. Cases of rape, sexual abuse and violent treatment of pregnant women were reported.

"The Commission, in keeping with its mandate, may wish to recommend to the Economic and Social Council a course of action based upon the report of this Working Group."

71. Several representatives commended the Working Group for the quality of its report, which reflected a consensus of views.

72. A few representatives noted the absence of communications from certain regions in which women had been suffering from some of the most serious problems confronting women anywhere in the world. One representative asked the Secretariat why efforts had not been made to disseminate information on the mandates of the Commission and its procedures for dealing with communications. She requested the Secretariat to publicize that mandate.

73. In reply, the representative of the Secretary-General said that there was no mandate for such publicity, although the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat did issue press releases on mandates.

---

\* See chap. VIII, para. 151.

## Consideration of the draft resolution

### Physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex

74. At the 15th meeting, on 24 February, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on behalf also of Australia, Canada, Denmark, Pakistan, Spain and Trinidad and Tobago, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex", which the Commission considered in closed session.

75. After informal discussion, the Commission adopted the draft resolution and decided to incorporate it, together with comments on it, in the present report (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution X).

76. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics said that she had participated in the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women in a spirit of co-operation and with great appreciation for the useful work that had resulted in a report based on a consensus of views. However, she stated that her delegation once again reiterated its position that the examination of complaints by individuals against States Members of the United Nations should be carried out inside their respective countries in the light of national legislation. Furthermore, she said that her delegation agreed to the adoption of the draft resolution without a vote but explained that her delegation did so with the clear understanding that the draft resolution was concerned with only those trends mentioned in the report of the Working Group.

## Chapter V

### PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE STRUGGLE FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND AGAINST COLONIALISM, RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, FOREIGN AGGRESSION AND OCCUPATION, AND ALL FORMS OF FOREIGN DOMINATION

77. The Commission considered agenda item 6 at its 7th to 11th, 13th and 16th meetings, from 20 to 24 February 1984. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of women and children living under racist minority régimes and in the occupied Arab territories and other occupied territories (E/CN.6/1984/10). In introducing the report, 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 noted that it had been prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1982/123 of 4 May 1983, by which the Council approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirtieth session of the Commission.

78. The Acting Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid addressed the Commission on behalf of the Special Committee. He reaffirmed support for the relentless efforts of the Commission to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and to assist women to realize their full equality in all spheres. He traced the activities of the Special Committee, noting that the African women of South Africa suffered under the triple yoke of national oppression, sex discrimination and exploitation as workers. Citing numerous problems confronting those women, he said that the Special Committee had promoted publicity designed to draw world-wide attention to the plight of women under apartheid, especially in the context of the United Nations Decade for Women, he indicated that the Special Committee intended to participate in the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1985. He stated that the Special Committee had endorsed the observance of 1984 as the Year of Women of South Africa, as proclaimed by the African National Congress of South Africa, and described the measures that the Special Committee had urged all Governments to take in connection with special events on 8 March (International Women's Day); 17 April (thirtieth anniversary of the founding of the Federation of South African Women); 9 August (International Day of Solidarity with the Struggle of Women of South Africa and Namibia); and 10 December (Human Rights Day and Namibia Women's Day). Finally, he said that the Special Committee hoped that the Commission would also endorse 1984 as the Year of Women of South Africa.

79. Many representatives stressed that peace was a prerequisite to the full realization of the theme and the sub-theme of the United Nations Decade for Women. They noted that women and children were among the principal victims of armed conflicts and that the maintenance of peace and the elimination of colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, fascism and foreign aggression and occupation were decisive for the future of women and children. Some representatives noted the negative effect of the arms race on the implementation of social and economic programmes concerning the situation of women and children, particularly in the developing countries, and drew attention to the importance of the proposals concerning disarmament and the slowing down of the arms race expressed in various international forums.

80. Several representatives stated that it was unrealistic to speak of strengthening the participation of women in international co-operation and peace unless such issues as nuclear disarmament, reduction of international tension and the establishment of national independence were discussed seriously and unless women could participate more effectively in decision-making at national and regional levels on the formulation, implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes for peace. A number of delegations noted that increasing numbers of women were involved in the peace movement through conferences, demonstrations and marches. One representative said that her Government was considering ways of increasing women's participation in its delegations to intergovernmental forums. The implementation of affirmative action policies would ensure that there was a greater number of women with appropriate expertise. She called on the United Nations Secretariat to ensure that women had the opportunity to contribute equally with men to its work on international peace and co-operation issues. Some representatives stated that women had not up to then sufficiently participated in decision-making concerning the strengthening of international peace and security, and in this regard the Commission should discuss positive measures with a view to strengthening their participation.

81. The ways in which the Commission could deal more practically with the peace issue were discussed. Some representatives suggested highlighting the contribution that women could make to a forward-looking strategy to achieve peace through the promotion of international co-operation and the development of friendly relations between States. They said that the Commission was dealing with an increasing number of issues that fell within the competence of the General Assembly and the Security Council and suggested that rather than indulging in the ideological and propagandistic debates that divided States and regions, the Commission should consider concrete proposals to Member States to ensure that women were better represented at various levels of decision-making. One representative concluded that without ignoring the issues that divided them, the members of the Commission should concentrate on issues that united them.

82. Several representatives referred to General Assembly resolution 37/63 of 3 December 1982, in which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation, as an important achievement. A few representatives enquired about the monitoring of the implementation of the Declaration at national and international levels: one suggested that that question should be discussed at the World Conference to be held in 1985, that Governments should provide information and that the Secretary-General should prepare a report on that topic for discussion at the World Conference. Reference was made to General Assembly resolution 38/105 of 16 December 1983, by which the General Assembly, *inter alia*, requested the Commission on the Status of Women to consider the measures necessary to implement the Declaration and to report through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session. Several representatives noted that equal employment opportunities for women should be vigorously implemented by the United Nations Secretariat, consistent with the Declaration, to ensure that women had the opportunity to contribute equally with men to work dealing with international peace and co-operation.

