



UNITED NATIONS

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
REPORT OF THE FOURTEENTH SESSION

28 March — 14 April 1960

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTIETH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 7

NEW YORK

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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.

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UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS
THIRTIETH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 7

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Report to the Economic and Social Council on the fourteenth session of the Commission,
held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 28 March to 14 April 1960 inclusive

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission on the Status of Women held its fourteenth session in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The session began on 28 March and ended on 14 April 1960.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Miss Ruth Tomlinson, Mr. J. M. Carlin; *

United States of America: Mrs. Lorena Hahn, Mrs. Mary B. Goodhue,** Mrs. Alice A. Morrison,** Mr. Julian L. Nugent, Jr.,* Mr. Gustav Sallas;**

Attendance

OBSERVERS

2. Attendance at the session was as follows:

Hungary: Mr. Ferenc Császár;

Peru: Miss Rosario Ortiz de Zevallos;

Romania: Mrs. Maria Doina Pacuraru;

Uruguay: Mrs. Enriqueta Tatlock Menoud.

Argentina: Mrs. Blanca Stábile, Mrs. Mabel Baldassarre de Kurrels,* Mr. Ricardo Pillado Salas,** Mr. Enrique Jorge Ross,** Mrs. Lillian O'Connell;**

Canada: Mrs. Harry S. Quart, Miss Marion Royce; *

China: Miss Helen Hsieh Ching Yeh,* Mr. Peng Yu;**

Colombia: Mrs. Anacarsis Cardona de Salonia;

Cuba: Mrs. Teresa Casuso Morin;

Czechoslovakia: Mrs. Helena Rašková,* Mr. Rudolf Popp; *

Finland: Mrs. Helvi Sipilä, Mr. Henrik Blomstedt; *

France: Mrs. Marie-Hélène Lefauchaux, Miss Michelle de Campos;**

Greece: Mrs. Alexandra Mantzoulinos;*

Israel: Mrs. Tamar Shoham-Sharon;

Japan: Mrs. Setsu Tanino, Mr. Yoshio Nara;*

Mexico: Miss María Lavalle Urbina, Miss Julieta Domínguez Huerta;**

Netherlands: Mrs. J. F. Schouwenaar-Franssen;

Pakistan: Begum Tazeen Faridi;

Poland: Mrs. Zofia Dembinska, Mrs. Maria Ciechanowska;**

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Mrs. Ekaterina Korshunova,* Miss Irene Gorodetskaya,** Mrs. Vera Kastalskaya,** Mr. Sviatoslav Kuznetsov;**

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

International Labour Organisation: Mrs. Elizabeth Johnstone;

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization: Mrs. Antonina K. Gegalova;

World Health Organization: Miss Hilda Lozier.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

CATEGORY A

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions: Miss Marcelle Dehareng, Mrs. Sonia Kraselburd, Mrs. Josefina A. Gorla, Mrs. Elisa Campo di Grieco;

International Co-operative Alliance: Mrs. Lilia Rosenblatt, Mrs. Judit López Faget;

International Federation of Christian Trade Unions: Miss Blanca Azucena Torre;

World Federation of United Nations Associations: Mrs. Cristina C. M. de Aparicio, Mrs. Ellinor L. de Salmon, Miss Susana Larguía, Miss Zunilda H. González van Domselaar.

* Alternate.

** Adviser.

CATEGORY B

Agudas Israel World Organization: Mr. Meyer Simon Reichman;

Associated Country Women of the World: Miss Amy Kane;

Catholic International Union for Social Service: Miss Maria Ezcurra, Mrs. Esther R. Gonzales;

Commission of the Churches on International Affairs: Miss Madeleine Barot, Mrs. Esther W. Hymer;

International Alliance of Women: Miss Blanca A. Cassagne Serres;

International Council of Women: Mrs. Mary Rega Molina de Méndez Caldeira, Mrs. Isabel Alonso Deyra;

International Federation of Business and Professional Women: Judge Sarah T. Hughes, Mrs. Esther W. Hymer;

International Federation of University Women: Miss Isabel do Prado, Mrs. Maria Hortensia Sellarés, Mrs. Perla Roqué de Marinelli, Miss Marta Fuchs;

International Federation of Women Lawyers: Miss Blanca A. Cassagne Serres, Miss Herminia Ruiz Ovelar, Miss Beatriz F. Dalurzo;

International League for the Rights of Man: Mrs. Hildegarde Wolle-Egenolf;

Liaison Committee of Women's International Organizations: Mrs. Esther W. Hymer;

Pan-Pacific Southeast Asia Women's Association: Miss Amy Kane;

Women's International Zionist Organization: Mrs. Hadasa Grinberg;

World Jewish Congress: Mrs. Helena Lameman de Kosiner;

World Movement of Mothers: Mrs. Elvira Zorraquin de Fredenhagen;

World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations: Miss Celina Piñero Pearson, Miss Elena Cumella, Mrs. Aida Walker de Alberdi;

World Young Women's Christian Association: The Honourable Isabel G. Catto, Mrs. Leonor Stok de Llovet, Miss Frances Munn, Miss Dorothea E. Woods;

Young Christian Workers: Miss Gabriela Videla G.

REGISTER

International Committee of Catholic Nurses: Mrs. Celina Arauz de Pirovano;

International Council of Nurses: Miss Lily Elder;

International Council of Social Democratic Women: Mrs. Alicia Moreau de Justo;

International House Association: Mrs. Beverly A. Chico;

St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance: Miss Catalina Maxwell;

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts: Mrs. Nair G. de Pieres, Mrs. Angelica M. de Gowland;

World Union of Catholic Teachers: Mrs. Esther Thirion de Veron.

3. Mrs. Sophie Grinberg-Vinaver, Chief of the Section on the Status of Women, represented the Secretary-General. Miss Aline M. Fenwick acted as Secretary to the Commission.

Representation of China

4. At the 311th meeting, the representative of the USSR protested against the absence of any representative of the People's Republic of China, whose place, she contended, was illegally occupied by a person who had no right to represent China. This view was supported by the representatives of Poland and Czechoslovakia.

5. The representative of China stated that she represented the only legal Government of China, and pointed out that the Commission on the Status of Women was not competent to take any action in the matter. This view was supported by the representative of the United States of America. It was agreed that the views expressed would be included in the records of the session.

Election of officers

6. The Commission, at its 311th meeting, on 28 March 1960, unanimously elected the following officers:

Mrs. Blanca Stábile (Argentina), *Chairman*.

Mrs. Zofia Dembinska (Poland), *First Vice-Chairman*.

Mrs. Harry S. Quart (Canada), *Second Vice-Chairman*.

Mrs. Alexandra Mantzoulinos (Greece), *Rapporteur*.

Committees

7. In order to expedite its work, the Commission at its 313th meeting established an *Ad Hoc* Committee on Resolutions. The Committee was composed of representatives of France (Chairman), Israel, Mexico, the USSR and the United States of America.

Meetings, resolutions and documentation

8. The Commission held twenty-five plenary meetings. The views expressed at those meetings are summarized in the records of the 311th to 335th meetings.

9. The resolutions and decisions of the Commission appear under the subject-matters to which they relate. The draft resolutions submitted for consideration by the Economic and Social Council are set out in chapter XV of the present report.

10. The documents before the Commission at its fourteenth session are listed in the annex to this report.

Agenda

11. The Commission considered its agenda at the 311th meeting. It had before it the provisional agenda (E/CN.6/351 and Add.1-2) drawn up by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission.

12. The Commission adopted unanimously the proposal made by the representative of Israel that item 8, dealing with the status of women in private law, should become item 5 in view of the importance which the members of the Commission attached to the discussion of the draft Convention and the draft Recommendation on the age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriages.

13. The representative of France proposed the addition to the agenda of three new sub-items, dealing with ritual operations, to be placed under item 5; with the age of retirement and right to pension, to be considered under item 7; and with the study of discrimination in the field of education, to be studied under item 8. These proposals were accepted by the Commission.

14. At its 311th meeting, on 28 March 1960, the Commission unanimously adopted its agenda as amended.

15. The agenda in its final form (E/CN.6/351/Rev.1) was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Political rights of women :
 - (a) Annual memorandum on political rights of women;
 - (b) Report on the status of women in Trust Territories;
 - (c) Report on the status of women in Non-Self-Governing Territories;
 - (d) Report on the access of women to public services and functions;
 - (e) Report on the implementation of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women.
4. Advisory services programme :
 - (a) Progress report on the advisory services programme;
 - (b) Report of the Seminar on Participation of Women in Public Life, held in Bogotá, Colombia, in May 1959.

5. Status of women in private law :

- (a) Report on the age of marriage, the consent of the parties to the marriage and the registration of marriages;
- (b) Draft Convention and draft Recommendation on the age of marriage, the free consent of the parties to the marriage and the registration of marriages;
- (c) Annual reports on legislation and practice in family law and property rights of women;
- (d) Ritual operations.

6. Equal pay for equal work : progress report on the implementation of the principle of equal pay for equal work.

7. Economic opportunities for women :

- (a) Report on tax legislation applicable to women;
- (b) Supplementary report on the occupational outlook for women in architecture, engineering and law;
- (c) Age of retirement and right to pension.

8. Access of women to education :

- (a) Report on the access of women to out-of-school education;
- (b) Study of discrimination in the field of education.

9. Nationality of married women : report containing information on recent changes in legislation affecting the nationality of married women, and signatures and ratifications of the Convention on the Nationality of Married Women.

10. Reports of the representatives of the Commission on the Status of Women to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifteenth and sixteenth sessions and to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at its twelfth session.

11. Report of the Inter-American Commission of Women.

12. Communications : note by the Secretary-General.

13. Review of the programme of work and establishment of priorities; control and limitation of documentation : note on the programme of work, establishment of priorities and control and limitation of documentation.

14. Adoption of the report to the Economic and Social Council.

II. POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

16. The Commission considered item 3 of its agenda at its 312th, 313th, 314th, 316th, 317th and 319th meetings. It had before it a consolidated memorandum by the Secretary-General on constitutions, electoral laws and other legal instruments relating to the political rights of women (A/4159), a memorandum by the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women (E/CN.6/360), a report by the Secretary-General on the access of women to public services and functions (E/CN.6/354 and Add.1) and reports by the Secretary-General on the status of women in Trust (E/CN.6/352 and Add.1) and in Non-Self-Governing (E/CN.6/355) Territories; it also had before it statements submitted by the International Council of Women (E/CN.6/NGO/80), the International Federation of Business and Professional Women (E/CN.6/NGO/82), the International Federation of University Women (E/CN.6/NGO/101) and the Pan-Pacific Southeast Asia Women's Association (E/CN.6/NGO/73).

17. In the course of the general debate on this item, the Commission reviewed the progress achieved towards the recognition of political rights for women. It was generally agreed that the enactment of constitutional and legislative provisions granting political rights to women was only the first step in the achievement of full participation by women in political life and that the real test was in the use which women made of their rights. In this respect mention was made of the need for encouraging women to undertake equal political responsibilities with men. Several representatives emphasized the importance of the active participation of women in public life, not only by making use of their right to vote, but also by standing for election and by acceding to political posts.

18. Various methods of encouraging active use of political rights by women were suggested. Some representatives stressed the value of seminars in dealing with these problems and suggested also the advisability of experimenting with new techniques of education in the

understanding and practice of civic rights and responsibilities. Another representative mentioned the important role that non-governmental organizations, particularly youth organizations, can play in assisting women to a better understanding of their political duties and to an increasing participation in the political life of their communities. It was also stated that women gain confidence by participating in public life on the community level where the influence of the individual — a characteristic of true democracy — can be most effective.

