



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/23
19 November 1999

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 37

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.16 and Add.1)]

54/23. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/139 of 17 December 1991, 47/92 of 16 December 1992, 48/100 of 20 December 1993, 50/161 of 22 December 1995, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 51/202 of 17 December 1996, 52/25 of 26 November 1997 and 53/28 of 19 November 1998,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 1991/230 of 30 May 1991, resolutions 1992/27 of 30 July 1992, 1995/60 of 28 July 1995, 1996/7 of 22 July 1996, 1996/36 of 26 July 1996, 1997/56 of 23 July 1997, 1998/44 and 1998/46 of 31 July 1998 and 1999/55 of 30 July 1999 and agreed conclusions 1995/1 of 28 July 1995, 1996/1 of 26 July 1996 and 1997/1 of 25 July 1997,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments adopted by heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Social Development, contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development¹ and the Programme of Action,² and their pledge to give the highest priority to national, regional and international policies and actions for the promotion of social progress, social justice, the betterment of the human condition and social integration, based on full participation by all;

¹ *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

2. *Emphasizes* the urgency of placing the goals of social development as contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action at the centre of economic policy-making, including policies influencing domestic and global market forces and the global economy;

3. *Also emphasizes* the need for revitalized economic and social development everywhere within a framework that places people at the centre of development and aims to meet human needs rapidly and more effectively by, *inter alia*, enhancing positive interaction between economic and social policies, and stresses the need for strong, sustained political will at the national, regional and international levels to invest in people and their well-being in order to achieve the objectives of social development;

Special session of the General Assembly and its preparatory process

4. *Recalls* its resolution 50/161, in which it decided to hold a special session in 2000 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit and to consider further actions and initiatives;

5. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to participate in the special session at the highest political level possible and in the meantime to continue to extend support to the preparatory process;

6. *Also reiterates its invitation* to the regional commissions, in accordance with their mandates and in cooperation with the regional intergovernmental organizations and banks, to continue to be involved in and to support the implementation of the objectives of the Summit, and welcomes in this context the holding of regional meetings for the preparation of the special session;

7. *Reiterates once again* that the objectives of the special session will be to reaffirm the Declaration and the Programme of Action agreed at the Summit and not to renegotiate them, to identify progress made and constraints therein, as well as lessons learned, in the implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and to recommend concrete actions and initiatives to further efforts towards full and effective implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action;

8. *Reaffirms* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments, international organizations, the relevant actors of civil society, including the private sector, social partners and non-governmental organizations, in the implementation of and follow-up to the Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the preparatory process of the special session;

9. *Takes note* of the report on the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session,³ established by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/25;

10. *Reiterates its invitation* to all relevant organs, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, to continue to contribute to and be actively involved in the preparatory process and the special session, and in this regard takes note in particular of the decision of the Preparatory Committee on the role of the United Nations system,⁴ in which it invited all relevant organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other concerned organizations, within their mandates, to elaborate and submit review

³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45* and corrigendum and addendum (A/54/45 and Corr.1 and Add.1).

⁴ *Ibid.*, chap. VI, sect. B, para. 72, decision 1.

reports and proposals for further action and initiatives, and of its decision on further preparations for the special session;⁵

11. *Takes note* of the decision adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its resumed first session on accreditation and modalities for participation of non-governmental organizations at the special session,⁶ and recalls General Assembly decision 54/407 of 8 October 1999 on arrangements regarding participation of non-governmental organizations in the special session;

12. *Recalls* the provisional agenda of the second session of the Preparatory Committee as adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 54/406 of 8 October 1999;

13. *Also recalls* the arrangements for the special session as recommended by the Preparatory Committee and adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 54/404 of 8 October 1999;

14. *Further recalls* General Assembly decision 54/405 of 8 October 1999, by which the special session will be entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”;

15. *Recalls* the recommendation by the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session that the Commission for Social Development be entrusted with the responsibility of acting as the forum for national reporting, benefiting from the sharing of experiences gained and thus identifying areas where further initiatives are needed for consideration by the Preparatory Committee;

16. *Takes note* of resolution 37/1 of the Commission for Social Development, entitled “Social services for all”, and the agreed conclusions contained therein, and its resolution 37/3 entitled “Initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development”;⁷

17. *Recalls* that in accordance with the Commission’s multi-year programme of work, as approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1996/7, the priority theme for its thirty-eighth session in February 2000 will be “Contribution of the Commission to the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit”, and in this connection also recalls the invitation by the Preparatory Committee at its first session to the Commission to undertake the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit, and to transmit the results of its deliberations to the Preparatory Committee at its second session;

18. *Takes note* of the ministerial communiqué adopted by the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 1999, entitled “The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women”;

19. *Reaffirms* in this context the decision of the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session that its substantive activities should take into account the results of other major United Nations conferences and contributions by other relevant organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system;

⁵ Ibid., decision 2.

⁶ Ibid., decision 3.

⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 6 (E/1999/26)*, chap. I, sect. D, para. 4.

20. *Recalls* its decision in its resolution 53/28 to hold the special session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Switzerland for initiating and making arrangements for the special session;

22. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development;⁸

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the special session;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the special session of the General Assembly in this regard".

*51st plenary meeting
10 November 1999*

⁸ A/54/220.