83. A few representatives emphasized that item 6 of the agenda of the Commission would also be on the agenda of the World Conference to be held in 1985 and would become one of the main areas of work of the Conference. One representative expressed the hope that the Conference would learn what practical steps had been taken by all States owning nuclear weapons to discharge their primary

responsibility to strengthen international peace and security through disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament. Another representative expressed the view that to realize genuine disarmament the two superpowers, which possessed over 90 per cent of the world's nuclear weapons, should take the lead in reaching agreement on a drastic reduction of nuclear arms, so as to pave the way for general nuclear disarmament by all countries possessing nuclear weapons.

84. In addition, a few representatives referred to resolution 37/16 of 16 November 1982, by which the General Assembly proclaimed 1986 the International Year of Peace, and suggested that the Commission should closely relate its recommendations on peace to the activities envisaged for the Year. They stressed that women could and should play an active role in the preparations for the International Year of Peace and that the World Conference to be held in 1985 and the thirty-first session of the Commission to be held in 1986 should discuss IYP and adopt resolutions and decisions.

85. Some representatives referred with appreciation to the Expert Group Meeting on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation, held at Vienna in December 1983, and described activities undertaken at the national level to ensure greater participation by women in efforts to maintain peace.

86. A few representatives noted that in 1985 the fortieth anniversary would be celebrated of the victory over the forces of nazism, fascism and neo-fascism. In that connection, they proposed that the World Conference to be held in 1985 should mark the event, and they also mentioned that since fascism and neo-fascism constituted a serious threat to peace and security and the observance of human rights, women should participate in the fight against such phenomena.

87. Some representatives expressed their appreciation for the efforts of the Secretary-General in preparing the report on the situation of women and children living under racist minority régimes and in the occupied Arab territories and other occupied territories (E/CN.6/1984/10).

88. Other representatives stated that they considered that document incomplete, unbalanced and unacceptable because it did not deal with such issues as the armed aggression against and occupation of Afghanistan and Kampuchea by foreign countries. One observer considered that much of the information in the report on the situation of Palestinian Arab women and children was one-sided and erroneous.

89. The representative of the Secretary-General replied that the report was based on information collected by the United Nations and extracted from published United Nations documents, and its title derived from the mandate given to the Secretary-General set out in paragraph 23 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 34/24 of 15 November 1979. However, in that context, neither the Commission nor the Economic and Social Council had specified the meaning of "other occupied territories".

90. One representative stated that he still considered the report (E/CN.6/1984/10) incomplete because the coverage did not extend to the condition of women in such countries as Afghanistan, Kampuchea, El Salvador, Grenada and Nicaragua. Another representative, citing the problems confronted by Lebanon, suggested that the omission should be rectified in an updated version of the report that would be submitted to the World Conference to be held in 1985.

91. A number of representatives, however, stated that the report submitted for discussion was in conformity with General Assembly resolution 34/24. They rejected the attempts to broaden the interpretation of that resolution by references to Afghanistan and Kampuchea. They also considered that such attempts distracted the attention of the Commission from other trouble spots, such as Grenada, El Salvador, Lebanon and Nicaragua.

92. Many representatives expressed their great concern and support for the women and children living under the apartheid régime in South Africa and in the occupied territory of Namibia. Several representatives noted the particular burdens confronting women in southern Africa, especially discrimination based on race and sex, and expressed abhorrence of the system of apartheid and the repressive measures used to enforce it. They described the political situation in South Africa during the biennium 1982-1983, which had been characterized by organized resistance, including resistance from women and children, and by increased repression by the apartheid régime, especially of the African women in that country. Several representatives spoke of continuing problems in the employment, health and education sectors in both urban and rural areas and supported the activities undertaken by the Special Committee against Apartheid, together with other United Nations and non-governmental organizations, to promote global awareness of the predicament of women and children under apartheid and to promote world-wide concerted action to assist them. Some representatives supported the decision of the Special Committee against Apartheid to proclaim 1984 the Year of Women of South Africa. One representative described the role of the front-line States in assisting refugees.

93. In addition, several representatives discussed the problems of women and children in Namibia, and the hope for an independent Namibia. They noted the continued illegal occupation of Namibia, and the application of the system of apartheid and related colonial measures instituted by the Government of South Africa. Some representatives noted the negative effect of transnational monopolies on the solution of the problem of apartheid in South Africa, which affected the situation of women and children.

94. Many representatives noted that the plight of women and children living in the occupied Arab territories had worsened. Several representatives stressed that the improvement in the situation of Palestinian women in the occupied Arab territories depended upon a comprehensive, just and lasting political settlement and recalled the conclusions of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, 19/ held at Geneva from 29 August to 7 September 1983. Some representatives suggested that, pending that solution, the Commission should help to promote awareness of the situation of Palestinian women through conferences and should call for continued support from the international community in assisting Palestinian women.

95. Some representatives called on Israel to abide by international law and implement the relevant United Nations resolutions relating to Palestinian rights. Some drew the attention of the Commission to the emergency situation and armed conflict in El Salvador, Grenada and Nicaragua. One representative drew the attention of the Commission to the situation of women living in emergency situations and armed conflicts in El Salvador, Guatemala, Grenada, Nicaragua and Chile. Another representative explained the situation of a group of Cuban women who were working in Grenada as technicians in various fields when they were captured and virtually taken hostage as a result of the intervention of the United States of America in that country. Another delegation offered an explanation of the circumstances of the action of several Caribbean States in Grenada in light of the murder of several government officials there and the invitation of the Governor General.

96. The representative of ILO emphasized the need for increased awareness of the socio-economic consequences of disarmament. She mentioned in particular that on the employment of women, an ILO study revealed that for every one job in the armaments sector, two could be created in the civilian sector. She described ILO programmes related to the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation 20/ and to assisting women in southern Africa in their struggle against apartheid and the application of ILO international instruments relating to the elimination of discrimination in employment and occupation.

97. The observer for the League of Arab States referred to the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/1984/10), which she indicated was well prepared and contained important information. She cited part II of the report, which contained an analysis of the situation of Palestinian women living in the occupied Arab territories, and stressed the important work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). She suggested that the Commission should focus its consideration on educational, relief, health and vocational training programmes. She expressed gratitude to the specialized agencies of the United Nations system that had given assistance to Palestinian Arabs. She also suggested that the Commission should establish a working group to examine further the situation of Palestinian women, since the report, despite its importance, reflected only 50 per cent of the actual situation, owing to the difficulties faced by experts in obtaining information within the occupied Arab territories.

