In 1988, the United Nations continued the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, adopted in 1985 to overcome obstacles to the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women (1976-1985).

At its March session, the Commission on the Status of Women considered several issues concerning women and development, including the economic aspects of women in development and the problems of rural women. It recommended a number of draft resolutions and decisions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council. On the recommendation of the Commission, the Council, in May, endorsed a comprehensive reporting system to monitor, review and appraise the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies (resolution 1988/22). The system was also endorsed by the General Assembly in December (resolution 43/101) when it emphasized the importance of integrating women into the development process and called on Member States to establish targets to increase women’s participation in professional and decision-making positions in their countries.

In July, the Council urged Governments to provide women with adequate education and training facilities and requested United Nations development agencies to pay particular attention to the role of women in rural development, especially in the areas of food, water supply, access to credit facilities and appropriate technologies (1988/29).

The United Nations Development Fund for Women continued to provide resources for plans and projects in developing regions in two priority areas-serving as a catalyst to ensure women’s involvement in development activities and supporting innovative and experimental activities benefiting women. In December, the Assembly stressed the importance of strengthening the Fund’s technical and financial capacities and invited Governments and others to consider making substantial contributions (43/102).

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women considered 11 initial reports and two second periodic reports of States parties to the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on their implementation of the Convention. By the end of the year, the Convention had received 95 signatures and 95 accessions.

Implementation of the Nairobi Strategies

In response to a 1987 request of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, in September 1988, submitted a report on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, adopted in 1985 by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. The report discussed action taken by the organizations of the United Nations system to implement the Strategies through monitoring and review and appraisal, ensuring the equalization of opportunities for disabled women; the establishment of new five-year targets at each level for the percentage of women in professional posts and decision-making positions; and development of a public information strategy on issues relating to women.

The report also reviewed the priority themes for consideration by the Commission on the Status of Women in 1989 dealing with equality (equality in economic and social participation); development (women and education, eradication of illiteracy, employment, health and social services, including population issues and child care); and peace (full participation of women in the construction of their countries and in the creation of just social and political systems).

General Assembly Action

On 8 December 1988, on the recommendation of the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee, the General Assembly adopted resolution 43/101 without vote.

Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 43/108 of 13 December 1985 and 42/62 of 30 November 1987, in which, inter alia, it endorsed the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women for the period up to the year 2000 and set out measures for their immediate implementation and
for the overall achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.


Noting with concern the serious impact of the world economic situation on the programmes and plans for the advancement of women, especially in the global context.

Conscious of the important and constructive contribution to the advancement of the status of women made by the Commission on the Status of Women, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system, Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

Emphasizing once again the priority of the implementation, monitoring, review and appraisal of the Forward-looking Strategies.

Welcoming the significant progress made by the Commission at its special session in 1987 in restructuring its agenda along functional lines, developing the systematic long-term programme of work and strengthening its role and functions, and noting the outcome of the thirty second session of the Commission held at Vienna from 14 to 23 March 1988, and, in particular, Economic and Social Council resolutions 1988/19, 1988/21, 1988/22 and 1988/29.

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions on issues relating to women,

Welcoming the designation by the Secretary-General of the advancement of women as one of the priorities of the organization for the biennium 1988-1989.

Recognising the need for the Commission to consider at its regular sessions the priority themes for its next five sessions, contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/24.

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

2. Recalls resolutions 1, 2 and 4 adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its special session in 1987, in particular its recommendation that the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies and the status of women in general should be incorporated as one of the priorities in the introduction of the organization's medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997;

3. Reaffirms the need for the Forward-looking Strategies to be translated immediately into concrete action by Governments, as determined by overall national priorities, as well as by the organizations of the United Nations system, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

4. Reaffirms also the central role of the Commission in matters related to the advancement of women and calls upon it to promote the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies to the year 2000 based on the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the subtheme "Employment, Health and Education", and urges all organizations of the United Nations system to co-operate with the Commission in this task;

5. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/19, in which, inter alia, the Council decided that the duration of the thirty-fourth session of the Commission, to be held in 1990, should be extended to ten days;

6. Reaffirms further, in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies, the role of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, in particular the Division for the Advancement of Women, as the substantive secretariat of the Commission and as a focal point for matters on women, the catalysing role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the role of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women in the promotion of the role of women in the context of the participation of women in development;

7. Requests the relevant United Nations bodies to continue to provide focused and action-oriented input when reporting to the Commission on the priority themes;

8. Endorses the comprehensive reporting system to monitor, review and appraise the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies, as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/22, which will assist Member States in identifying problems and in developing remedial measures at the national, regional and international levels, and invites Governments and the organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, to report accordingly, through the Commission, to the Economic and Social Council;

9. Emphasizes, in the framework of the Forward-looking Strategies, the importance of the total integration of women in the development process, bearing in mind the specific and urgent needs of the developing countries, and calls upon Member States to establish specific targets at each level in order to increase the participation of women in professional and decision-making positions in their countries;

10. Emphasizes also the need to give urgent attention to redressing socio-economic inequities at the national and international levels as a necessary step towards the full realization of the goals and objectives of the Forward-looking Strategies;

11. Urges that particular attention be given by the United Nations and Governments to the situation of disabled women, and that Governments take steps to ensure the equalization of opportunities and social justice for and political participation of disabled women in each sector of society;

12. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/29, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to convene a seminar on women and rural development, using the resources available in the Trust Fund for the Preparatory Activities of the 1985 World Conference on Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women established under Council decision 1983/132;

13. Endorses also Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/21, in which the Council recommended that in updating the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, particular emphasis should be given to those factors that contribute to the deteriorating status of women in developing countries, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/49 of 26 July 1988, in which the Council called upon the Secretary-General to devote a
14. Requests the Commission to explore, at its thirty-third session, the possibility of holding, during the period 1990-1991, an interregional consultation on women in public life;

15. Once again calls upon the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to establish five-year targets at each level for the percentage of women in Professional and decision-making positions, in accordance with the criteria established by the General Assembly, in particular that of equitable geographical distribution, in order that a definite upward trend in the implementation of Assembly resolution 41/206 D of 11 December 1986 be registered in the number of Professional and decision-making positions held by women by 1990, and to set additional targets every five years;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to invite Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to report periodically to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, on activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Forward-looking Strategies;

17. Also requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies an assessment of recent developments that are relevant to the priority themes to be considered at the following session of the Commission and to transmit to the Commission a summary of relevant views expressed by delegations during the Assembly’s debate;

18. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on measures taken to implement the present resolution;

19. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide for the existing weekly radio programmes on women in the regular budget of the United Nations, with adequate provisions for broadcasts in different languages, and to develop the focal point for issues relating to women in the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, which, in concert with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, should provide a more effective public information programme relating to the advancement of women;

20. Decides to consider these questions further at its forty-fourth session under the item entitled “Forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000”.

General Assembly resolution 43/101

8 December 1988 Meeting 75 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/43/813) without vote, 11 November (meeting 40); draft by Tunisia, for Group of 77 (A/C.3/34/L.23), orally revised; agenda item 95.

Meeting numbers: GA 43rd session: 3rd Committee 15, 23-30, 36,40; plenary 75.

Monitoring, review and appraisal

In September, the Secretary-General reported on action taken by the organizations of the United Nations system to monitor the review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women.

The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 1988/22 (see below), had modified the reporting system proposed by the Secretary-General in January (2) to form part of a two-year cycle of system-wide monitoring of progress in implementing the Strategies, and established a five-year cycle for review and appraisal. The reporting system aimed at simplifying the substantive aspects of monitoring at the global and regional levels and to extend the review and appraisal at the national level to the whole of the Strategies.