19. In connexion with the progress achieved, two representatives expressed their satisfaction with the result of the recent referenda on the political rights of women in Switzerland and gratification that these rights had been achieved for women in two more cantons. Satisfaction was also shown with the fact that a new Member of the United Nations, Guinea, before entering the international organization, had granted full political rights to its women.

20. Some representatives showed their concern with the fact that there were still ten countries and a number of Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories where political rights had not been granted to women. Other representatives mentioned the progress which had been achieved by women in the field of political rights in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories, and the United Kingdom representative gave details which showed that the position in the dependent territories of her Government compared very favourably with the position in sovereign States. The representative of France recalled that in all the territories which were administered or had been administered by France, women enjoyed political rights without any reservation.

21. Although it was pointed out by one representative that the signing of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women was the first step towards the achievement of political rights, some representatives said that the absence of signature and ratification by a country does not necessarily imply the lack of political rights for women in that country.

22. During the discussion of the access of women to public services and functions it was agreed that, although in some instances women have reached high positions, much remained to be done in this field. It was stressed that in the majority of countries women encounter difficulties in obtaining certain types of post. One representative mentioned the fact that even within the international organizations, few women are being appointed to high positions. But the most serious discrimination against women was observed in the fact that in many countries women do not retain their posts after marriage. Several representatives expressed concern with this position and suggested that the efforts of the Commission be centred around the elimination of discrimination against married women in public service.

23. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the valuable consolidated memorandum on constitutions, electoral laws and other legal instruments relating to the political rights of women, and for his report on the access of women to public services and functions. Two members felt, however, that

in the future the information supplied by Governments and that furnished by non-governmental organizations might well be presented in separate reports.

24. It was suggested that in order to make the greatest possible use of the material contained in the annual memorandum of the Secretary-General on political rights of women, a summary of information on the progress achieved be included in the biannual "Newsletter on the Status of Women", which is being widely distributed through information centres of the United Nations.

25. During the debate the Commission heard statements by the observer for Peru and by representatives of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Statements were also made by the observers for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions, the World Federation of United Nations Associations, the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, the International Federation of Women Lawyers, the Pan-Pacific Southeast Women's Association and the International Committee of Catholic Nurses.

26. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics submitted a draft resolution (E/CN.6/L.278) which reads as follows:

"The Commission on the Status of Women,

"Recognizing that the principle of equal rights, laid down in the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, requires for its application that women be given an opportunity to play a larger part in, and exert a greater influence on, the domestic and foreign policies of their countries,

"Requests the Economic and Social Council to adopt the following draft resolution:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Noting that the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, while granting broad rights to women, at the same time implies that women have definite civic duties to perform,

"Taking into account that the present world situation makes it imperative for women to participate more actively in the solution of current domestic and international problems,

"Considering that the most important problem of our time is the removal of the threat of war,

"Recalling resolution 1378 (XIV) of 20 November 1959, adopted unanimously by the General Assembly, on general and complete disarmament, as the most important step towards securing universal peace,

"Noting the resolutions adopted by the Executive Board of the World Health Organization at its twenty-fifth session and by the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its fifty-fifth session, in connexion with the above-mentioned General Assembly resolution, supporting the idea of disarmament,

“ ‘ 1. *Recommends* to Governments that they should create the necessary conditions to enable women to play a greater part in the solution of problems of domestic and foreign policy, in particular, by affording them wider access to positions of leadership;

“ ‘ 2. *Recommends* to non-governmental organizations that they should give every possible assistance to women in their struggle for the preservation of peace and in the fight against hunger and ignorance and that, in consonance with public opinion in all countries, they should promote the adoption and application of a programme of disarmament and the utilization of the funds thus released for the purpose of raising the material and cultural level of living of the peoples.’ ”

27. The majority of the representatives felt that the resolution went beyond the terms of reference of the Commission. At the 314th meeting the representative of the United States of America moved for a vote on the competence of the Commission to continue dealing with the draft resolution in accordance with article 52 of the rules of procedure. The motion was put to the vote. By 14 votes to 3, with 1 abstention, the Commission decided that the draft resolution exceeded its terms of reference.

28. The representatives of France, Greece, Israel, the United Kingdom and the United States of America submitted a draft resolution (E/CN.6/L.280) relating to the membership of African Member States in the Commission on the Status of Women.

29. At the 316th meeting the draft resolution was put to the vote and unanimously adopted. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

1 (XIV). POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling that the principle of equal rights for men and women has been included in the Charter of the United Nations as one of the aims of the peoples of the United Nations,

Recalling also article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and General Assembly resolution 56 (I) of 11 December 1946,

Noting that the United Nations will hold a seminar on the participation of women in public life in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in December 1960,

Considering also that many African countries have attained or shortly will attain their independence, and that women in these countries should enjoy full economic and social rights,

Believing that the Commission on the Status of Women constitutes an important influence in the attainment of such rights,

Requests the Economic and Social Council to adopt the following draft resolution:

[For the text of the draft resolution, see chapter XV, draft resolution II A.]

30. The Commission considered the joint draft resolution submitted by the representatives of Argentina, France, Greece, Israel, Mexico and the United States of America (E/CN.6/L.279) relating to the access of women to public services and functions. Amendments to the draft resolution were submitted by the representative of the United Kingdom (E/CN.6/L.281).

31. The draft resolution and the amendments were referred to the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Resolutions, which proposed to the Commission the text contained in document E/CN.6/L.284. This text contained two phrases in brackets on which the Committee did not reach agreement and on which it proposed that separate votes be taken by the Commission. The representative of the United Kingdom made an oral amendment to the second paragraph of the preamble consisting in the replacement of the words “occupied by them as efficiently as by unmarried women” by “performed by them efficiently”; she also proposed to replace the phrase “in employment suitable to their qualifications and abilities” at the end of the operative paragraph, by the words “which can be performed by them efficiently”. The representative of the United States of America proposed the addition of the words “without discrimination on the basis of marital status” to follow the new wording proposed by the representative of the United Kingdom at the end of the operative paragraph. The representative of Greece proposed the addition of the words “and to free choice of employment” at the end of the second preambular paragraph of the draft resolution for the Economic and Social Council. The Commission decided to take separate votes on the two phrases in brackets in document E/CN.6/L.284, as orally amended, as well as on the words “and to free choice of employment” proposed by the representative of Greece.

32. At the 319th meeting of the Commission, the phrase “which could be performed by them efficiently” was rejected by the Commission by 11 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions; the phrase “in employment they could perform efficiently, without discrimination on the basis of marital status” was rejected by 13 votes to 5; the addition of the words “and to free choice of employment”, at the end of the second preambular paragraph of the draft resolution for the Economic and Social Council, was approved by 13 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions.

33. During the 319th meeting the draft resolution as a whole and as amended (E/CN.6/365) was adopted by 14 votes to none, with 4 abstentions. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

2 (XIV). ACCESS OF WOMEN TO PUBLIC SERVICES AND FUNCTIONS

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Having taken note of the new documentation prepared by the Secretary-General on the access of women to public services and functions,¹

¹ E/CN.6/354 and Add.1.

Noting with satisfaction that women in most countries have won for themselves a considerable place in the sphere of public services and functions, but regretting that discriminatory measures are still being taken in many countries against married women who apply for or occupy administrative posts,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 385 G (XIII) of 27 August 1951,

Requests the Economic and Social Council to adopt the following draft resolution:

[For the text of the draft resolution, see chapter XV draft resolution II B.]

III. ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

34. The Commission considered item 4 of its agenda at its 315th to 318th meetings. It had before it a progress report by the Secretary-General on advisory services in the field of human rights (E/CN.6/357 and Add.1 and 2 - E/CN.6/798), the report of the Bogotá Seminar on Participation of Women in Public Life (ST/TAO/HR/5), as well as statements submitted by the All-Pakistan Women's Association (E/CN.6/NGO/95), the International Alliance of Women (E/CN.6/NGO/85), the International Federation of Business and Professional Women (E/CN.6/NGO/83), the International Federation of University Women (E/CN.6/NGO/101), the Pan-Pacific Southeast Asia Women's Association (E/CN.6/NGO/74) and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (E/CN.6/NGO/79).

35. In his progress report, the Secretary-General informed the Commission that he was organizing in 1960 three regional seminars as follows: (a) a seminar on the role of substantive criminal law in the protection of human rights, and the purposes of legitimate limits of penal sanctions, to be held in Tokyo from 10 to 24 May; (b) a seminar on the protection of human rights in criminal procedure, to be held in Vienna from 20 June to 4 July; and (c) a seminar on the participation of women in public life, to be held in Addis Ababa from 12 to 23 December. The Secretary-General also indicated that in 1961 a seminar on the status of women in family law will be held in Romania and a seminar on *amparo*, *habeas corpus* and related matters will be held in Mexico; a third seminar will be held in New Zealand on another aspect of the protection of human rights in criminal procedure. The Secretary-General stated also in his report that he continues to keep in mind the organization in the future of an international seminar.

36. In the course of the debate, members of the Commission stressed the usefulness of the programme of advisory services as demonstrated by the success of the regional seminars already held. It was felt that the seminars on the participation of women in public life held in Bangkok, Thailand, in 1957 and in Bogotá, Colombia, in 1959, had made a great contribution towards the promotion of political rights of women and allowed the participants to exchange information and experience, and to help women in their countries to develop the understanding of their civic responsibilities. Several members expressed great satisfaction with the organization of the seminars. Some others felt that the programmes had been too wide in scope and that it would be advisable in the future to restrict these programmes to a more limited number of topics; in this respect, the subject

of the seminar in Romania in 1961 on the status of women in family law met with approval. There was considerable discussion of the value of various methods of continuing and developing the work begun at a regional seminar. Several representatives felt strongly that the organization of national seminars after a regional seminar had been held would be the best means of following up and supplementing the work accomplished during such regional seminars. The representative of Argentina indicated that, as a result of the participation by her country in the Bogotá seminar, a national seminar would be organized in Argentina in November 1960.

37. On the other hand, some representatives felt that an important form of follow-up to the regional seminars would be an international seminar, as indicated by the Secretary-General in paragraph 7 of his progress report (E/CN.6/357 and Add.1 and 2 - E/CN.4/798). They considered that the organization of national seminars was exclusively within the competence of the Governments of the countries concerned and that such seminars should take place only after the international seminar. These members indicated that an international seminar would be an excellent vehicle for the promotion of international understanding, which is one of the main aims of the United Nations. One representative observed that it might be well to place at the disposal of Governments which invited the Commission to meet in their countries all or part of the funds provided for the organization of seminars.

38. Other members were of the opinion that the time has not come yet for the planning of an international seminar inasmuch as only two regional seminars on the participation of women in public life had been held. They emphasized the value of regional and national seminars for under-developed countries, because they would bring understanding of their role as citizens to women at the community level and thereby reach the grass-roots of the population. Apprehension was expressed that the cost of an international seminar would probably absorb the budget allocated for the programme of advisory services and would thus prevent the holding of regional seminars. Regional seminars, it was felt, were the best means of utilizing the funds available.