98. The observer for the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) said the situation in Namibia constituted not only a struggle between the oppressed and the oppressors in Namibia itself, but also had escalated and spread to neighbouring countries in which the oppressed had sought refuge. She described the particular problems confronting black women in Namibia in the political, economic, employment, health and educational fields and the increasing violence inflicted on black women in both military and civilian quarters. She made an urgent call, especially to women's organizations, for assistance in the struggle for peace and national independence in Namibia.

99. The observer for the African National Congress expressed concern at the problems experienced by millions of Africans, including women and children, who had been oppressed, exploited, dispossessed and discriminated against by the apartheid régime. She expressed concern over the problems confronting those women who had been victims of forced removals to barren land with insufficient water and poor sanitation facilities and who consequently encountered malnutrition and cholera. She expressed appreciation for the assistance given by the specialized agencies and the organizations of the United Nations system and requested the Secretariat to consult with the World Health Organization to determine if Depo Provera, an injected contraceptive given to black but not white women in South Africa, was a health hazard, since numerous reports had indicated that it was.

100. The observer for the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania expressed concern about the problems experienced by the millions, including women and children, who had been dispossessed, exploited, and discriminated against by the apartheid régime. She noted the particular problems confronting those women as a result of the policy of breaking up families, the "pass laws", the absence of social security, unemployment benefits and a minimum wage law, and the high illiteracy rate for children, mostly in the homelands. She expressed appreciation for the assistance given by the specialized agencies and the organizations of the United Nations system.

## Consideration of draft resolutions

### Women under apartheid

101. At the 13th meeting, on 23 February 1984, the representative of Zambia, on behalf of China, Ecuador, Egypt, Ivory Coast,\* Kenya, Nicaragua, Nigeria,\* Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia\* and Zaire introduced a draft resolution entitled "Women under apartheid" (E/CN.6/1984/L.12). Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, India, Mexico, Pakistan, Poland,\* the Sudan and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

102. At the 16th meeting, on 24 February, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VIII).

### Situation of Palestinian women within and outside the occupied Arab territories

103. At the 13th meeting, on 23 February 1984, the representative of India also on behalf of Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Nicaragua, Nigeria,\* Pakistan, Tunisia\* and Zambia introduced a draft resolution entitled "Situation of Palestinian women within and outside the occupied Arab territories" (E/CN.6/1984/L.13). The Sudan subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

104. At the 16th meeting, on 24 February, the representative of India, on the basis of consultations, orally revised the text of the draft resolution by replacing the fourth and fifth preambular paragraphs by the following text:

"Recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other appropriate United Nations organizations".

105. At the same meeting, the representative of India accepted the proposal made by the representative of the United States of America calling for the replacement of the words "Noting with appreciation" by the words "Taking note of" at the beginning of the last preambular paragraph. He also accepted the proposal of the representative of Indonesia to add the words "contained in chapter II" after the words "occupied Arab territories" and orally revised the last preambular paragraph to read as follows:

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of women and children in the occupied Arab territories contained in chapter II of document E/CN.6/1984/10 presented to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirtieth session".

106. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution IX).

107. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America stated that his delegation, in a spirit of co-operation, had not blocked the consensus of the Commission on the question but did continue to hold reservations about document E/CN.6/1984/10. In that context, he said that the United States of America had demonstrated its concern for the plight of the

---

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

Palestinian refugees by continued support of UNRWA, which indicated his Government's great interest in ameliorating the quality of life for Palestinians. Moreover, he indicated that his delegation shared the favourable view, reflected in document E/CN.6/1984/10, of the work of UNRWA. However, he stated that his delegation was concerned that the focus of the study was restricted to Palestinian women and children in the occupied territories only and was not a more balanced study of the problems of Palestinian women and children, including those in refugee camps. He concluded that furthermore his delegation did not share certain judgements contained in the document, direct or implied, against Israeli practices. For example, he termed as pejorative the phrase "oppressive practices", which had appeared as the title of one section of the document, and said that such politicization did not belong in the present forum. He stated that his delegation fully expected that any future report on the subject would take into consideration the points raised at the thirtieth session of the Commission in that regard.

## Chapter VI

### PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK, INCLUDING THE DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION

108. The Commission considered agenda item 7 at its 12th to 16th and 18th meetings, from 22 to 25 February 1984. For information, it had before it the relevant extracts from the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (E/CN.6/1984/CRP.2) and the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 (E/CN.6/1984/CRP.3). It also had before it a note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Commission and specifying the documentation to be submitted under each item and the legislative authority for its preparation (E/CN.6/1984/L.11). Subsequently, a revised text was issued containing an indication of the documents that would be submitted under each item in the light of decisions to be taken by the Commission at its thirtieth session (E/CN.6/1984/L.11/Rev.1).

109. At the 12th meeting, on 22 February, the Director of the Branch for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs made an introductory statement.

110. At the 15th meeting, on 24 February, the Director drew the attention of the Commission to Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/23 of 26 May 1983, entitled "Role of the family in the development process", in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to analyse the impact of development on the family. A progress report was to be submitted to the Council at its first regular session of 1985, through the Commission for Social Development in consultation with the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

111. The Director of the Branch for the Advancement of Women emphasized the pivotal role that women played in the family, regardless of cultural, regional, juridical or institutional factors. That fundamental role should not serve as a pretext for loading women with additional responsibilities and making them the victims of difficult social and economic circumstances but, on the contrary, should enable them to find personal fulfilment, together with the other members of the family unit, while at the same time making a useful contribution to society as a whole. She concluded that it was important that the Commission advise the Secretariat on the content and orientation of the report. An identical request would be made to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

112. Some delegations, referring to resolution 1983/23, emphasized that increased participation of women in development required a new distribution of responsibilities for both men and women, especially regarding the care of children. They concluded that the study should emphasize the rights and status of women in the family, especially vis-à-vis men; the role of women as economic producers and agents of development; and women as individuals and as family members. They urged that the study should be linked to the various provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and to the relevant instruments of the International Labour Organisation concerning workers with family responsibilities.