For national monitoring purposes, the United Nations Statistical Office completed a women’s indicators and statistical data base in co-operation with the Branch for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs at Vienna and the statistical services of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization. The data contained over 200 statistical series and indicators for monitoring the situation of women in conformity with the Decade’s goals and objectives, the implementation of the Strategies and the priority themes. The Compendium of Statistics and Indicators on the Situation of Women-1986 was prepared using the data base.

On 28 June 1988, the Secretary-General circulated, for the first review and appraisal, a questionnaire to Member States to be returned in early 1989. The first part of the questionnaire consisted of a summary for implementation of the Strategies and the second presented an outline of a national report, including an executive summary.

The Secretary-General noted that systematic monitoring and review and appraisal aspects were being incorporated into the operational activities of the United Nations system and many organizations were elaborating specific procedures.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 26 May 1988, the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of its Second (Social) Committee, adopted resolution 1988/22 without vote.

Establishment of a comprehensive reporting system to monitor, review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the importance attached by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace to monitoring, review and appraisal as outlined in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,
Bearing in mind the guidelines set out in its resolution 1987/18 of 26 May 1987, which the Secretary-General was requested to take into account in further developing and implementing the reporting system to monitor, review and appraise progress in the advancement of women,

Recalling its resolution 1987/22 of 26 May 1987, in which it decided to expand the terms of reference of the Commission on the Status of Women to include the functions of promoting the objectives of equality, development and peace, monitoring the implementation of measures for the advancement of women, and reviewing and appraising progress made at the national, subregional, regional, sectoral and global levels,

Reaffirming the request made by the General Assembly, in its resolution 42/62 of 30 November 1987, that the Secretary-General invite Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to report periodically to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, on activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies,

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

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

1. Endorses the comprehensive reporting system to monitor, review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, set out in the annex to the present resolution;
2. Decides that its intergovernmental subsidiary bodies, including the regional commissions, should monitor, as necessary, the follow-up to their recommendations relating to the advancement of women;
3. Requests the Secretary-General to include the resolutions of those bodies in the report requested by the General Assembly in resolution 42/178 of 11 December 1987 and the results of their monitoring activities in his biennial report to the Commission on the Status of Women on monitoring the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies;
4. Also requests the Secretary-General to invite Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to report to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, on monitoring, review and appraisal of progress at all levels in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, in the manner set out in the annex to the present resolution;
5. Decides that the biennial reports of the Secretary-General on monitoring of progress made by the organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies should be considered by the Commission in even-numbered years, beginning in 1990;
6. Also decides that, for the purpose of monitoring progress at the national level, the Secretary-General, within existing resources, make available a summary compilation of available statistical indicators relating to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and submit a progress report on national reporting of statistics and indicators on women to the Commission in odd-numbered years, beginning in 1989;
7. Urges the organizations of the United Nations system to incorporate in their regular work programmes, as necessary, monitoring, review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and to submit reports thereon to their governing bodies;
8. Decides that the first quinquennial report on review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies will be considered by the Commission at its thirty-fourth session, in 1990, and that subsequent reports will be considered in 1995 and 2000, so as to continue the five-year cycle of reporting established during the United Nations Decade for Women of 1975-1985;
9. Encourages Member States to make use of the reports prepared for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and other relevant international bodies in the preparation of the quinquennial review and appraisal reports, in order to minimize duplication of effort;
10. Encourages the provision of technical assistance to national machinery for the advancement of women and the sharing of support and expertise among such machinery, particularly those in developing countries, to facilitate the preparation of the national reports for the quinquennial review and appraisal;
11. Requests the Commission to make action-oriented recommendations for the further implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies following the quinquennial review and appraisal;
12. Decides that, after consideration by the Commission, the monitoring, review and appraisal reports should be made available to the General Assembly so that the Assembly may be kept informed of progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies.