39. Several members indicated that, while the seminars already held have usually included some discussion of follow-up, relatively few such projects have been organized within participating countries. An important problem in developing seminars at the national level would be the provision of experienced leadership such as that which the United Nations might provide at the request of

Governments of Member States for the organization of national or local seminars. Mention was made of the importance of beginning civic education of women at an early stage, in schools or, even better, in youth organizations. One representative drew the attention of the Commission to the fact that the advisory services programme also provided for fellowships and scholarships and that much greater use should be made of these opportunities for the improvement of the status of women.

40. The Commission heard statements by the observer for Peru, as well as by the representatives of the ILO, UNESCO and WHO. Statements were also made by the representatives of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, the International Federation of Women Lawyers, the Women's International Zionist Organization and the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

41. The representatives of Israel and Poland submitted a joint draft resolution (E/CN.6/L.283) dealing with the organization, in the future, of an international seminar on the participation of women in public life. In the course of the debate on this resolution, the sponsors amended its final paragraph to read as follows :

"Suggests that such an international seminar on the participation of women in public life be organized by the Secretary-General in the future, within the budgetary allocation for the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights."

Following an exchange of opinion on this proposal, the sponsors withdrew the draft resolution.

42. A joint draft resolution was submitted by the representatives of Argentina, Colombia, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands and the United States of America (E/CN.6/L.282) relating to the organization of seminars at the national and the local level. Verbal amendments to this draft resolution were made by the representatives of France, the United States of America and Pakistan. These amendments were accepted by the sponsors. At

its 318th meeting, the Commission adopted this draft resolution, as amended, by 16 votes to none, with 2 abstentions. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

3 (XIV). ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Noting the success of the regional seminars on the participation of women in public life held in Bangkok in 1957 and Bogotá in 1959, and the plans for a similar seminar in Addis Ababa in December 1960, and for a seminar on the status of women in family law in Romania in 1961,

Noting the interest of those attending in sharing the results of these seminars with women in their own countries, and the need to provide seminar opportunities at the national and local level,

Appreciating the value of the experience gained in the organization and conduct of these seminars, and of the study and other materials prepared for participants,

Noting the response to regional seminars on the status of women, and the interest expressed by participants in organizing similar meetings within their own countries,

Believing that opportunities should be provided for similar meetings at the national and local level in response to requests of Governments of Member States,

Noting that the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights includes provision of assistance through the services of experts and through fellowships, as well as in the organization of seminars,

1. *Requests the Secretary-General to develop plans and, as appropriate, to provide experts to assist Governments of Member States, at their request, in the organization of seminars at the national and local level, with the purpose of advancing the status of women;*

2. *Invites the Secretary-General to consider ways in which non-governmental women's organizations in consultative status with particular competence in special fields be used in planning national seminars as follow-up of regional seminars.*

IV. STATUS OF WOMEN IN PRIVATE LAW

43. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its 319th to 328th meetings. It had before it a report by the Secretary-General on the age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriages (E/CN.6/356 and Add.1), and a report by the Secretary-General prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 722 B (XXVIII) containing a draft Convention and a draft Recommendation on the age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriages (E/CN.6/353). In addition, it had before it two supplementary reports by the Secretary-General on the status of women in family law (E/CN.6/185/Add.17) and property rights of women (E/CN.6/208/Add.5), as

well as statements by the All-Pakistan Women's Association (E/CN.6/NGO/99), the Anti-Slavery Society (E/CN.6/NGO/72), the International Alliance of Women (E/CN.6/NGO/86), the International Council of Women (E/CN.6/NGO/80), the International Federation of University Women (E/CN.6/NGO/101), the International Federation of Women Lawyers (E/CN.6/NGO/88 and E/CN.6/NGO/89), the Liaison Committee of Women's International Organizations (E/CN.6/NGO/78), the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (E/CN.6/NGO/92), the World Young Women's Christian Association (E/CN.6/NGO/77) and the St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance (E/CN.6/NGO/75 and E/CN.6/NGO/76).

Age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriages

44. The Commission decided to consider sub-items (a) and (b) of item 5 together. At its 319th to 327th meetings it examined the question of the age of marriage, consent of the parties to the marriage and the registration of marriages, together with the draft Convention and draft Recommendation on the age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriages.

45. In opening the general debate, many representatives expressed their appreciation of the documentation prepared by the Secretary-General. Several representatives also noted the keen interest in this subject expressed by non-governmental organizations, as evidenced by the number of written statements which had been submitted. In this connexion reference was made to positive programmes organized by certain non-governmental organizations, and in particular to the programme which had been recently conducted in Korea by the World Young Women's Christian Association in order to publicize the advantages of the registration of marriages. It was remarked that the activities of the All-Pakistan Women's Association had been influential in promoting reforms in the field of private law.

46. Several representatives proposed that the Commission should ask the Economic and Social Council to submit the draft text of the Convention and Recommendation for comments by Governments, prior to a final decision on the text. It was felt by these representatives that Governments, if consulted beforehand, would be more inclined to ratify such instruments. One representative noted that this procedure had been followed by the Commission on a previous occasion. In reply to a request for information, the representative of the Secretary-General outlined the procedure that had led to the adoption of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women. It was also suggested that the summary records of the debates should be transmitted to Governments at the same time. Other representatives believed that the debates in the Economic and Social Council and in the General Assembly provided an adequate forum for the expression of opinion by Governments of Member States, and that, since the subject of the Convention and Recommendation had been on the agenda of the Commission for three years, submission to Governments for comment would only cause an unnecessary delay in the adoption of the Convention and Recommendation. In addition, they stated that the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/356 and Add.1), which was based on replies of forty-four Governments, gave a sufficient indication on the position of these countries with respect to the age of marriage, the free consent to marriage and the registration of marriages.

47. In the course of the general debate many representatives noted the difficulty of establishing a satisfactory minimum age of marriage since the diversity in existing legislation, which appeared in the information contained in the report of the Secretary-General, reflected the influence of cultural, ethnological and social patterns in various countries. However, it was pointed out that

geographic and climatic factors were necessarily decisive. Several representatives noted that the degree of spiritual, psychological and physical maturity of the prospective spouses must also be taken into account when determining the readiness of an individual for marriage. One representative pointed out that the maturity of the spouses was the basis for a stable and happy marriage.

48. While most representatives agreed on the difficulty in suggesting the age at which the parties to a marriage might be considered to have attained a sufficient degree of maturity to enter into the marriage, it was pointed out that recent legislation could furnish some assistance in fixing a minimum age, as it was apparent that the trend in many parts of the world was to raise the minimum marriage age for both men and women.

49. All representatives agreed on the absolute necessity of the free consent of both parties to a marriage. Several representatives emphasized that the requirement of a true consent would eliminate child marriages and child betrothals. Reference was made to situations in certain areas where in the absence of the necessity for consent of the bride, a form of slavery might be said to exist. It was suggested that in certain countries, where marriage is a matter of ritual only, consent can never be adequately expressed. One representative felt that it was impossible for true consent to be given by young girls whose judgement was unformed and immature.

50. The practical advantages of registration of marriages were fully recognized by all members of the Commission. A number of representatives considered that compulsory registration of marriages furnished the only adequate safeguard against child marriages as well as concubinage. Moreover, registration was felt to be an essential ingredient in ensuring the legitimacy of children, and the protection of rights of inheritance. One representative noted that participation in the social security benefits of modern States often depended on the production of evidence of marriage, usually a certificate of registration.

51. Members of the Commission then went on to consider the draft Convention and the draft Recommendation on the age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriages. While the goal of all representatives on these questions was the same, the debate indicated that the means of approach differed. The majority of representatives expressed the view that it was the duty of the Commission to act without delay in order to put a stop to practices which were harmful to large numbers of women in vast areas of the world.

52. Some representatives considered that a Convention places an obligation upon its signatories to implement it immediately by appropriate legislative action, whereas others recognized also the persuasive force of a Convention setting out standards to be achieved. Some members observed that the federal structure of their respective countries, which caused such matters as age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriages to fall within the exclusive jurisdiction of the State or provincial authorities, would prevent them from supporting a Convention. These representatives stated, however, that they could support a Recommendation.

tion which did not present any constitutional difficulties for their Governments. In the opinion of several representatives a recommendation would be a more effective means of establishing an international standard in this field; they expressed their support for a Recommendation; some added the hope that it would contain a territorial application clause.

53. A number of representatives supported the position that the draft Convention would be the more effective instrument; several of these stated that they would also vote in favour of the draft Recommendation as a supplement to the Convention. However, these representatives recognized the position of those members of the Commission who were precluded from supporting the Convention by constitutional difficulties and territorial commitments. Another group, while unwilling to support a Convention, considered that a Recommendation which set a social objective to work towards was a more effective instrument for defining standards and bringing about progress.

54. Certain representatives expressed the view that since their national legislation had been designed to meet the particular needs of their country, their Governments would not alter such legislation to conform to the terms of an international instrument. Other representatives noted that the proposed instrument would establish only a minimum standard and that those countries enjoying a higher standard could comply with the proposed texts without changing their legislation. It was emphasized that the proposed Convention and Recommendation were primarily designed to help women in underdeveloped and newly emerging nations who were seeking to alter and improve their social patterns.

55. Two representatives felt that the draft Convention should also include a provision for compulsory registration of births. Others felt, however, that this problem should be the concern of another organ of the United Nations, such as the Social Commission.

56. At the conclusion of the general debate, the Commission first decided to vote on the principle of a draft Convention and a draft Recommendation. The Commission decided by 10 votes to none, with 8 abstentions, in favour of the principle of a draft Convention. The Commission then decided by 14 votes to none, with 4 abstentions, in favour of the principle of a draft Recommendation.

57. The Commission accepted the oral proposal of the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to add the word "minimum" before "age of marriage" in the title of both the draft Convention and the draft Recommendation. Following this, the Commission decided to consider the substantive articles of the draft Convention. During the debate on article 1, some members proposed that the reference to the effect of the non-observance of rules on the validity of marriage be deleted. Other members favoured the retention of the wording in document E/CN.6/353, annexes A and B, because it gave legal strength to the provision. The consideration of article 1 was referred to the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Resolutions. Article 2 was adopted by 10 votes to 1, with 7 abstentions.

58. The Commission then went on to consider article 3 of the draft Convention. The Commission adopted, by 13 votes to none, with 5 abstentions, an amendment proposed orally by the representative of the United Kingdom, substituting the word "registered" for "recorded". The oral amendment of the representative of Israel to delete the words "civil or other" before "official", was approved by 10 votes to none, with 8 abstentions. The Commission then voted on article 3, as amended, and adopted the article by 10 votes to none, with 8 abstentions.

59. With reference to article 1 of the draft Convention, the Commission had before it the proposal of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Resolutions, which had decided to retain the wording contained in document E/CN.6/353, annex A; the Commission then decided to vote on the two alternatives presented in that document. The Commission rejected the first alternative; there were 5 votes in favour, 5 against, and 8 abstentions. It then adopted the second alternative by 7 votes to none, with 11 abstentions.

60. The representative of Israel orally proposed that the question of fixing a minimum age be deferred until after a decision on the minimum age in the relevant text of the draft Recommendation had been made. The Commission adopted the Israel proposal by 10 votes to 1, with 7 abstentions. The Commission then went on to consider the preamble of the draft Convention in document E/CN.6/353, annex A, and adopted it without change by 10 votes to none, with 8 abstentions. Having thus completed its action on the text of the draft Convention, with the exception of the fixing of the minimum age of marriage, the Commission proceeded to consider the draft Recommendation.