113. At the 15th meeting, on 24 February, during the discussion of the draft provisional agenda, one representative, on behalf of the representatives of the States members of the Organization of African Unity, proposed that in the note by the Secretary-General listed in the documentation under item 3, the words "review and appraisal of progress in" should be replaced by the words "evaluation concerning". Another representative proposed that since 1986 would mark the fortieth anniversary of the Commission on the Status of Women, there should be a codification of the recommendations of the Commission and a study of the results achieved by the Commission over the past 40 years. She proposed that the Secretariat should prepare such a document for consideration under item 3 or another appropriate item of the provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Commission.

114. At the same meeting, during the discussion concerning item 4 of the draft provisional agenda, several representatives proposed that the title of the item should read "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women". One representative questioned the inclusion of the words "for information" in connection with the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women" in the list of documents under that item.

115. Concerning item 5 of the draft provisional agenda, one representative proposed that the title of the item should be revised to read "Participation of women in the struggle for the strengthening of international peace and security and against colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, foreign aggression and occupation, and all forms of foreign domination". She explained that that had been the title of item 6 of the agenda for the thirtieth session of the Commission, as well as the title used for the discussion of that item at the World Conferences held at Mexico City in 1975 and at Copenhagen in 1980, as well as in the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women. Furthermore, she concluded that a number of important issues could be grouped under the item, including several that had been addressed in draft resolutions before the Commission. Several representatives expressed disagreement with the proposed revision.

116. The representative of the Secretary-General, addressing the questions raised on items 4 and 5 of the draft provisional agenda, noted that document E/CN.6/1984/L.11 and Rev.1 had been prepared by the Secretariat after consultation with the Bureau. She explained that the words "for information" had been included in the title of the documentation to be prepared under agenda item 4 in order to conform to article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. Referring to item 5, she said that it was the intention to list under that agenda item the documentation requested in resolutions formulated by the Commission once they had been agreed by the Commission.

117. At the 16th meeting, on 24 February, one representative repeated the suggestion made during the 15th meeting concerning a comprehensive report on the actions undertaken by the Commission on the Status of Women during its 40 years of existence. In reply, the representative of the Secretary-General pointed out that no provision had been made in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 for preparing such a report. The Secretariat would need to consult on the administrative and financial implications of the proposal since, in view of the heavy workload resulting from the preparations for the World Conference to be held in 1985, it would be difficult to prepare such a report for the next session of the Commission.

118. At the same meeting, item 3 was approved as proposed in the draft provisional agenda.

119. Concerning item 4 of the draft provisional agenda, several representatives proposed to add to the title of the item the words "in accordance with the aims of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women". Another representative pointed out that the phrase "elimination of discrimination against women" was broader than the Convention. Two representatives proposed to mention the Convention under the documentation rather than in the title and to add the words "on the implementation of the Convention" at the end of the first document listed so that it would read "Reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the implementation of the Convention, for information". An alternative proposal was to list under the documentation for item 4 a report by the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention.

120. Following the discussion, it was agreed to add to the title of item 4 of the draft provisional agenda the words "in accordance with the aims of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women". The representative of Pakistan indicated that her delegation had not joined the consensus on the addition to the title of item 4.

121. During the discussion on item 5 of the draft provisional agenda, some representatives suggested the inclusion of a fourth report under the documentation for the item. In that connection, reference was made to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 38/105 of 16 December 1983, in which the Assembly called upon the Commission on the Status of Women to consider what measures might be necessary in order to implement the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation and requested the Commission to report through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session. Two representatives expressed regret that the Secretariat had failed to prepare the necessary information on that question. Several other representatives pointed out that the Secretary-General had not been requested to provide such information and had fulfilled its part of the mandate; they also noted that the Commission had discussed the Declaration under agenda item 6. Other representatives were of the view that the Commission had not been able, at its present session, to fulfil the mandate given by the General Assembly in resolution 38/105.

122. The representatives of the Secretary-General noted that paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 38/105 had been brought to the attention of the Commission in document E/CN.6/1984/1/Add.1 and by the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in her opening statement on 15 February 1984. They noted that paragraph 3 of that resolution had already been implemented by distributing the Declaration to appropriate specialized agencies, as requested, and to other appropriate bodies within the United Nations system. It was also noted that the Secretariat had not been previously requested to take any further action under General Assembly resolution 38/105. It was noted that the preparation of a report in this connection for submission to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly in 1984 would be difficult without guidance from the Commission. Moreover, in paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 38/105, the Commission had been requested to consider what measures might be necessary in order to implement the Declaration. Several representatives supported that view.

123. One representative reiterated her dissatisfaction with the fact that no report had been prepared on the Declaration and maintained her view that the Secretariat should prepare such a report.

124. Another representative commented that the related section of the questionnaire on review and appraisal sent in connection with preparations for the World Conference to be held in 1985 could be regarded as the basis for the response called for in General Assembly resolution 38/105. The representative of the Secretariat pointed out that the section of the questionnaire referred to by the delegate did not deal specifically with the Declaration. Another representative suggested that the transmission of the report of the Commission on its thirtieth session to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly could be considered a response to the request made by the General Assembly.

125. Before approving item 5 of the draft provisional agenda and the documentation listed therein, it was noted that the document on the situation of women refugees would be included only if the relevant draft resolution (E/CN.6/1984/L.15) were adopted by the Commission. That draft resolution was subsequently withdrawn (see paras. 133-141 below).

126. At the 18th meeting, on 25 February, during the discussion on the remaining items of the draft provisional agenda (items 6-9), one representative proposed that the report called for in the resolution before the Commission entitled "Physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex" should be included under item 6. Another representative considered it more appropriate to include the report under item 7 because it was linked to the report of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women. The Commission decided to include the report on physical violence under item 7. With this addition, items 6-9 of the draft provisional agenda were approved by consensus.

127. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-first session (E/CN.6/1984/L.11/Rev.1), as revised, together with the documentation requested. In accordance with paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 of 10 May 1979, the Commission decided to submit the provisional agenda to the Council for its review (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision).

### Consideration of draft resolutions

#### Concerns of women within the United Nations system

128. At the 14th meeting, on 23 February, the representative of Canada, on behalf also of Australia, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Kenya, Mexico, the Philippines, Spain and Trinidad and Tobago, introduced a draft resolution on the concerns of women within the United Nations system (E/CN.6/1984/L.14).

129. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution III).

#### Future work of the Commission on the Status of Women

130. At the 15th meeting, on 24 February, the representative of Mexico, on behalf also of Argentina,\* China, Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution on the future work of the Commission (E/CN.6/1984/L.8/Rev.2).

---

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

131. At the 16th meeting, on 24 February, the representative of Mexico orally revised the text of the draft resolution by deleting the first preambular paragraph, which read "Taking note with appreciation of the provisional agenda for the thirty-first session adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women". The representative of Czechoslovakia proposed the addition of the words "and any other relevant resolutions" at the end of the penultimate preambular paragraph, which was accepted by the sponsors.

132. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution XI).

#### Situation of refugee women

133. At the 15th meeting, on 24 February, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf also of Australia, Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands,\* the Philippines and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The situation of refugee women" (E/CN.6/1984/L.15), which she orally revised. The text of the draft resolution, as orally revised, read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Bearing in mind the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

"Recalling resolution 12 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace on the situation of women refugees and displaced women the world over, 21/

"Further recalling resolutions 37/186 and 38/103 on human rights and mass exoduses, as well as resolution 38/121 on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

"Mindful that the plight of refugees, the substantial majority of whom are women and children, is of serious concern to the international community,

"Emphasizing that displaced and refugee women are particularly vulnerable to intimidation, exploitation, physical abuse and rape,

"Noting with appreciation the role played by countries in which displaced and refugee women are to be found and the humanitarian aid extended both bilaterally and through the United Nations system by many Member States,

"Also noting with appreciation the role played by the voluntary humanitarian organizations, the United Nations system and in particular the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme, and the United Nations Children's Fund in rendering assistance,

"Mindful of the central role played by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the administration of assistance and in efforts to achieve durable solutions to refugee problems and aware of his initiatives to address the special problems of women and children,

---

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

"1. Decides to consider the subject of women and children refugees as an agenda item at the thirty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to invite the High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and non-governmental organizations to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women in preparation for its thirty-first session information on the policies and programmes to address the plight of women refugees;

"3. Invites the High Commissioner for Refugees to participate as an observer at the thirty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women;

"4. Authorizes the Secretary-General to implement the paragraphs above within existing resources."

134. At the same meeting, following a proposal by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to make reference to resolution 13 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace 22/ in the second preambular paragraph, the representative of the United States of America orally revised the paragraph by adding the words "and other relevant United Nations resolutions" at the end of the paragraph.

135. At the same meeting, the observer for Nigeria\* also proposed to reword the second preambular paragraph to read "Recalling relevant resolutions of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and other United Nations resolutions".

136. At the 18th meeting, on 25 February, the Commission had before it amendments to the draft resolution (E/CN.6/1984/L.16) proposed by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which called for:

(a) The replacement of the second preambular paragraph by the following:

"Recalling resolutions 12 and 13 of the Copenhagen Conference on the situation of women refugees and displaced women the world over";

(b) The insertion of the following text after the second preambular paragraph:

"Aware that, owing to the presence of displaced persons and refugee women at the moment in the developing countries of the Near East, Africa, Latin America and Central America, South and South-East Asia, this situation places an extremely heavy burden on the economies and infrastructures of the developing countries,

"Noting that racism and apartheid, oppression and foreign aggression, colonialism and neo-colonialism are at the root of the growing refugee problems, in particular of the problem of women and children refugees";

(c) The insertion of the following new operative paragraphs:

"1. Condemns racism and apartheid, oppression and foreign aggression, colonialism and neo-colonialism as the cause of the refugee problem,

"2. Demands that Governments bring to justice persons who permit victimization of women and children refugees and that they take all possible steps to ensure the protection of the latter by preventing these cruelties".

137. At the same meeting, the representative of the German Democratic Republic proposed the deletion of existing operative paragraph 1.

138. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of the sponsors, stated that, after extensive consultations, the sponsors of the draft resolution had decided to withdraw it. She expressed regret that after serious discussions on the draft resolution, which had been conceived on a humanitarian basis, one delegation had a different view and approach that would radically alter the scope and nature of the resolution. Since the sponsors did not wish to change the thrust of the draft resolution in that manner, they had decided with great regret to withdraw it. She expressed pride in the assistance extended to refugees by her own country, other sponsors of the draft resolution and many other countries.

139. Following the statement made by the representative of the United States of America, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the problems of refugee women should not be seen as minor or temporary in nature but should be viewed from a more comprehensive perspective on the causes of such problems. She explained, in this context, that questions should be asked as to why such problems existed. In conclusion, she said that her delegation was, however, willing to compromise on this issue, but that if draft resolution E/CN.6/1984/L.15 was to be recorded in the report of the Commission, the amendments proposed by her delegation (E/CN.6/1984/L.16) should also be recorded in the report.

140. At the same meeting, the representative of Ecuador noted that the problem of women refugees was not a serious problem in her country and regretted that there was insufficient consensus at the current session of the Commission to adopt draft resolution E/CN.6/1984/L.15. She concluded that since the issue was of importance in other countries and regions, she believed that the issue would continue to receive serious attention from the Commission in its programme of future work.

141. At the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan expressed her profound regret at the withdrawal of draft resolution E/CN.6/1984/L.15 and drew the attention of the Commission to the most urgent situation and the serious problems confronting refugee women in Africa.

## Chapter VII

### ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON ITS THIRTIETH SESSION

142. At its 17th and 18th meetings, on 24 and 25 February 1984, the Commission adopted the report on its thirtieth session (E/CN.6/1984/L.3 and Add.1 and 2, Add.3 and Corr.1 and 2, and Add.4-8), as amended during the discussion, and entrusted to the Rapporteur the task of finalizing the report.