ANNEX
Comprehensive reporting system to monitor, review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

I. Biennial monitoring of progress made by the organizations of the United Nations system
1. The Secretary-General should prepare biennial reports on monitoring of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women by the organizations of the United Nations system, including monitoring at the regional level. The reports should address the three interrelated and mutually reinforcing objectives of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies: equality, development and peace. Each objective should be reported on separately, as appropriate.
2. An introductory commentary should be included covering the basic strategies, relevant institutions, mandates and programmes of action employed to advance each objective.
3. An account of measures taken for the implementation of the basic strategies for international and regional cooperation set out in chapter V of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies should be included under each objective.
4. The reports should contain specific information on:
   a. Measures to ensure the integration of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies in the programmes of the or-
organizations of the United Nations system, including measures to strengthen institutional co-ordination and focal points on the status of women;

(b) Progress made by each organization in establishing and meeting five-year targets at each level for the percentage of women in professional and decision-making positions, as called for by the General Assembly.

5. Reports should be prepared according to a standardized format.

6. In order to minimize duplication of effort, the biennial monitoring reports should make use of reports prepared to meet other reporting requirements, inter alia, any other reports required under sub programme 5A of the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 to cover the period 1990-1991, the biennial reports requested by the General Assembly in resolution 42/178 of 11 December 1987 and reports on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations Secretariat, as requested by the General Assembly.

II. Quinquennial review and appraisal

7. The quinquennial review and appraisal will be based on responses from Member States to a questionnaire on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, including an assessment of the effectiveness of methods and programmes introduced and an account of new programmes planned as a result of the national review and appraisal.

8. The national reports should address the three interrelated and mutually reinforcing objectives of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies: equality, development and peace. Each objective should be monitored and reported on separately.

9. Each national report should include an introductory commentary covering the basic strategies and programmes of action employed to advance each objective and a review and appraisal of their effectiveness.

10. The national reports should include, under each of the three objectives, an account of measures taken to implement the basic strategies for international and regional co-operation set out in paragraphs 356 to 365 of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies.

11. The questionnaires should be simple and direct and structured according to the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies.

12. The national reports should include an account of the measures taken to meet relevant international standards, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the conventions of the International Labour Organisation.

13. Non-governmental bodies should be invited to submit reports for the quinquennial review and appraisal.

14. The biennial statistical reports provided by the Secretary-General to the Commission on the Status of Women for monitoring progress at the national level should be consolidated and made available to the Commission for the quinquennial review and appraisal.

15. Every five years, the Commission should review its conclusions on priority themes on the basis of a compilation of relevant resolutions and should select priority themes for the following five-year period.

16. Reports of Member States to relevant international supervisory bodies, such as the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development should be made available in a consolidated form to the Commission on the Status of Women for consideration in the quinquennial review and appraisal.

17. Reports prepared by the regional commissions on changes in the situation of women within their region, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 42/178, should be made available to the Commission every five years for the review and appraisal.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/22

26 May 1988 Meeting 15 Adopted without vote
Approved by Second Committee (E/1988/90) without vote, 13 May (meeting 9); draft by Commission on women (E/1988/15/Rev.1); agenda item 11.

1990 session of the Commission on the Status of Women

On the recommendation of its Second Committee, the Economic and Social Council, on 26 May 1988, adopted resolution 1988/19 without vote.

Session of the Commission on the Status of Women in 1990 to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1987/20 of 26 May 1987, in which it recommended that an extended session of the Commission on the Status of Women be held in 1990, at which Member States would be represented at a high level, in order to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,

Bearing in mind its resolution 1987/24 of 26 May 1987, in which it endorsed the priority themes to be considered at the next five sessions of the Commission, regardless of any process of review and appraisal that might take place,

Considering the importance of the review and appraisal process to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, and of the role of non-governmental organizations in that process,

Recalling its resolution 1987/18 of 26 May 1987, in which it established a five-year cycle of review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies,

Recognizing the role of non-governmental organizations in contributing to the preparations for the session of the Commission in 1990,

Bearing in mind its resolution 1988/22 of 26 May 1988 on the establishment of a comprehensive reporting system to monitor, review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies,