61. A draft resolution (E/CN.6/L.285) containing five amendments to the preamble as well as to the first four operative paragraphs of the draft Recommendation was submitted by the representatives of Canada, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The amendments provided for a text which, in the view of its sponsors, was more flexible as it placed on Governments the responsibility for fixing a minimum age of marriage, assuring the free consent of the intending spouses, and maintaining a public register of marriages. Several members disapproved of the proposals on the grounds that they seriously weakened the effectiveness of the instrument. Separate votes were taken on the five amendments contained in the draft resolution. The Commission adopted the first amendment, relating to the Supplementary Convention on Slavery, by 8 votes to 7, with 3 abstentions. Each one of the remaining four amendments was rejected by 10 votes to 8.

62. At the request of the representative of the United Kingdom, the Commission took separate votes on the preamble and on each of the paragraphs contained in the draft Recommendation as it appeared in document E/CN.6/353, annex B. The Commission first adopted the preamble to the draft Recommendation by 15 votes to none, with 3 abstentions. It then discussed paragraph I

of the draft Recommendation. The Commission decided to take separate votes on sub-paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 as well as on the first and second alternatives of sub-paragraph 1 of the draft Recommendation. Following an oral proposal of the representative of Israel the Commission decided to amend sub-paragraph 3 of the draft Recommendation to conform with the amendments previously adopted in the similar text of article 3 of the draft Convention. The Commission rejected by 8 votes to 7, with 3 abstentions, the first alternative of sub-paragraph 1. The Commission adopted the second alternative by 7 votes to 2, with 9 abstentions. The Commission adopted sub-paragraph 2 by 15 votes to 1, with 1 abstention. The Commission then adopted sub-paragraph 3, as amended, by 13 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

63. The representative of the United Kingdom proposed the deletion of paragraphs II and III of the draft Recommendation. This proposal was put to a vote; the Commission adopted paragraph II by 15 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions; and paragraph III by 15 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions. Paragraph IV was adopted by 16 votes to none, with 2 abstentions. The Commission adopted paragraph V by 17 votes to none, with 1 abstention; paragraph VI by 17 votes to none, with 1 abstention; and paragraph VII by 17 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

64. The Commission then proceeded to determine the minimum age of marriage in sub-paragraph 1 of paragraph I of the draft Recommendation and in article 1 of the draft Convention. Some members proposed the age of sixteen, others fifteen, still others fourteen. It was decided that only positive votes would be taken on the three proposals and that the figure favoured by the larger number of representatives would be inserted in the draft instruments. The Commission decided in favour of the age of fifteen years by a vote of 6 for that age, while 5 votes were cast in favour of sixteen years and 3 votes in favour of fourteen years.

65. The draft Recommendation as a whole and as amended was adopted by 5 votes to none, with 13 abstentions. The draft Convention as a whole and as amended was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 9 abstentions.

66. The representatives of Argentina, France, Greece, Israel and Poland submitted a joint draft resolution (E/CN.6/L.286) requesting the Economic and Social Council to adopt two draft resolutions, the first transmitting the text of the draft Convention to the General Assembly for adoption, and the second containing the draft Recommendation; this draft resolution was approved by the Commission by a vote of 8 to none, with 10 abstentions.

67. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

4 (XIV). MINIMUM AGE OF MARRIAGE, CONSENT
TO MARRIAGE AND REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling that at its thirteenth session it invited the Economic and Social Council to reconsider the decision

taken in resolution 680 B (XXVI), of 10 July 1958, by which it requested the Secretary-General to prepare a Recommendation dealing with the age of marriage, the free consent to marriage and the registration of marriages,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 722 B (XXVIII) of 14 July 1959, in which it requested the Secretary-General to prepare for the fourteenth session of the Commission on the Status of Women a draft Convention and a draft Recommendation dealing with the age of marriage, the free consent to marriage and the registration of marriages, including provisions for regular reporting by the Governments of Member States,

Having considered the draft Convention and the draft Recommendation prepared by the Secretary-General and contained in his report,²

Requests the Economic and Social Council to adopt the following draft resolutions:

[For the text of the draft resolutions, see chapter XV, draft resolutions III A and B.]

68. Various representatives explained their votes on the draft Convention and the draft Recommendation. The representative of Argentina stated for the record that in the matter of the minimum legal age of marriage she supported the age of fourteen years for women and sixteen for men, the ages which were applicable in Argentina and which conformed to the special conditions there. The representatives of Mexico and Greece stated that they had voted for the draft Convention although they favoured a minimum age of fourteen years for women; the representative of Greece added that she was in favour of a minimum age of eighteen years for men, and the representative of Mexico that she was in favour of the age of sixteen years for men. The representative of Cuba indicated that she favoured any progressive measure, while the representative of Japan stated that she was unable to accept certain provisions of both the draft Convention and the draft Recommendation. The representative of France stated that she had abstained from voting on the draft Recommendation in order that the latter would not appear to have received more support than the draft Convention. The representative of the United States of America stated that she could not vote for the draft Convention as, in her opinion, it was not an appropriate method of action. The representative of Finland stated that she felt that it was inadvisable to prescribe a uniform minimum age of marriage. The representative of the Netherlands stated that she favoured the first alternative of article 1 of the draft Convention and the first alternative of sub-paragraph 1 of paragraph I of the draft Recommendation, but that, since the second alternative was adopted, she voted for fifteen years of age. The representative of the USSR stated that she had abstained from voting because she believed that fifteen years as the minimum age was too low. The representatives of Czechoslovakia and

² E/CN.6/353.

Poland indicated that they favoured a minimum age of sixteen years. The representative of Pakistan explained that her delegation preferred a Recommendation to a Convention, as in her country the status of women in private law was governed by personal laws of religious communities such as Parsis, Hindus, Christians and Buddhists; she added that as far as Muslims were concerned, the new family law in her country fulfilled the spirit of the draft Convention. The representative of the United Kingdom indicated that she preferred a Recommendation to a Convention and moreover preferred different minimum ages of marriage for men and women. Furthermore, the representative of the United Kingdom explained that she could not accept paragraphs II and III of the draft Recommendation. Apart from explaining her vote, this member noted that several representatives of non-governmental organizations had informed her that they disapproved of the inclusion of a reference to a dispensation as to age which was under the minimum age finally agreed upon in these instruments.

69. Explanations of votes were also made in connexion with the joint draft resolution (E/CN.6/L.286). The representatives of the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Canada, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Japan and Finland stated that they regarded it as essential that the draft Convention and draft Recommendation be circulated to Governments for comments prior to a final decision on these instruments by the Commission.

70. The Commission heard the observers for the following non-governmental organizations: World Federation of United Nations Associations, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, International Alliance of Women, International Federation of Women Lawyers, Liaison Committee of Women's International Organizations, Women's International Zionist Organization, World Movement of Mothers, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, World Young Women's Christian Association, St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance, and World Union of Catholic Teachers. In response to questions from various representatives the Commission also heard the representative of the ILO; the latter expressed misgivings concerning the adaptation of ILO procedures introduced into the draft Recommendation, in particular as regards the lack of precision as to the nature of the competent authority and the flexibility in the time limit for submission to Governments.

Annual reports on legislation and practice in family law and property rights of women

71. The Commission considered item 5(c) of the agenda at its 326th meeting. Members of the Commission commented favourably on the reports and expressed the hope that the Secretary-General would continue to prepare them for future sessions.

72. Several representatives noted the results achieved through the studies previously undertaken by the Commission on specific questions in the field of family law and property rights. They felt that this work should

be continued. One member suggested that inheritance laws and dissolution of marriages would be appropriate subjects for future studies and stated that she intended to make a formal proposal to this effect under item 1. of the agenda (Review of the programme of work and establishment of priorities; control and limitation of documentation).

73. The Commission heard statements by observers for the Pan-Pacific Southeast Asia Women's Association and the World Women's Christian Association.

Ritual operations

74. The Commission considered item 5(d) of the agenda at its 326th and 328th meetings.

75. During the debate, several members recalled the concern expressed by the Commission at its previous sessions with the persistence of ritual operations performed on girls and women in various regions of the world. Some noted with regret the reasons for which the World Health Assembly declined the invitation of the Economic and Social Council to undertake a study of this question; they recorded, however, that the Assembly authorized the Director-General of WHO to provide any information of a medical character which he may have available to any other organization which may be asked to undertake the study. One representative suggested that UNICEF might be of assistance in carrying out educational work against ritual practices.

76. The representative of WHO recalled resolution WHA12.53,³ adopted by the Twelfth World Health Assembly in May 1959, which considered that ritual operations derived from social and cultural factors which were outside the competence of WHO.

77. The representatives of France and the United Kingdom submitted a joint draft resolution (E/CN.6/L.287), in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General to appoint a representative to the next session of the World Health Assembly, with the mandate to present the position taken by the Commission on the Status of Women on the question of ritual operations. The draft resolution also requested the Economic and Social Council to invite WHO, UNICEF, UNESCO and the ILO to bear in mind the need for a concerted action against the continuance of the practice and to invite WHO to communicate the medical information at its disposal to the Secretary-General for submission to the Commission at its sixteenth session.

78. During the debate on this draft resolution the representative of WHO indicated that some Governments were already undertaking measures to eradicate the practice of ritual operations; some members confirmed her statement and said that, under these circumstances, a resolution on the subject might prove harmful and would, furthermore, interfere with the internal administration and legislation of the countries concerned. The

³ *Official Records of the World Health Organization, No. 95, Twelfth World Health Assembly. Resolutions and Decisions*, pp. 46 and 47.

representative of the USSR stated that she could not support the draft resolution on ritual operations because, in her view, this question should be considered when the Commission had among its members some representatives of African countries, since the question was of direct concern to them. One representative observed that it was not only the African continent that was interested in the study which WHO and the specialized agencies concerned had been requested to prepare.

79. The majority of members were of the opinion that a resolution such as that contained in document E/CN.6/L.287 was aimed mainly at the collection of information and had also the purpose of drawing the attention of the specialized agencies concerned to the need for a concerted action, in the framework of their programmes and activities; they felt that it could only help the Governments concerned, and did not imply any interference in their affairs.

80. The representative of the United Kingdom proposed an oral amendment, to add a new paragraph after the second preambular paragraph of the draft resolution, to read as follows: "*Expressing its satisfaction with the fact that individual Governments concerned are already working towards the elimination of this practice,*". The representative of France proposed that, in the following paragraph, the phrase: "...and that no concerted measures known to the Commission are being taken to fight this harmful practice" be deleted, as a consequential amendment to that proposed by the United Kingdom. These amendments were accepted by the sponsors.

81. At its 328th meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution as amended, by 14 votes to none, with 4 abstentions. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

5 (XIV). RITUAL OPERATIONS

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Noting the resolution of the Twelfth World Health Assembly⁴ in which it declared that: "the ritual operations in question are based on social and cultural backgrounds, the study of which is outside the competence of the World Health Organization"; requested "the Director-General, if the study envisaged by the Economic and Social Council is to be undertaken by other organizations, to provide any information of a medical character he may have available"; and requested "the Director-General to communicate the present resolution to the Economic and Social Council."

Noting also that, during the debate on the report of the Economic and Social Council in the Third Committee of the General Assembly at its fourteenth session, the representative of the World Health Organization stated that WHO was in possession of all the necessary technical information,

Expressing its satisfaction that individual Governments concerned are already working towards the elimination of these practices,

Expressing its concern with the fact that ritual operations continue,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a representative to the next session of the World Health Assembly who would be fully informed of the position taken by the Commission on the Status of Women with respect to ritual operations, with the mandate to present this position to the World Health Assembly;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to adopt the following draft resolution:

[*For the text of the draft resolution, see chapter XV, draft resolution III C.*]

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 47.

V. EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

82. The Commission considered item 6 of its agenda at its 327th and 328th meetings. It had before it a progress report by the International Labour Office on the implementation of the principle of equal remuneration for men and women workers for work of equal value (E/CN.6/359).

83. The Commission heard the representative of the ILO, who reported on the action taken by the various member States of the ILO with regard to the ILO Convention (No. 100) and Recommendation (No. 90) concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value.⁵ Attention was drawn to the fact that the ILO Convention had been ratified by thirty-two States, of which eight States had ratified the Convention during the period 1 January 1958 to 1 February 1960. The ILO representative noted that there were, however, almost everywhere, a great

many practical difficulties of implementation. In this connexion she observed that, during the last decade, there was little real progress towards raising the general level of wages of women workers. Although the gaps between men's and women's wages for the same jobs has been reduced in many countries, this progress towards equal pay had sometimes been outweighed by the general lagging behind of women's wages in certain sectors and occupations. She concluded, therefore, that the principle of equal pay for equal work was but one aspect of the over-all problem of increasing the wage level of women workers.

84. Several members expressed their appreciation for the report of the ILO. One representative, while stressing the continuing need for progress reports in the field of equal pay for equal work, considered that it might be sufficient to have these reports prepared by the ILO every second year, provided that the item on equal pay remains on the agenda of the Commission every year

⁵ See International Labour Office, *Official Bulletin*, vol. XXXIV, 1951 No. 1, pp. 9 and 14.

and that, in the alternate years, the Secretary-General be asked to prepare reports based on information supplied by non-governmental organizations on methods used for the promotion of the principle of equal pay.

85. In commenting on the ILO Convention (No. 100), some members stated that it encouraged the implementation of the principle of equal pay for equal work in their countries. On representative, however, noted that some States which were parties to the Convention often did not implement its principles even for their own employees. Referring to the report of the ILO, she mentioned the progress achieved by certain countries which had not ratified the Convention. Other members regretted that this Convention had so far been ratified by only thirty-two States and they felt that non-governmental organizations, and especially the trade unions, should intensify their efforts to influence their Governments to ratify the Convention. One representative stated that some Governments, while in accord with the spirit of the Convention, could not sign and ratify it for lack of appropriate machinery as envisaged in the instruments for the fixing of wage rates on the basis of job content. The representative of Cuba held the view that the implementation of the ILO Convention (No. 100) would not be achieved until the ILO took into account not only reports by Governments, but also those of the representatives of women workers. It was pointed out that the main factor in equality of pay for work of equal value, according to this Convention, was the establishment of equal pay levels for men and women doing equal work. Some representatives expressed the hope that the revised pamphlet entitled "Equal Pay for Equal Work" (E/CN.6/341/Rev.1) prepared jointly by the ILO and the Secretary-General would soon be issued,⁶ and they stated that this would facilitate the work of non-governmental organizations.

86. During the debate on measures which could be taken to further the implementation of the principle of equal pay, it was noted that differentials in the rate for the job might be caused by factors other than sex, and

⁶ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 60.IV.4.

thus objective analyses of the job content were essential in arriving at a just wage for both men and women employees. Nevertheless, it was suggested that such analyses, in addition to being complex in practice, might consolidate existing discrimination against women by classifying certain occupations as "women's jobs".

87. Some members referred to the importance of providing adequate vocational guidance and education and training opportunities for women, particularly in under-developed countries, as a step towards achievement of equal pay: these means were deemed essential to obtain adequate qualifications which would provide a basis for advancement to senior positions. In noting the difficulties of married women, particularly of those with children, one member suggested that the introduction of day-care centres enabled women to continue their careers. Some members noted that employers were often loath to employ women on the ground that they were less reliable and allegedly presented difficulties for the employer, particularly with regard to absenteeism. One member mentioned that statistics in her country demonstrated that the problem of absenteeism of women workers was greatly exaggerated. In fact, it had been proved that women past child-bearing and child-rearing age had better attendance records than their male colleagues, and that in professional life as a whole women were more industrious than men.

88. One member expressed the view that the full implementation of the principle of equal pay did not have unfavourable economic repercussions, but, on the contrary, increased the purchasing power of the community as a whole.

89. During the discussion, in addition to statements made by the representative of the ILO in response to questions posed by various representatives, the Commission heard statements by the observers for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions, the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, the International Federation of Women Lawyers, the World Movement of Mothers and the Young Christian Workers.

VI. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

90. The Commission discussed item 7 of its agenda at its 328th and 329th meetings. It had before it a report prepared by Mr. Oliver Oldman, Lecturer on International Tax Law, Harvard University, acting as consultant to the United Nations Secretariat, with Mr. Ralph Temple, Teaching Fellow in Law, Harvard University (E/CN.6/344 and Add.1 and 2), which had been prepared for the thirteenth session of the Commission, as well as a supplementary report by the Secretary-General on the occupational outlook for women in the professions of architect, engineer and jurist (E/CN.6/343/Add.4). In addition the Commission had before it statements by the All-Pakistan Women's Association (E/CN.6/NGO/96 and E/CN.6/NGO/97), the International Alliance of Women (E/CN.6/NGO/84), the International Federation

of Business and Professional Women (E/CN.6/NGO/81) and the International Federation of University Women (E/CN.6/NGO/101). The ILO distributed to the members of the Commission the report of the initial meeting of the Panel of Consultants on the Problems of Women Workers, held in Geneva in October 1959.⁷

Tax legislation applicable to women

91. During the 328th meeting several representatives proposed that, owing to lack of time, the discussion of

⁷ International Labour Office, Governing Body, 143rd session (G.B. 143/7/11), appendix (document PCWW/1959/I/D.2).

the report on tax legislation applicable to women (E/CN.6 344 and Add.1 and 2), which required considerable discussion, be deferred until the fifteenth session of the Commission. The Commission decided to postpone consideration of sub-item (a) until its fifteenth session.

Occupational outlook for women

92. The question of the occupational outlook for women was discussed by the Commission at its 329th meeting.

93. The Commission took note of the supplementary report prepared by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/343/Add.4). Several representatives expressed the view that the access of women to skilled jobs was a very important question and should be considered in a wider context.

94. In the course of the debate several members pointed out the connexion existing between the access of women to skilled professions and their educational standards, and they stressed the importance of vocational training for girls in order to qualify them for jobs in the present technical world.

95. One member referred to the recent progress which had been achieved in her country by women in the field of architecture. Another representative noted that, in less developed countries, technical assistance was needed to help prepare women for the performance of jobs requiring high qualifications.

96. One representative stated that while in her country women had access to all professions and occupations, there was a need in all areas of the world to train more women for highly qualified technical work; it was not so much a question of the number of women in industry as one of the quality of the training available, the lack of which was sometimes more noticeable in private industry.

97. Several members noted with satisfaction the establishment by the ILO of the Panel of Consultants on Problems of Women Workers and commented in particular on the discussion by the Panel of the question of women's wages. Referring to the valuable report of the initial meeting, they felt that the reports of future meetings of the Panel should also be submitted to the Commission. Furthermore, the ILO should be invited to consider the attendance of representatives of non-governmental organizations with special competence in this field of work at future meetings of the Panel.

98. The Commission had before it a joint draft resolution submitted by Czechoslovakia, France, Japan and the USSR (E/CN.6/L.288), requesting the Economic and Social Council to recommend that Governments take all steps to improve the vocational guidance and training of girls and to invite the ILO to give priority to these questions and to report on them to the Commission on the Status of Women.

99. There was general support for this draft resolution. The representative of the United Kingdom made an oral amendment, in which she proposed adding at the end of the first preambular paragraph of the draft

resolution to the Economic and Social Council the words "in a wider context"; she also suggested several drafting changes in the text. The sponsors accepted these proposals.

100. At its 329th meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as amended, by 17 votes to none, with 1 abstention. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

6 (XIV). VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE AND TRAINING

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recognizing the need to enhance the vocational qualifications of women in order to make it possible for larger numbers of women to enter more highly skilled employment,

Requests the Economic and Social Council to adopt the following draft resolution:

[For the text of the draft resolution, see chapter XV, draft resolution IV A.]

Age of retirement and right to pension

101. The Commission discussed this item of its agenda at its 329th meeting. The consensus of opinion was that there should be no discussion on the substance, but that the ILO should be asked to make a complete study of the question, in view of the differences of opinion which continue to exist.

102. The Commission had before it a joint draft resolution submitted by the representatives of Canada, France, Greece, Israel, the United Kingdom and the United States of America (E/CN.6/L.289). The representative of the ILO suggested the insertion of the words "if possible" between the words "and report" and "to the sixteenth session" in the draft resolution for the Economic and Social Council. This suggestion was accepted by the sponsors.

103. At its 329th meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as amended, by 17 votes to none, with 1 abstention. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

7 (XIV). AGE OF RETIREMENT AND RIGHT TO PENSION

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 722 F (XXVIII) of 14 July 1959, on the subject of age of retirement and right to pension,

Noting that the Economic and Social Council decided to take no decision on the subject because of the differences of opinion which continue to exist,

Believing that further information on the subject would be helpful in reaching a decision,

Requests the Economic and Social Council to adopt the following draft resolution:

[For the text of the draft resolution, see chapter XV, draft resolution IV B.]

VII. ACCESS OF WOMEN TO EDUCATION

104. The Commission discussed item 8 of its agenda at its 329th to 333rd meetings. It had before it a report by UNESCO on the access of girls and women to education outside the school (E/CN.6/361), a note by the Secretary-General on discrimination in the field of education (E/CN.6/363 - E/CN.4/802 Add.1) and statements submitted by the All-Pakistan Women's Association (E/CN.6/NGO/98), the Catholic International Union for Social Service (E/CN.6/NGO/94), the International Alliance of Women (E/CN.6/NGO/87), the International Council of Women (E/CN.6/NGO/80), the International Federation of University Women (E/CN.6/NGO/100 and E/CN.6/NGO/101), the International Federation of Women Lawyers (E/CN.6/NGO/90) and the Young Christian Workers (E/CN.6/NGO/93).

105. Introducing the report, the representative of UNESCO said that it was intended to give an over-all view of the opportunities for out-of-school education open to women. The basic documentation for the report had been obtained by means of a questionnaire which had been sent by the Director-General of UNESCO, in April 1959, to the States members and associate members of UNESCO. When the report had been drafted replies had been received from fifty-five countries. It therefore covered out-of-school education in those countries only. The general conclusion which emerged from the information in the report was that the opportunities open to women were becoming more numerous and that women were making increasing use of them to continue their education. At the same time, the replies to the questionnaire showed that the participation of women in out-of-school education programmes was not always large enough and often lagged considerably behind that of men. There were still many obstacles to the greater use of out-of-school education by women, the principal one being illiteracy. To improve the situation, special measures must be taken both by the public authorities and by the private organizations which were concerned with out-of-school education.

106. During the course of the general debate most members expressed their appreciation to UNESCO for its report on the access of women and girls to education outside the school.