## Chapter VIII

### ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

#### A. Opening and duration of the session

143. The thirtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women was held at Vienna from 15 to 25 February 1984; the Commission held 18 meetings. The session was opened by the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs.

144. In her opening statement, the Assistant Secretary-General stressed the particular importance of the thirtieth session of the Commission since it was the last one to be held during the United Nations Decade for Women and prior to the convening of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace in 1985. In that regard, she stated that the thirtieth session offered an opportunity to take stock of past work and to give serious thought to the future role that the Commission should have once the Decade had run its course. Noting the uncertain global economic and political situation, she stressed that although economic crises, political instability and military conflicts plagued so much of the contemporary world and had an adverse effect on almost everyone, they weighed more heavily on women because of their vulnerable situation. She said that the Commission had a unique opportunity to help all countries come to grips with the problems confronting women because the Commission was the only United Nations body to offer a forum for the formulation of recommendations for the advancement of women in all fields. However, the Commission must combine realism with boldness, recognizing that the problems of women were vastly complicated by their national, ethnic and cultural diversity. Policies and programmes should be established, and it should be considered whether the approach taken during the Decade was going to be sufficient to deal with the increasing problems facing women. The Commission should also consider ways and means for the United Nations system to be as effective as possible in bringing about greater awareness of what could be done to advance the status of women throughout the world through concrete and effective action and exchange of information and experience.

145. Surveying the provisional agenda for the thirtieth session (E/CN.6/1984/1 and Add.1) she linked the review and appraisal of the progress achieved during the period 1982-1983 in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year 23/ and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women 24/ to the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, which included the issue of the advancement of women. She noted the lack of mechanisms and resources to monitor and assess the progress achieved at national level. In that connection, she referred to the questionnaire on the national review and appraisal in relation to the 1985 World Conference that had been distributed to the Member States the previous year and asked for their co-operation in replying to those questionnaires. The Assistant Secretary-General gave a status report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and on the first session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women established to monitor the implementation of the Convention. She drew attention to Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27 of 26 May 1983 on the new procedures to consider confidential and non-confidential communications concerning the status of women. She also discussed recent activities on the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation.

146. Finally, she reviewed a number of important issues that had not been included in the agenda of the current session but that were related to the work of the Commission: abuses against women and children; violence in the family; prostitution; action to be taken to ensure the recovery of maintenance; elderly women; and young women and girls. She concluded by referring to the Commission as a pioneer, a conserver and a leader.

#### B. Attendance

147. The session was attended by 30 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and one observer for non-member States, representatives of bodies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as observers for national liberation movements, also attended. The list of participants is given in annex I below.

#### C. Election of officers

148. At its 1st and 7th meetings, on 15 and 20 February 1984, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairperson: Rosario G. Manalo (Philippines)

Vice-Chairpersons: Dagmar Molková (Czechoslovakia)

Luzmila Rodríguez de Troya (Ecuador)

Justice Lombe Chibesakunda (Zambia)

Rapporteur: Kathleen Taperell (Australia)

#### D. Agenda and organization of work

149. At its 1st meeting, on 15 February 1984, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda for the thirtieth session (E/CN.6/1984/1 and Add.1), which had been drawn up by the Secretary-General on the basis of the provisional agenda approved by the Commission at its twenty-ninth session and by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1982/123 of 4 May 1982 and of other relevant decisions taken by the Council and the General Assembly since the twenty-ninth session of the Commission. The agenda, as adopted, is reproduced in annex II below.

150. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the suggestions made in a note by the Secretariat on the organization of work of the session (E/CN.6/1984/L.1).

151. With regard to the consideration of agenda item 5, "Communications on the status of women", the Commission, at its 8th meeting, on 20 February, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27 of 26 May 1983, appointed the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women, consisting of the following five members nominated by their respective regional groups: Egypt (Farida Abou El Fetouh), India (Sarojini Pulla Reddy), Trinidad and Tobago (Lenore S. Dorset), Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (T. N. Nikolaeva) and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (R. T. Gardner of Parkes) (see chap. IV, paras. 67-70).

152. In preliminary consideration of various items of the agenda, some members of the Commission expressed regret at the delay in the distribution of documents.

153. The documentation before the Commission at its thirtieth session is listed in annex III below.

**E. Consultations with non-governmental organizations**

154. In accordance with rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the observers for the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council made statements at the thirtieth session:

- |                     |   |          |
|---------------------|---|----------|
| <u>Category I:</u>  | International Alliance of Women -<br>Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities | (item 3) |
|                     | United Towns Organizations  | (item 3) |
| <u>Category II:</u> | International Catholic Child Bureau                                       | (item 3) |
|                     | International Centre of Social Gerontology                                | (item 3) |

155. Written statements submitted by non-governmental organizations are listed in annex III below.

## Notes

- 1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 45 (A/38/45).
- 2/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14 to 30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I, sect. B.
- 3/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/38/6), sect. 6.B.4.
- 4/ Report of the World Assembly on Aging, Vienna, 26 July to 6 August 1982 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.
- 5/ Ibid.
- 6/ 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. B.
- 7/ Ibid.
- 8/ See General Assembly resolution 35/126 of 11 December 1980.
- 9/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women ... , chap. I, sect. B.
- 10/ E/CN.6/1984/10.
- 11/ A/37/261-S/15150.
- 12/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1984, Supplement No. 5 (E/1982/15), chap. IV.
- 13/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women ... , chap. I, sect. B.
- 14/ See General Assembly resolution 37/16 of 16 November 1982.
- 15/ See General Assembly resolution 3010 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972.
- 16/ See General Assembly resolution 31/136 of 31 December 1976.
- 17/ 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.
- 18/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women ... , chap. I, sect. B.
- 19/ Report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, Geneva, 29 August-7 September 1983 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.21).

Notes (continued)

20/ General Assembly resolution 37/63 of 3 December 1982, annex.

21/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women ... , chap. I, sect. B.

22/ Ibid.

23/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year ....

24/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women ... , chap. I, sect. A.

