

1. *Calls upon* Member States to take additional appropriate measures for further improving the economic and social conditions of women in rural areas;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on the Status of Women, the regional commissions and other bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to devote greater attention to the problem of elevating the status of rural women;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, within the framework of the integrated reporting system on the status of women which the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1980/38 of 2 May 1980, decided to continue, a comprehensive report containing the observations and comments received from Governments on national experience relating to the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, paying special attention to such aspects as social insurance, mother and child care, health facilities, training, education and employment opportunities;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to consider holding, within the framework of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, as a matter of priority, an interregional seminar on national experience relating to the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, with special emphasis on the problems of developing countries;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session, through the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council, the report requested in paragraph 3 above.

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37/60. Preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, in which it endorsed, *inter alia*, the action proposals contained in the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year,⁶⁵

Recalling its resolution 3490 (XXX) of 12 December 1975, in which it expressed its conviction that a comprehensive and thorough review and appraisal of progress made in meeting the goals of the World Plan of Action was of crucial importance for the success of the Plan and recognized that the results of the implementation of the Plan would contribute to the consideration of the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade⁶⁶ and would consequently promote the role of women in the development process,

Recalling also its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, in which it endorsed the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women⁶⁷ as adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations

Decade for Women, and decided to convene in 1985, at the conclusion of the Decade, a World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.

Recalling further that the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade⁶⁸ stressed that the important set of measures to improve the status of women, contained in the World Plan of Action adopted at Mexico City in 1975,⁶⁵ and the important agreed measures relating to the International Development Strategy in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, adopted at Copenhagen in 1980, should be implemented,

Recalling its resolution 36/126 of 14 December 1981, in which it requested the Commission on the Status of Women, at its session to be held in 1982, to give priority to the question of the preparations for the Conference,

Noting that the Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1982, considered the recommendations of the Commission on the Status of Women as set forth in its report⁶⁹ and adopted, on 4 May 1982, resolution 1982/26 on the preparations for the Conference,

Bearing in mind all its relevant resolutions and decisions regarding preparations for special conferences, in particular its resolution 33/189 of 29 January 1979,

1. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 on the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, to be held in 1985;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission on the Status of Women should be the preparatory body for the Conference and that it should operate on the basis of consensus;

3. *Endorses* the decision of the Economic and Social Council to invite the widest possible participation by States in the preparatory meetings for the Conference and expresses the hope that they will designate representatives who will have the background and experience in the area of women and development;

4. *Notes* that the first session of the Commission on the Status of Women as the preparatory body of the Conference is to be held at Vienna from 23 February to 4 March 1983 and that the report on that session will be considered by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1983;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take into account paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 33/189 when appointing the Secretary-General of the Conference;

6. *Decides* to consider at its thirty-eighth session the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1983 based on the report of the first session of the Commission on the Status of Women as the preparatory body for the Conference, together with the observations, if any, of the Secretary-General;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the preparation of a world survey on the role of women in development⁷⁰ and recommends that the survey should be submitted to the Conference;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session an item entitled "Preparations for the

⁶⁵ *Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. II, sect. A.

⁶⁶ Resolution 2626 (XXV).

⁶⁷ *Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I, sect. A.

⁶⁸ Resolution 35/56, annex.

⁶⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 4 (E/1982/14).*

⁷⁰ A/37/381.

World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women''.

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37/61. Women in public life

The General Assembly,

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

Bearing in mind paragraphs 72 and 73 of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women,⁶⁷ in which equitable representation for women was called for at all levels in national government and in international bodies,

Recalling that in article 7 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women⁷¹ it was agreed that States Parties should ensure that women have the right, on equal terms with men, to participate in the formulation and implementation of government policy and to hold public office,

Recalling further that in article 8 of the Convention it was agreed that States Parties should ensure to women, on equal terms with men, the opportunity to represent their Governments at the international level and to participate in the work of international organizations,

Recognizing that only three years remain before the end of the United Nations Decade for Women,

1. *Notes with concern* that women are still not represented on an equitable basis with men in decision-making positions in a majority of national and international institutions;

2. *Calls upon* all Member States, by the end of the United Nations Decade for Women in 1985, to make special efforts to nominate and appoint women, on an equal basis with men and taking due account of the same professional criteria, to decision-making positions in those national and international bodies in which they are not equitably represented;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to make, by the end of the United Nations Decade for Women in 1985, increased efforts to select and appoint women, in conformity with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, to decision-making positions in the Secretariat and in the organs and agencies of the United Nations system.

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37/62. Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/133 of 16 December 1976, containing the criteria and arrangements for the management of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women,

Recalling also its resolution 36/129 of 14 December 1981,

Welcoming the contributions made by Member States and non-governmental organizations towards the implementation of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the Fund,⁷²

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the recommendations of the Consultative Committee on the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women at its eleventh and twelfth sessions;⁷³

2. *Considers* that the Fund has a unique contribution to make in the technical assistance field to the implementation of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;

3. *Considers further* that the evaluation of projects has an important role to play in enabling the Fund to fulfil its objectives;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the continuing increase in the number of projects submitted to and financed by the Fund, and the catalytic role played by the Fund in promoting the adoption of innovative and experimental activities by Governments and other funds;

5. *Notes* the appointment of senior women's programme officers at the regional commissions within regular budget resources available to them, and recognizes the valuable contribution that this is making to the work of the Fund and thus to the implementation of the goals of the Decade;

6. *Urges* the executive secretaries of the regional commissions to take further action to use available financial and personnel resources to strengthen their programmes for women;

7. *Notes with concern* that contributions to the Fund have not been sufficient to enable it to take on all the worthwhile projects submitted to it;

8. *Considers* that fund-raising and information activities have a vital role to play in maintaining and increasing the financial viability and effectiveness of the Fund;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* for the support which national committees for the Fund, national United Nations associations and other non-governmental organizations have given to the work of the Fund;

10. *Expresses its appreciation also* for the voluntary contributions to the Fund pledged by Member States, and its hope that the overall level of such contributions will be maintained or increased;

11. *Notes* the view of the Consultative Committee on the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, as expressed at its twelfth session, that there are still grounds for concern regarding administrative matters relating to the Fund, and its hope that specific and concrete measures will be taken by the Secretary-General on an urgent basis to ensure that these issues are studied and the necessary action is taken;

12. *Notes also* the assurance given to the Consultative Committee that the Secretary-General will do everything possible to ensure that the Fund is administered efficiently;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue to report annually on the management of the Fund and on the progress of its activities;

(b) To continue to include the Fund, on an annual basis, as one of the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities.

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⁷¹ Resolution 34/180, annex.

⁷² A/37/421.

⁷³ *Ibid.*, sect. IV.