107. The majority of the representatives stressed the importance of out-of-school education for women. Many representatives felt, however, that general education was the most important aspect of the problem of education of women and that education outside the schools, while also very important, was supplementary to it. The view expressed in the Commission that education outside the school pursued different aims in different countries, such as the elimination of illiteracy in those countries where illiteracy existed and the raising of the cultural level and the professional qualifications in other countries. Several members also noted that due attention should be given to the need of training girls and boys in domestic subjects and housewifery. It was generally felt that in countries where the access of women to primary education is not yet equal to that of men, and where it is still necessary to fight against ignorance,

basic education should be the main concern of programmes of out-of-school education. One representative stated that women in the rural and urban areas in under-developed countries benefited from out-of-school education as part of programmes of community development and fundamental education carried out with the assistance of UNESCO and other specialized agencies. Some representatives considered social and political training, professional and vocational education and all domestic sciences as the main subjects to be taught. The representative of Poland drew the attention of the Commission to the educative aspect of work inside and outside the schools, to the need to educate girls and women in a spirit of international friendship and co-operation and to the necessity to combat the vestiges of racial and national prejudice.

108. Concerning the methods which should be used in these programmes of out-of-school education, several representatives referred to the usefulness of audio-visual, television and radio programmes, which would help to solve the problem of long distances in their countries and at the same time would make possible the combination of education with household activities. Extension services were also useful, especially for women in rural areas. Other representatives felt the need for evening courses which would make it possible for women workers, particularly for young working women, to continue the formal education which they had had to interrupt at an early age.

109. The views as to who should carry out these programmes varied. While some representatives believed that they should be carried out by Governments or by employers; others felt that they should be left entirely in the hands of private organizations; many members of the Commission showed their appreciation of the work performed by the non-governmental organizations and expressed the hope that they would continue their valuable collaboration in order to promote the use by women of the facilities already available. It was noticed by other that co-operation in both governmental and private efforts could be very useful in the advancement of out-of-school education.

110. Most representatives pointed out the existence of such programmes in their own countries and felt strongly the need for more extensive educational campaigns for women and girls outside school in all fields.

111. Although it was felt that programmes of out-of-school education existed to some extent throughout the world, the consensus of opinion was that there was still a long way to go; several representatives pointed out the need for women of rural areas to have wider access to such programmes and felt it advisable to ask UNESCO for a future report on the work carried out in education outside the school in such areas.

112. Several members mentioned the advisability of making scholarships and fellowships available to women to help them continue their studies after formal schooling, both inside and outside their own countries.

113. The representative of the ILO stressed the importance of vocational training of women and asked both UNESCO and the Commission to collaborate with it in this field. The representative of WHO pointed out the importance of education of women and girls in hygiene and other sciences closely related to the work of WHO. She considered that education of the feminine population, in this field, was absolutely necessary for the implementation of the programmes of WHO.

114. The Commission heard statements by the observer for Romania, as well as by the observers for the following non-governmental organizations: the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, the International Co-operative Alliance, the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions, the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, the International Federation of University Women, the International Federation of Women Lawyers, the Women's International Zionist Organization, the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, the World Young Women's Christian Association, the Young Christian Workers and the World Union of Catholic Teachers.

115. The representatives of Argentina, Canada, Greece, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America submitted a joint draft resolution (E/CN.6/L.290) dealing with the access of women to out-of-school education. Two amendments to the draft resolution were submitted by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in document E/CN.6/L.292, suggesting the insertion, after sub-paragraph (i), of the following new sub-paragraph:

"(ii) To raise the cultural level of women and to enable them to obtain professional qualifications;" and suggesting also that the second operative paragraph be amended to read as follows:

"Requests the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to promote, in so far as possible, the development of programmes of out-of-school education, including a special programme of women's education;"

116. The representative of Canada proposed to delete the first preambular paragraph of the joint draft resolution; this proposal was accepted by her co-sponsors. The representative of Cuba proposed orally the deletion of the word "abroad" in sub-paragraph (b) (iii) of the first operative paragraph. This proposal was also accepted by the sponsors of the draft resolution. The representative of Israel proposed the replacement, in the last operative paragraph, of the word "relationship" by the word "status", and of the word "and", preceding the word "professional", by the words "as well as". These amendments were also accepted by the sponsors of the draft resolution.

117. Concerning the first amendment submitted by the representative of the USSR, the representative of Canada proposed the substitution of the word "help" for the word "enable"; this proposal was accepted.

118. The Commission decided to incorporate the first

amendment contained in document E/CN.6/L.292 as amended, in the text of the draft resolution. It also decided to refer the second USSR amendment and the penultimate paragraph of the draft resolution to the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Resolutions. The Committee adopted a text (E/CN.6/L.293) containing a revision of the second amendment proposed by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

119. At its 332nd meeting the Commission decided by unanimous vote to incorporate the amendment contained in document E/CN.6/L.293 in the text of the draft resolution. At the same meeting, the draft resolution as a whole and as amended was adopted unanimously. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

8 (XIV). ACCESS OF WOMEN TO OUT-OF-SCHOOL EDUCATION

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Noting the report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the access of women to out-of-school education,⁸

Requests the Economic and Social Council to adopt the following draft resolution:

[For the text of the draft resolution, see chapter XV, draft resolution V A.]

Study of discrimination in the field of education

120. The Commission heard the representative of UNESCO discuss the method of preparation of the preliminary draft Convention and Recommendation concerning Discrimination in Education contained in document (E/CN.6/363 - E/CN.4/802/Add.1, annexes I and II). The representative of UNESCO stated that the draft provisions contained in these documents would be considered by a committee of governmental experts in June 1960, and subsequently, by the General Conference of UNESCO in November 1960. She proceeded to give an explanation of the principal points in these drafts and assured the Commission that the Director-General of UNESCO would not fail to bring to the attention of the competent organs the observations of the Commission.

121. Several members of the Commission congratulated UNESCO on its initiative in preparing the draft instruments and in submitting them to the Commission at the appropriate time. It was suggested and agreed that the debate should centre on those provisions in the draft instruments which were of particular concern to women. For example, several members stated that the phrase "and access to the teaching profession" should definitely be retained in paragraph 2 of article 1 of the draft Convention and paragraph 2 referring to "Definitions" included in the draft Recommendation, since reports prepared for various sessions of the Commission indicated that many discriminatory practices against women in the teaching profession still existed.

122. The Commission then went on to consider paragraph 1 of article 2 of the draft Convention and

⁸ E/CN.6/361.

paragraph 3 referring to "Definitions" included in the draft Recommendation. Several members were of the opinion that these provisions as drafted might be interpreted to mean that where separate institutions existed for girls and boys, girls could be denied the opportunity to obtain the same education, in every respect, as that afforded to boys. They felt that it was necessary to spell out the principle of providing the same programmes of education for boys and girls, whether in separate or in co-educational institutions. One representative noted that although certain courses, such as home economics, might meet the particular needs of some girl students, all girls should be given the opportunity of free access to all branches of education. Another representative stated that equality of opportunity in education implied not only the making available of the same curricula to both girl and boy students, but the offering of the same facilities to both. One representative felt strongly that educational programmes must be adapted to the particular needs of the community, taking into account linguistic, religious and other differences.

123. During the discussion the Commission heard a statement by the observer for the World Federation of United Nations Associations.

124. A joint draft resolution (E/CN.6/L.295) was submitted by the representatives of France, Greece, Mexico, the Netherlands and Poland. The Commission adopted the resolution by 12 votes to none, with 6 abstentions. The representative of the United States of America explained her abstention on the grounds that in her country educational questions were within the exclu-

sive jurisdiction of the States. The representative of Canada also referred to circumstances within her country which led to her abstention. The representative of Pakistan explained that although she favoured the first operative paragraph of the draft resolution, she had to abstain on the resolution as a whole because in her opinion it limited the educational opportunities of boys and girls. The representative of the United Kingdom, while in personal agreement with the contents of the draft resolution, had abstained from voting, as she felt she could not commit her Government on such an important matter without previous consultation.

125. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

9 (XIV). DISCRIMINATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Having taken note of the preliminary draft Convention and Recommendation concerning discrimination in education, contained in the note by the Secretary-General,⁹

Recognizing the need for international instruments to combat discrimination in education,

Requests the Economic and Social Council to adopt the following draft resolution:

[For the text of the draft resolution, see chapter XV, draft resolution V B.]

⁹ E/CN.6/363-E/CN.4/802/Add.1.

VIII. NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN

126. The Commission considered item 9 of its agenda at the 239th meeting. It had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/254/Add.6 and Corr.1) on recent changes in legislation affecting the nationality of married women. The memorandum contained excerpts from nationality and citizenship laws not previously available to the Secretary-General and a table of countries which by 20 January 1960 had signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Nationality of Married Women.

127. The representative of the Netherlands stated that she hoped that her delegation would be in a position to report on this subject at the next session of the Commission if new legislation concerning this matter had by then been adopted in her country.

128. The Commission took note of the documentation presented by the Secretary-General.

IX. REPORTS OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN TO THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AT ITS FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH SESSIONS AND TO THE SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES AT ITS TWELFTH SESSION

129. The Commission considered item 10 of its agenda at the 332nd meeting. It had before it the report (E/CN.6/362) of Miss Uldarica Mañas, its representative to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifteenth session, describing her participation in the meetings at which the draft Declaration of the Rights of the Child was discussed. The Commission also had before it a state-

ment by the International Federation of University Women (E/CN.6/NGO/101). One member noted that such participation illustrated the importance of continued co-operation between the two Commissions.

130. The Commission also heard the oral report of Mrs. Marie-Hélène Lefauchaux, who represented the

Commission at the twelfth session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and at the sixteenth session of the Commission on Human Rights. She stated that she participated in those discussions in the Sub-Commission which centred on discrimination in political rights, more particularly concerning the access of women to public services and functions. She also reported on her participation in that part of the debate on religious rights which

dealt with the form and the dissolution of marriages. In the Commission on Human Rights Mrs. Lefauchaux had been able to clarify the positions taken on the latter subject in the Sub-Commission, and to make a statement, moreover, on discrimination in the field of education.

131. In taking note of these reports, the Commission expressed its deep appreciation of the services rendered by its representatives, Miss Mañas and Mrs. Lefauchaux.

X. REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

132. The Commission considered item 11 of its agenda at its 332nd meeting, and had before it the report submitted by the Inter-American Commission of Women (E/CN.6/364) which was presented by Miss Rosario Ortiz de Zavallos, the observer for Peru.

133. Most members of the Commission noted that the goals of both organs were similar and expressed their appreciation of the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women.

134. The Commission took note of the report of the Inter-American Commission of Women.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING THE STATUS OF WOMEN

135. In connexion with item 12 of the agenda and in accordance with resolution 76 (V) of the Economic and Social Council, as amended by resolution 304 I (XI), the Secretary-General informed the Commission (E/CN.6/

CR.13) that no communications concerning the status of women had been received from 1 January to 31 December 1959. At its 332nd meeting, the Commission took note of this information.

XII. PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES AND CONTROL AND LIMITATION OF DOCUMENTATION

136. At its 332nd and 333rd meetings the Commission considered item 13 of its agenda. The Commission had before it a note by the Secretary-General on the review of the programme of work and establishment of priorities (E/CN.6/358) as well as a working paper by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/L.291) suggesting a list of priorities on the basis of decisions reached at the thirteenth and fourteenth sessions of the Commission.

137. The Commission proceeded to consider the working paper by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/L.291). It decided to accept the suggestion of the Secretary-General contained in paragraph 5 of document E/CN.6/358 to ask the International Labour Office to prepare its progress reports on equal pay for equal work every two years instead of annually as heretofore. As a result, the Commission agreed to delete from the list of "Continuing projects of high priority" item (c), "Equal pay for equal work".