Annex I

ATTENDANCE

Members

Australia: Kathleen Joan Taperell, Jane Hamilton\*

Canada: Maureen O'Neil, J. R. Crowe,\* Louise Holmes,\* Freda Paltiel,\*  
Lindsay Niemann,\* Carla Thorlakson\*

China: Huang Ganying, Lin Shangzhen,\* Xu Manqin, Xie Shanshan

Cuba: Olga Finlay, Liliam Roch,\* Jorge Morales\*

Czechoslovakia: Dagmar Molková, Václav Kodis,\* Jirí Syrucek\*

Denmark: Hanne Severinsen, Niels Koch,\* Annette Lassen

Ecuador: Luzmila Rodríguez de Troya, Manuel Calista Varela,\* Carlos Abad,\*  
Jaime Barberis\*

Egypt: Farida Abou El Fetouh, Mahmoud Saad\*

German Democratic Republic: Helga Hoerz, Heinz Duehring\*

Germany, Federal Republic of: Ellen Wolf, Wolfgang Hoffmann\*

India: Sarojini Pulla Reddy, V. P. Marway,\* D. K. Jain\*

Indonesia: Artati Sudirdjo, Enny Soeprapto,\* Sulastri Soengkwo,\* Musa Abbas\*

Italy: Paola Gaiotti de Biase, Manfredo Incisa di Camerana,\*  
Fiammetta Milesi Ferretti,\* Vincenza Lomonaco,\* Michelangelo Pipan

Japan: Yoko Nuita, Mitsuko Horiuchi,\* Wataru Oda, Tamio Hayashi, Toshihiro Araki

Kenya: Esther Jonathan Wandeka

Liberia: \*\*

Mexico: Olga Pellicer, Luis Alberto Barrero Stahl\*

Nicaragua: Ivonne Siu Bermúdez

Pakistan: Salima Raisuddin Ahmed, Aziz Ahmad Khan,\* Shamim A. Chaudhri\*

---

\* Alternate.

\*\* Did not attend.

Philippines: Rosario G. Manalo, Laura Q. Del Rosario\*

Sierra Leone: Rosaline O. Forde\*\*

Spain: María Gracia Pérez

Sudan: Elsayed Mahasin Gallani

Togo: Adamou Kaboua

Trinidad and Tobago: Elmina Clarke-Allen, Lenore S. Dorset\*

Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic: V. I. Sivolob, N. P. Makarevich,\*  
A. G. Matsuka\*

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: T. N. Nikolaeva, V. I. Khamanov,\*  
L. S. Lobanov, A. I. Shaitukhov,  
A. A. Shitnikov, A. S. Anikushin

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: R. T. Gardner of Parkes,  
C. J. Ingham,\* W. O'Hara,\*  
S. Pease\*

United States of America: Nancy Clark Reynolds, Jean C. Bergaust,\*  
Jennifer B. Dunn, Barbara J. Mahone,  
Beryl Buckley Milburn, Lynn Ross Wood,  
Julia Jacobson, J. Daniel Phillips

Venezuela: Delma Miralles, Alberto José Molina\*

Zaire: Bolle Nonkwa, Mutombo Tshitambwe\*

Zambia: Justice Lombe Chibesakunda

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chile, Finland, France, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Ivory Coast, Malaysia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Tunisia, Turkey, Yugoslavia.

Non-member State represented by an observer

Switzerland.

United Nations bodies

Economic Commission for Latin America, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

### Specialized agencies

International Labour Organisation, United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, World Bank.

### Intergovernmental organizations represented by observers

Commonwealth Secretariat, Council of Europe, European Economic Community, Inter-American Commission of Women, League of Arab States.

### Other organization represented by an observer

Palestine Liberation Organization.

### Liberation movements

African National Congress of South Africa, 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 Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Council of Women, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Planned Parenthood Federation, United Towns Organization, Women's International Democratic Federation, World Federation of United Nations Associations.

Category II: All-India Women's Conference, Associated Country Women of the World, Bahá'í International Community, European Insurance Committee, Friends World Committee for Consultation, International Catholic Child Bureau, International Centre of Social Gerontology, International Council of Jewish Women, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of University Women, Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement of Catholic Students), Soroptimist International, Women's International Zionist Organization, World Association of Former United Nations Internes and Fellows, World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, World Young Women's Christian Association, Zonta International.

Roster: International Abolitionist Federation, Medical Women's International Association, Romani Union, SERVAS International.

Annex II

AGENDA OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION

Adopted by the Commission at its 1st meeting, on 15 February 1984

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Review and appraisal of progress achieved in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women during the period 1982-1983:
  - (a) Review and appraisal of progress made at the national level;
  - (b) Measures taken by the United Nations system of organizations and by intergovernmental organizations, progress made in the implementation of new strategies for women and work aimed at the follow-up and harmonization of actions of various bodies of the United Nations system.
4. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
5. Communications concerning the status of women.
6. Participation of women in the struggle for the strengthening of international peace and security and against colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, foreign aggression and occupation, and all forms of foreign domination.
7. Programme of future work, including a draft provisional agenda for the thirty-first session.
8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirtieth session.

Annex III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE COMMISSION AT ITS  
THIRTIETH SESSION

| <u>Document number</u>  | <u>Agenda item</u> | <u>Title or description</u>  |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--|
| A/38/45                 | 4                  | Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women   |
| A/38/378                | 4                  | Report of the Secretary-General on the Status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women  |
| A/38/406                | 3 (b)              | Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women  |
| A/39/58                 | 3 (a)              | Note by the Secretary-General on the situation of women in rural areas   |
| E/CN.6/1984/1 and Add.1 | 2                  | Annotated provisional agenda for the thirtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women  |
| E/CN.6/1984/2           | 3 (b)              | Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations activities during the biennium 1982-1983 in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women |
| E/CN.6/1984/3           | 3 (b)              | Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of new strategies for women and work aimed at the follow-up and harmonization of action of the various bodies of the United Nations system       |
| E/CN.6/1984/4           | 3 (b)              | Progress report of the Secretary-General on technical co-operation activities of the United Nations system for the advancement of women  |
| E/CN.6/1984/5           | 3 (b)              | Report of the International Labour Organisation on the ILO and Women Workers: Activities in 1982-83  |