Concerned about the limited time and resources available to the Commission and Governments to prepare for the session in 1990,

1. Decides that the duration of the thirty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, to be held in 1990, shall be ten days, in order that the Commission may review and appraise progress made by Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;
2. Requests the Secretary-General to provide additional interpretation facilities, within available resources, so that the Commission may establish a subsidiary body during its thirty-fourth session, in order to make maximum use of the time available;

3. Decides that the Commission should review preparations for the 1990 review and appraisal at its thirty-third session, under the agenda item entitled “Monitoring and implementation of the Nairobi Ford-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women”;

4. Also decides that the documentation for the 1990 review and appraisal should be prepared according to the requirements of the comprehensive reporting system set out in Council resolution 1988/22 and according to the provisional agenda outlined in the annex to the present resolution;

5. Encourages Governments to provide responses of high quality to the questionnaire on which the review and appraisal will be based;

6. Proposes that assistance be made available to Governments, on request, for the preparation of their responses to the questionnaire;

7. Requests the five regional commissions to hold, within available resources, regional review and appraisal meetings in preparation for the global review and appraisal;

8. Invites non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to submit their views, in writing, on their contribution to the 1990 session of the Commission, for presentation in consolidated form to the Commission at its thirty-third session;

9. Recommends that in 1990 the Commission make a recommendation to the General Assembly on the convening of a world conference to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies.

ANNEX

Outline of the provisional agenda for the thirty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women

1. Programming and co-ordination matters
2. Priority themes
3. Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women:
   (a) Progress at the national level;
   (b) Progress at the regional level;
   (c) Progress at the international level;
   (d) Conclusions and recommendations

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/19
26 May 1988 Meeting 15 Adopted without vote
Approved by Second Committee (E/1988/90) without vote 13 May (meeting 9); draft by Commission on women (E/1988/15/Rev.1); agenda item 11.

Programme planning

The Commission on the Status of Women, at its March session, had before it a note by the Secretary-General on programme planning and co-ordination matters. He stated that the first stage for implementing the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development was for each organization of the United Nations system to incorporate that plan, as appropriate, into its own medium-term proposals. (For details on the system-wide medium-term plan, see below under “Women and development”.)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 26 May 1988, on the recommendation of its Second Committee, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1988/18 without vote.

Programme planning and activities to advance the status of women

The Economic and Social Council,
Reaffirming the high priority that Member States attach to activities to advance the status of women,
Welcoming the priority given by the Secretary-General to the advancement of women in the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989,
Noting the important roles played by the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in achieving the global equality of women,
Concerned that activities to advance the status of women should not suffer disproportionately from the impact of restructuring and retrenchment measures,
Stressing the need to ensure that budgetary resources allocated to activities for the advancement of women are commensurate with the priorities of Governments,
Referring to the reports of the Secretary-General on programme planning matters pertaining to the status of women,

I. Medium-term planning matters

1. Reiterates the recommendation made by the Commission on the Status of Women that the Secretary-General should identify the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the status of women in general as a global priority for the period 1990-1995 in the introduction to the next medium-term plan;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in preparing his proposals for the next medium-term plan, to formulate a separate major programme on the advancement of women, which should include the four existing or proposed sub-programmes of the global social development issues programme which relate to women and incorporate the intersectoral presentation of activities called for by the General Assembly in resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985;

II. Programme budget matters

1. Decides that the Secretary-General’s proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and subsequent programme budgets should provide for full funding from the regular budget for the implementation of all aspects of legislative mandates for the advancement of women;

2. Also decides that the Trust Fund for the Preparatory Activities for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, established by the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1983/132 of 26 May 1983, should be continued on an interim basis for the biennium 1988-1989 as a special trust fund for the monitoring, review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, for the purpose of facilitat-
ing global exchange of information, enhancing the preparation of the work of the Commission on the Status of Women regarding priority themes, and disseminating the results of its discussions of those themes and on monitoring, review and appraisal to a wider audience, in conformity with paragraph 1 of section I above;