138. The representative of the United Kingdom expressed the hope that the annual reports by the Secretary-General on the status of women in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories could be further spaced and staggered as to the various subjects covered.

139. The Commission had before it a joint draft resolution submitted by the representatives of France and the United States of America (E/CN.6/L.294) asking the Secretary-General to prepare, if possible for the sixteenth session of the Commission, a report on inheritance laws in so far as they affected the status of women, based on a questionnaire to be prepared and circulated by the Secretary-General to Governments of Member States. The draft resolution also provided for the inclusion in the agenda of the sixteenth session of the question of "education for women in rural areas" and expressed the hope that UNESCO would prepare a report on this subject for the Commission's sixteenth session.

140. There was some discussion as to whether the report of UNESCO on education for women in rural areas should take precedence over its report on the access of girls to primary education, listed in document E/CN.6/L.291 as one of the projects for the sixteenth session of the Commission. The representative of UNESCO stated that she could not commit her organization to the preparation of two reports on special aspects of education for the same session of the Commission; she added that although the UNESCO

secretariat had information available on primary education in various countries, the preparation of the report on the access of girls to primary education would require considerable work by the secretariat. The preparation of a report on the access of women in rural areas to out-of-school education would present still more difficulty, since documentation on that subject was lacking in most countries. Several members expressed their interest in having the report on education for women in rural areas before the Commission at its sixteenth session, in order not to interrupt the sequence of studies which had begun with the report on the access of women to out-of-school education (E/CN.6/361) which the Commission had before it at its fourteenth session.

141. The oral proposal of Israel to include in the last operative paragraph of the draft resolution the words "if possible" before the phrase "for the Commission's sixteenth session" was accepted by the sponsors.

142. At its 332nd meeting the Commission adopted unanimously the draft resolution before it. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

10 (XIV). REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIORITIES

The Commission on the Status of Women,

I

Taking note of the useful results of the studies undertaken by it in the field of family law,

Believing that this work should be continued by examining topics not yet studied in depth,

Requests the Secretary-General to circulate to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, members of the specialized agencies and Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice a questionnaire on inheritance laws in so far as they affect the status of women and to prepare, if possible for the sixteenth session of the Commission, a report based on the information received.

II

Noting with appreciation the excellent report prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the fourteenth session of the Commission on the subject of access of women to out-of-school education,

Considering that this report is the first study to be placed before the Commission on this subject,

Believing that it is desirable to have further information on educational programmes and activities for women in rural areas, including both basic and out-of-school education,

1. *Decides* to place on the agenda of its sixteenth session in 1962 the subject of education for women in rural areas;

2. *Expresses the hope* that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization will prepare a report on this subject if possible for the Commission's sixteenth session.

143. The representative of the USSR referred to resolution 4 (XII), adopted by the Commission at its twelfth session, concerning "Working women, including working mothers, with family responsibilities" in which the Commission, through the Economic and Social Council, requested the specialized agencies concerned to report to the Commission on the services rendered in connexion with assistance to working women with family responsibilities. She noted that no action had been taken as yet to comply with this resolution and expressed the wish that the specialized agencies concerned and the International Children's Centre be asked to inform the Commission on the matter.

144. The representative of the United Kingdom proposed that a survey of the work of the Commission and of the results achieved be prepared by the Secretary-General, as well as an appraisal of what remained to be done, so as to assist in directing future activities. She felt that such a document would be of particular help to representatives of new countries on the Commission, as well as to non-governmental organizations working in this field. There was general agreement in the Commission with that part of the proposal which concerned the preparation of the survey of the work already done and of the results achieved on the initiative of the Commission. Several members stated, however, that the appraisal of what remained to be done might well be postponed because the Commission had first to take stock of the work already performed and of the results achieved. It was also felt that it might be difficult for the Secretary-General to make suggestions for a programme of work for several years in advance. One member stated in this connexion that, prior to the next session, members of the Commission would have the possibility of studying the general appraisal of the work of the United Nations in the field of human rights which was being prepared by the Secretary-General for the Economic and Social Council. The Commission decided to add to its programme of work the first part of the proposal of the United Kingdom.

145. At its 333rd meeting the Commission unanimously approved its programme of work and establishment of priorities as contained in document E/CN.6/L.291 with the changes described in paragraphs 138 to 144 above. The programme of work as adopted by the Commission is as follows:

1. *Continuing projects of high priority*

- (a) Political rights of women : (i) Annual memorandum on the franchise and eligibility of women (Economic and Social Council resolution 120 A (VI)); (ii) Report on the status of women in Trust Territories (E/3228, para. 150); (iii) Report on the status of women in Non-Self-Governing Territories (E/3228, para. 150);
- (b) Advisory services in the field of human rights: Progress report by the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 926 (X));

- (c) Status of women in private law: Supplementary reports on legislation and practice in family law and property rights of women (Economic and Social Council resolution 547 F (XVIII));
- (d) Access of women to education: Progress report by UNESCO on its activities of special interest to women (E/CN.6/340);
- (e) Nationality of married women: Supplementary report of the Secretary-General containing information on recent changes in legislation affecting the nationality of married women (E/2850, para. 182);
- (f) Biannual *Newsletter on the Status of Women* (E/1712, para. 93).

II. Ad hoc projects of high priority

- (a) Survey of the work of the Commission and of the results achieved on the international level: Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/367, para. 144);
- (b) Access of women to education: Report by UNESCO on the access of women to the teaching profession (Economic and Social Council resolution 722 E (XXVIII));
- (c) Economic opportunities for women: (i) Report on tax legislation applicable to women, prepared for the thirteenth session of the Commission (E/CN.6/367, para. 91); (ii) Report by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the specialized agencies

concerned, on the occupational outlook for women (Economic and Social Council resolution 652 E (XXIV) and E/3228, para. 108, resolution 7 (XIII));

- (d) Economic rights of women: Report by the International Labour Office on the application of Convention No. 111 concerning discrimination in employment and occupation (E/3096, para. 169).

III. Ad hoc projects of low priority for the sixteenth session of the Commission

- (a) Access of women to education: (i) Report by UNESCO on the access of girls to primary education; (ii) Report by UNESCO on the education of women in rural areas (resolution 10 (XIV));
- (b) Economic opportunities for women: (i) Report by the International Labour Office on vocational guidance and training of girls and women (resolution 6 (XIV)); (ii) Report by the International Labour Office on the age of retirement and right to pension (resolution 7 (XIV));
- (c) Status of women in private law: (i) Report by the Secretary-General on inheritance laws as they affect the status of women (resolution 10 (XIV)); (ii) Report by the Secretary-General on ritual operations, based on information which will be made available to him by WHO (resolution 5 (XIV)).

XIII. PLACE OF MEETING OF NEXT SESSION

146. At its 333rd meeting the Commission considered the place of meeting of its next session and unanimously adopted the following draft resolution (E/CN.6/L.296) submitted by Argentina, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Greece, Israel, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America:

11 (XIV). PLACE OF MEETING OF THE NEXT SESSION

The Commission on the Status of Women

Recommends to the Economic and Social Council to decide that the Commission of the Status of Women should meet in Geneva in 1961.

XIV. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

147. At its 335th meeting, the Commission on the Status of Women adopted unanimously the report of its fourteenth session to the Economic and Social Council.

XV. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

I

Report of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women (fourteenth session).¹⁰

¹⁰ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/3360).*

II

Political rights of women

A¹¹

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that many nations in Africa have recognized the equal political rights of women in their laws and constitutions,

¹¹ See paragraphs 28-29.

Noting that women throughout Africa will be attending the United Nations seminar on the participation of women in public life to be held in Addis Ababa in December 1960,

Noting that no country in Africa has ever been a member of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Expresses the hope that one or more African Member States of the United Nations will seek membership on the Commission on the Status of Women.

B

ACCESS OF WOMEN TO PUBLIC SERVICES AND FUNCTIONS ¹²

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stating that everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country and the right of equal access to public service in his country,

Recalling article 16 of the same Declaration proclaiming the right to marry and to found a family, and article 23 enunciating the right to work and to free choice of employment,

Recommends to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, and of States Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice that they take the necessary steps to remove legal and other obstacles impeding the exercise of the right of married women to work.

III

Status of women in private law

A

MINIMUM AGE OF MARRIAGE, CONSENT TO MARRIAGE AND REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES ¹³

Draft Convention

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the time is appropriate to conclude under the auspices of the United Nations an international Convention on the minimum age of marriage, the free consent to marriage and the registration of marriages,

Recommends to the General Assembly that an international Convention on the minimum age of marriage, the free consent to marriage and the registration of marriages, containing the following preamble and substantive articles, be adopted:

MINIMUM AGE OF MARRIAGE, CONSENT TO MARRIAGE AND REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES

Draft Convention

The Contracting States,

Desiring in conformity with the United Nations Charter to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights

¹² See paragraphs 22-23 and 30-33.

¹³ See paragraphs 44-60 and 64-67.

and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language and religion,

Recognizing that, as stated in article 16 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

“(1) Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

“(2) Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses.”

Recalling that the General Assembly of the United Nations declared by resolution 843 (IX) of 17 December 1954 that certain customs, ancient laws and practices relating to marriage and the family were inconsistent with the principles set forth in the United Nations Charter and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and urged all States, including States which have or assume responsibility for the administration of Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories, to take all appropriate measures with a view to abolishing such customs, ancient laws and practices by ensuring, *inter alia*, complete freedom in the choice of a spouse, eliminating completely child marriages and the betrothal of young girls before the age of puberty, establishing appropriate penalties where necessary and establishing a civil or other register in which all marriages will be recorded,

Hereby agree as hereinafter provided:

Article 1

No marriage of any person under the age of fifteen shall be valid, except where a competent authority has granted a dispensation as to age for serious causes, in the interest of the intending spouses.

Article 2

No marriage shall be valid without the full and free consent of both parties, such consent to be expressed by them in person, orally, publicly and in the presence of the authority competent to solemnize the marriage.

Article 3

All marriages shall be registered in an appropriate official register by the competent authority.

B

MINIMUM AGE OF MARRIAGE, CONSENT TO MARRIAGE AND REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES ¹⁴

Recommendation

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing that men and women of full age have the right to marry and to found a family, that they are entitled to equal rights as to marriage and that marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses, in accordance with the provisions of article 16 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 843 (IX) of 17 December 1954,

Recalling further article 2 of the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade,

¹⁴ See paragraphs 44-57 and 61-67.

and Institutions and Practices similar to Slavery¹⁵ of 1956, which makes certain provisions concerning the age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriages,

Recalling also that, under Article 62, paragraph 2, of the Charter, the Council may make recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, and that under Article 64 of the Charter, it may make arrangements with the Members of the United Nations to obtain reports on the steps taken to give effect to its own recommendations and to recommendations on matters falling within its competence made by the General Assembly,

I. *Recommends* that where not already provided by existing legislative or other measures, each State take the necessary steps, in accordance with its constitutional processes, to adopt such legislative or other measures as may be necessary to give effect to the following provisions:

1. No marriage of any person under the age of fifteen shall be valid, except where a competent authority has granted a dispensation as to age for serious causes, in the interest of the intending spouses.

2. No marriage shall be valid without the full and free consent of both parties, such consent to be expressed by them in person, orally, publicly and in the presence of the authority competent to solemnize the marriage.