| <u>Document number</u>                                      | <u>Agenda item</u> | <u>Title or description</u>  |
|---|--------------------|--|
| E/CN.6/1984/6   | 3 (b)              | Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on its activities of special interest to women   |
| E/CN.6/1984/7   | 3 (b)              | Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on Activities on Improving the Status of Women  |
| E/CN.6/1984/8   | 3 (b)              | Report of the World Health Organization on Women, Health and Development Activities in WHO's Programmes, 1982-1983   |
| E/CN.6/1984/9   | 3 (b)              | Report of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) on Activities on the Status of Women  |
| E/CN.6/1984/10  | 6                  | Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of women and children living under racist minority régimes and in the occupied Arab territories and other occupied territories  |
| E/CN.6/1984/11  | 3 (b)              | Report of the Commission on the Status of Arab Women on its programme and activities relating to Arab women  |
| E/CN.6/1984/CR.27 and<br>Corr.1<br>Note: Corr.2 (F, S only) | 5                  | Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a non-confidential list containing a brief summary of communications dealing with the principles relating to the promotion of women's rights in the political, economic, civil, social and educational fields |
| E/CN.6/1984/CRP.1   | 2                  | Organization of the work of the session:<br>Note by the Secretariat  |
| E/CN.6/1984/CRP.2   | 7                  | Extracts from the Programme Budget for the Biennium 1984-1985 Section 6, Programme 4, Subprogrammes 3, 4 and 5 for the Advancement of Women  |
| E/CN.6/1984/CRP.3   | 7                  | Extracts from the Medium-Term Plans: 1984-1989: Chapter 21, Programme 1, Subprogramme for the Advancement of Women   |

| <u>Document number</u>   | <u>Agenda item</u> | <u>Title or description</u>   |
|--|--------------------|---|
| E/CN.6/1984/INF.1  | 2                  | Information for participants  |
| E/CN.6/1984/INF.2  | 2                  | List of delegations   |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.1  | 2                  | Programme of work as approved by the Commission at its first meeting on 15 February 1984  |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.2  | 2                  | Decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1984: Note by the Secretariat  |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.3 and Add.1-2,<br>Add.3 and Corr.1-2,<br>Add.4-8 | 8                  | Draft report of the Commission  |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.4  | 4                  | Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, German Democratic Republic, Philippines and Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic: draft resolution  |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.5  | 3                  | Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, India, Japan, Kenya, Pakistan, Philippines, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.6  | 3                  | Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Poland and Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic: draft resolution  |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.6/Rev.1  | 3                  | Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Poland and Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic: revised draft resolution  |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.7  | 3                  | Australia, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution     |

| <u>Document number</u> | <u>Agenda item</u> | <u>Title or description</u>  |
|------------------------|--------------------|--|
| E/CN.6/1984/L.8/Rev.2  | 7                  | Argentina, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela: revised draft resolution  |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.9        | 3                  | Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Japan, Netherlands, Spain, United States of America and Zambia: draft resolution   |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.9/Rev.1  | 3                  | Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Japan, Netherlands, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America and Zambia: revised draft resolution  |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.10       | 3                  | Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia: draft resolution |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.11/Rev.1 | 7                  | Draft provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women   |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.12       | 6                  | China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Egypt, German Democratic Republic, India, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Zaire and Zambia: draft resolution                               |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.13       | 6                  | Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Tunisia and Zambia: draft resolution   |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.14       | 7                  | Australia, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Kenya, Mexico, Philippines, Spain and Trinidad and Tobago: draft resolution  |

| <u>Document number</u>                     | <u>Agenda item</u> | <u>Title or description</u>  |
|--|--------------------|--|
| E/CN.6/1984/L.15                           | 7                  | Australia, Canada, Denmark, Netherlands, Philippines, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution  |
| E/CN.6/1984/L.16                           | 7                  | Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: amendments to E/CN.6/1984/L.15  |
| E/CN.6/1984/NGO/1                          | 6                  | Statement submitted by the Bahá'í International Community, non-governmental organization in consultative status, category II   |
| E/CN.6/1984/NGO/2-<br>A/CONF.116/PC/NGO/10 | 3 (a)              | Statement submitted by the Associated Country Women of the World, non-governmental organization in consultative status, category II  |
| E/CN.6/1984/NGO/3                          | 3                  | Statement submitted by the International Federation of University Women, non-governmental organization in consultative status, category II   |
| E/CN.6/1984/NGO/4                          | 3                  | Statement submitted by the International Alliance of Women, the International Council of Women, the United Towns Organization, non-governmental organizations in consultative status, category I; Bahá'í International Community, the International Abolitionist Federation, the International Catholic Child Bureau, the International Council of Jewish Women, the International Federation for Home Economics, the International Federation of University Women, the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, the World Young Women's Christian Association, non-governmental organizations in consultative status, category II |

| <u>Document number</u>                     | <u>Agenda item</u> | <u>Title or description</u>  |
|--|--------------------|--|
| E/CN.6/1984/NGO/5                          | 3                  | Statement submitted by the International Alliance of Women, the International Council of Women, the International Council on Social Welfare, the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, the International Organization of Consumer's Unions, the United Towns Organization, non-governmental organizations, category I; the All-India Women's Conference, the Associated Country Women of the World, the International Centre for Social Gerontology, the International Federation for Home Economics, the International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres, the International Federation of University Women, the International Senior Citizens Association, the Medical Women's International Association, the Salvation Army, Soroptomist International, Women's International Zionist Organization, the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, Zonta International, non-governmental organizations in consultative status, category II; the European Federation for the Welfare of the Elderly, the International Prevention of Road Accidents, the International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technicians, non-governmental organizations in consultative status, on the roster |
| E/CN.6/1984/NGO/6-<br>A/CONF.116/PC/NGO/11 | 7                  | Statement submitted by the International Alliance of Women, non-governmental organization in consultative status, category I   |
| E/CN.6/1984/NGO/7-<br>A/CONF.116/PC/NGO/12 | 3 (a)              | Statement submitted by the International Alliance of Women, non-governmental organization in consultative status, category I   |