3. Recommends that the Trust Fund maintain a close and continuous relationship with other United Nations organs, in particular the United Nations Development Fund for Women, with a view to avoiding duplication;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the future of the Trust Fund to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-third session;

5. Reiterates the recommendation made by the Commission that the Secretary-General should accord the highest priority in the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 to the programme elements concerned with policy development in support of the Commission and include activities to that end in the sub programme on the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation;

6. Reaffirms the view of the Commission, as expressed in its resolution 32/1 of 16 March 1988, on the level of resources necessary to implement its mandates effectively and efficiently, expressed in its submission to the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council on the In-depth Study of the United Nations Intergovernmental Structure and Functions in the Economic and Social Fields;

7. Recommends that the Branch for the Advancement of Women be renamed the Division for the Advancement of Women, such a change to be carried out without financial implications.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/18

26 May 1988 Meeting 15 Adopted without vote

Approved by Second Committee (E/1988/90) without vote, 13 May (meeting 9), draft by Commission on women (E/1988/15/Rev.1); agenda item 11.

System-wide co-ordination

The twelfth ad hoc inter-agency meeting on women (Vienna, 24-29 March 1988) recommended that the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) request its subsidiary bodies dealing with substantive, operational and personnel questions to include regularly in their agendas the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, together with other measures to advance the status of women. The meeting also adopted recommendations on priority themes of the Commission in 1989 (see above) and on the preparation and implementation of the United Nations System-wide medium-term plan for women and development (see below) and the update of the world survey on women in development (see below). The ACC Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (CCSQ) (Programme Matters) (New York, 3-5 October) took note of the meeting’s recommendations.

In January, the Secretary-General submitted a report to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) on the scope and general approach of a 1989 cross-organizational programme analysis on the activities of the United Nations system related to the advancement of women (see below).

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 26 May 1988, the Economic and Social Council, by decision 1988/122, decided to defer until its second regular session consideration of a four-part draft resolution, recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women concerning system-wide co-ordination of activities to advance the status of women and to integrate women in development.

On 27 July, on the recommendation of its Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committee, the Council adopted resolutions 1988/60 C and D. Resolution 1988/60 C was adopted without vote.

Inter-agency co-ordination in implementing the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council, Recalling its resolutions 1985/46 of 31 May 1985, 1986/71 of 23 July 1986 and 1987/86 of 8 July 1987 concerning the preparation of the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and the cross-organizational programme analysis of activities related to the advancement of women,

Concerned that many provisions of Commission on the Status of Women resolution 1987/5 of 16 January 1987 relating to the preparation of the final draft of the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development are as yet unimplemented,

1. Stresses that the cross-organizational programme analysis to be submitted to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in 1989 should present a comprehensive factual picture of the United Nations system’s mandates and activities related to the advancement of women, attempt a comprehensive diagnosis of co-ordination problems and suggest remedial action;

2. Recommends that the activities analysed should include programme activities at the programme element level, technical co-operation projects and regular programmes of technical assistance, grant-based development assistance, and funding by international development-financing institutions;

3. Decides that the legislative mandates to be analysed should include international instruments, intergovernmental resolutions and decisions, other legislative instructions, directives and guidelines, and international strategies, plans and programmes of action relating to the status of women that are still in force;

4. Further decides that the directions given by the Commission on the Status of Women, in its resolution 1987/5 and the annex thereto, for the preparation of the final draft of the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development should be fully implemented.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/60 C

27 July 1988 Meeting 39 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (E/1988/114) without vote, 15 July (meeting 8), draft by Commission on women (E/1988/C.3/L.1); agenda item 17.