3. All marriages shall be registered in an appropriate official register by the competent authority.

II. *Recommends* that each Member State bring the Recommendation on the minimum age of marriage, free consent to marriage and registration of marriages contained in this resolution before the authorities within whose competence the matter lies for the enactment of legislation or other action, at the earliest practicable moment and, if possible, not later than eighteen months after its adoption;

III. *Recommends* that Member States inform the Secretary-General, as soon as possible after the action has been taken, of the measures taken under the present Recommendation to bring it before the competent authority or authorities, with particulars of the authority or authorities regarded as competent and of the action taken by them;

IV. *Recommends further* that Member States report to the Secretary-General at intervals of three years the position of the law and practice in their countries in regard to the matters dealt with in this Recommendation, showing the extent to which effect has been given or is proposed to be given to the provisions of the Recommendation and such modifications of these provisions as it has been found or may be found necessary to make in adapting or applying it;

¹⁵ United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on a Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery, held at Geneva, Switzerland, from 13 August to 4 September 1956, *Final Act and Supplementary Convention* (United Nations publication, Sales No. : 1957.XIV.2).

V. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare for the Commission on the Status of Women a document containing the reports received from Governments;

VI. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to examine the reports received from Member States pursuant to the present Recommendations and to report thereon to the Economic and Social Council with such recommendations as it may deem fit to make;

VII. *Recommends* that the General Assembly adopt the following draft resolution:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling that, under Article 60 of the Charter, the responsibility for the discharge of the functions of the United Nations relating to international economic and social co-operation is vested in the General Assembly and, under the authority of the General Assembly, in the Economic and Social Council.

"Noting that the Economic and Social Council has made, in resolution . . . , Recommendations to the Members of the United Nations concerning the minimum age of marriage, consent to marriage and the registration of marriages,

"Endorses the Recommendations and the arrangements made by the Council in resolution . . ."

C

RITUAL OPERATIONS¹⁶

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the concern of the Commission of the Status of Women with the continuance of the practice of ritual operations and sharing this concern,

1. *Invites* the World Health Organization, the United Nations International Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organisation to bear in mind, in the planning of their programmes and activities, the need for a concerted action against the continuance of the practice of ritual operations;

2. *Invites* the World Health Organization to communicate such medical information on this subject as it has at its disposal to the Secretary-General for submission to the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixteenth session.

IV

Economic opportunities for women

A

VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE AND TRAINING¹⁷

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolution 652 E (XXIV) of 24 July 1957 and considering it essential to pursue this resolution in a wider context,

¹⁶ See paragraphs 75-81.

¹⁷ See paragraphs 93-100.

Recognizing that in many countries the great majority of women workers are still concentrated in unskilled and semi-skilled occupations and that this is very largely the result of the continuing inadequacy of the vocational preparation, guidance and training of girls and women,

Noting that the International Labour Organisation's Panel of Consultants on the Problems of Women Workers, in its first meeting, held at Geneva in October 1959, focused attention on the importance and urgency of action to improve the vocational preparation, guidance and training of girls and women,

1. *Recommends* that Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies take all steps within their power to bring about a rapid and substantial improvement in the vocational preparation, guidance and training of girls and women;

2. *Invites* the International Labour Organisation:

(a) To give continuing priority to the question of vocational preparation, guidance and training of girls and women as recommended by the International Labour Organisation's Panel of Consultants on the Problems of Women Workers;

(b) To report to the Commission on the Status of Women, if possible at its sixteenth session, as to the situation in the different countries as regards the vocational preparation, guidance and training of girls and women and as to the work undertaken by the International Labour Organisation on this question and in particular by the Panel of Consultants on the Problems of Women Workers.

B

AGE OF RETIREMENT AND RIGHT TO PENSION ¹⁸

The Economic and Social Council

Invites the International Labour Organisation, being the competent body to deal with the question of age of retirement and right to pension, to make a complete study thereon and report if possible to the sixteenth session of the Commission on the Status of Women for further consideration.

V

Access of women to education

A

ACCESS OF WOMEN TO OUT-OF-SCHOOL EDUCATION ¹⁹

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering the important contribution of out-of-school education to the intellectual, social and economic life of women,

¹⁸ See paragraphs 101-103.

¹⁹ See paragraphs 107-112 and 115-119.

1. *Recommends* to States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies that, in order to strengthen the development of out-of-school education for women, they promote appropriate measures:

(a) To increase the effectiveness of programmes of out-of-school education at all levels of learning and to ensure that such programmes are adapted to social and economic needs;

(b) To ensure to girls and women equal opportunities with boys and men to participate in such education, and in particular:

(i) To intensify campaigns against illiteracy among women;

(ii) To raise the cultural level of women and to help them obtain professional qualifications;

(iii) To provide an adequate number of educational institutions, as well as competent teachers and administrators;

(iv) To provide fellowships for women to study in the field of out-of-school education;

(v) To develop libraries, museums, visual aids, and exhibits of relevant methods and materials;

(vi) To encourage services such as nurseries, crèches and kindergartens, to help married women with family responsibilities to take advantage of these educational opportunities;

2. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the other specialized agencies concerned to promote, in so far as possible, the development and implementation of programmes of out-of-school education, and to provide for the full participation of women in such programmes;

3. *Invites* non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council as well as professional institutions to further this type of educational work.

B

DISCRIMINATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION ²⁰

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Transmits* to the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization the gratitude of the Commission on the Status of Women for having submitted for its examination, at the appropriate time, the preliminary draft Convention and Recommendation concerning discrimination in education; ²¹

2. *Expresses the hope* that the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural

²⁰ See paragraphs 121-125.

²¹ E/CN.6/363-E/CN.4/802/Add.1, annexes I and II.

Organization will adopt the draft Convention and Recommendation, with the following amendments:

(a) In article 1, paragraph 2, of the preliminary draft Convention and in paragraph 2 of the Definitions appended to the preliminary draft Recommendation, remove the parentheses round the words "and access to the teaching profession";

(b) Reword article 2, paragraph 1, of the preliminary draft Convention and paragraph 3 of the Defini-

tions appended to the preliminary draft Recommendation to read:

"The establishment or maintenance of educational systems or institutions in which the sexes are separated shall not be deemed to constitute discrimination if these systems or institutions offer equivalent facilities of access, and have the same curricula, a teaching staff with the same qualifications and the same type of equipment."

ANNEX

List of documents prepared for the Commission on the Status of Women at its fourteenth session

- A/4159. Constitutions, electoral laws and other legal instruments relating to political rights of women: memorandum by the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/185/Add.17. Status of women in family law: report of the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/208/Add.5. Property rights of women: supplementary report by the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/254/Add.6 and Corr.1. Nationality of married women: memorandum by the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/343/Corr.1, Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.4. Occupational outlook for women — Access of women to training and employment in the principal professional and technical fields: report of the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/351 and Add.1-2. Provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the Commission.
- E/CN.6/351/Rev.1. Agenda as adopted by the Commission.
- E/CN.6/352 and Add.1. Information concerning the status of women in Trust Territories: report of the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/353. Draft Convention and draft Recommendation on the age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriages: report of the Secretary-General prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 722 B (XXVIII).
- E/CN.6/354 and Add.1. Women in public services and functions: report of the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/355. Information concerning the status of women in Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/356 and Corr.1 and Add.1. Age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriages: report of the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/357-E/CN.4/798 and Add.1-2. Advisory services in the field of human rights: report of the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/358. Review of programme of work, establishment of priorities, control and limitation of documentation: note by the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/359. Equal remuneration for men and women workers for work of equal value: report prepared by the International Labour Office.
- E/CN.6/360. Implementation of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women by the States Parties thereto: memorandum by the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/361. Access of girls and women to education outside the school: report prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- E/CN.6/362. Report of the representative of the Commission on the Status of Women at the fifteenth session of the Commission on Human Rights.
- E/CN.6/363-E/CN.4/802/Add.1. Study of discrimination in education: note by the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/364. Report of the Inter-American Commission of Women.
- E/CN.6/CR.13. Communications concerning the status of women: note by the Secretary-General.
- E/CN.6/L.291. Review of the programme of work and establishment of priorities: working paper by the Secretary-General suggesting a list of priorities on the basis of decisions reached at the thirteenth and fourteenth sessions of the Commission.
- E/CN.6/NGO/72. Status of women in private law: statement by the Anti-Slavery Society for the Protection of Human Rights.
- E/CN.6/NGO/73. Access of women to public services and functions: statement by the Pan-Pacific Southeast Asia Women's Association.
- E/CN.6/NGO/74. Advisory services programme: statement by the Pan-Pacific Southeast Asia Women's Association.
- E/CN.6/NGO/75. Status of women in private law: statement by the St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance.
- E/CN.6/NGO/76. Status of women in private law: statement by the St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance.
- E/CN.6/NGO/77. Status of women in private law: statement by the World Young Women's Christian Association.
- E/CN.6/NGO/78. Status of women in private law: statement by the Liaison Committee of Women's International Organizations.
- E/CN.6/NGO/79. Advisory services programme: statement by the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.
- E/CN.6/NGO/80. Women in public services and functions, access of women to education and status of women in private law: statement by the International Council of Women.
- E/CN.6/NGO/81. Economic opportunities for women: statement by the International Federation of Business and Professional Women.
- E/CN.6/NGO/82. Political rights of women: statement by the International Federation of Business and Professional Women.
- E/CN.6/NGO/83. Advisory services programme and equal pay for equal work: statement by the International Federation of Business and Professional Women.
- E/CN.6/NGO/84. Equal pay for equal work and economic opportunities for women: statement by the International Alliance of Women.
- E/CN.6/NGO/85. Advisory services programme: statement by the International Alliance of Women.
- E/CN.6/NGO/86. Status of women in private law: statement by the International Alliance of Women.
- E/CN.6/NGO/87. Access of women to education: statement by the International Alliance of Women.
- E/CN.6/NGO/88. Status of women in private law: statement by the International Federation of Women Lawyers.
- E/CN.6/NGO/89. Status of women in private law: statement by the International Federation of Women Lawyers.
- E/CN.6/NGO/90. Access of women to education: statement by the International Federation of Women Lawyers.

- E/CN.6/NGO/91. Equal pay for equal work: statement by the International Federation of Women Lawyers.
- E/CN.6/NGO/92. Status of women in private law: statement by the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations.
- E/CN.6/NGO/93. Access of women to education: statement by the Young Christian Workers.
- E/CN.6/NGO/94. Access of women to education: statement by the Catholic International Union for Social Service.
- E/CN.6/NGO/95. Advisory services programme: statement by the All-Pakistan Women's Association.
- E/CN.6/NGO/96. Economic opportunities for women: statement by the All-Pakistan Women's Association.
- E/CN.6/NGO/97. Economic opportunities for women: statement by the All-Pakistan Women's Association.
- E/CN.6/NGO/98. Access of women to education: statement by the All-Pakistan Women's Association.
- E/CN.6/NGO/99. Status of women in private law: statement by the All-Pakistan Women's Association.
- E/CN.6/NGO/100. Access of women to education: statement by the International Federation of University Women.
- E/CN.6/NGO/101. Political rights of women, advisory services programme, status of women in private law, economic opportunities for women, access of women to education, and reports of the representatives of the Commission on the Status of Women to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifteenth and sixteenth sessions and to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at its twelfth session: statement by the International Federation of University Women.
- ST/TAO/HR/5. *Seminar on Participation of Women in Public Life (1959).*