Resolution 1988/60 D was also adopted without vote.
Legislative linkage as a means of co-ordinating the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling paragraph 320 of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in which it is stated that specific, appropriate attention should be paid to the advancement of women in the preparation of new instruments and strategies,

Welcoming the decision of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office at its 238th session to place on the agenda of the International Labour Conference in 1989 the question “Night work”, as defined in the Night Work (Women) Convention (Revised), 1948 (No. 89) and other relevant conventions,


Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/60 D

27 July 1988 Meeting 39 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (E/1988/114) without vote, 15 July (meeting 8); draft by Commission on women (E/1988/C.3/L.1); agenda item 17.

National machinery

At its 1988 session, the Commission on the Status of Women considered the issue of national machinery for monitoring and improving the status of women as its priority theme in the area of equality.

A seminar on information systems for the advancement of women for national machinery was held (Vienna, 25-29 January 1988) with support from Japan.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 26 May 1988, on the recommendation of its Second Committee, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1988/30 without vote.

National machinery for the advancement of women

The Economic and Social Council,

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

Bearing in mind its resolution 1986/31 of 23 May 1986, in which it requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, to propose guidelines for national machinery to promote the advancement of women and ways to ensure the effective implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies,

Recalling its resolution 1987/24 of 26 May 1987, in which it recommended the convening of expert group meetings to assist in the preparation of the work of the Commission on the Status of Women on priority themes and endorsed the topic entitled “National machinery for monitoring and improving the status of women” as one of the three priority themes of the thirty-second session of the Commission,

Recognising that national machinery or its equivalent is an essential element in the promotion and implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Bearing in mind the recommendations of the Seminar on National Machinery for Monitoring and Improving the Status of Women, held at Vienna from 28 September to 2 October 1987, and the Seminar on Information Systems for the Advancement of Women for National Machinery, held at Vienna from 25 to 29 January 1988,

1. Urges countries that have not yet done so to establish national machinery for the advancement of women, or its equivalent, including such machinery at the highest political level;

2. Urges Governments that have already established such machinery or its equivalent to recognize its essential importance in the promotion and implementation of national policies for the advancement of women, the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and therefore requests Governments to provide adequate political, financial and human resources to enable such machinery or its equivalent to function effectively;

3. Encourage Governments, in accordance with their own administrative systems, to make every effort in establishing or strengthening national machinery for the advancement of women, or its equivalent, to do so, as appropriate, on the basis of the recommendations of the Seminar on National Machinery for Monitoring and Improving the Status of Women and the Seminar on Information Systems for the Advancement of Women for National Machinery;

4. Stresses the importance, for Governments, of establishing and maintaining formal and informal mechanisms for co-operation between national machinery or its equivalent and specialized centres of responsibility in sectoral departments and ministries, including mechanisms to support greater co-ordination of efforts to promote the interests of women in both national and international policies;

5. Calls upon Governments to develop information systems that include statistics and indicators on the status of women;

6. Invites national machineries or their equivalents to exchange information, bilaterally and multilaterally, on issues of common interest, including information on innovative policies, programmes and research;

7. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the regional commissions, to promote such infor-
mation exchange by supporting regional and subregional meetings of national machineries or their equivalents, using resources from the regular programme of advisory services for the biennium 1988-1989 and from the regular budgets of the live regional commissions thereafter, and by annually updating and distributing the Directory of National Machinery for the Advancement of Women;

8. Invites Governments of developing countries to give priority, within the context of their overall requests for development assistance, to proposals for assistance to strengthen national machinery for the advancement of women or its equivalent;

9. Recommends that international development agencies respond positively to requests from Governments for assistance in strengthening national machinery for the advancement of women or its equivalent;

10. Urges the national machinery for the advancement of women or its equivalent in each Government to participate actively in the preparation of and follow-up-to the work of the Commission on the Status of Women by co-ordinating the collection of all forms of information for the comprehensive reporting system to review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and report for the Commission's consideration of priority themes;

11. Endorses the continuation of the information system on women initiated by the Secretary-General and its further development in official languages of the United Nations, consistent with the priorities determined by Governments and taking advantage of all sources of funding beyond those already mandated, including the contributions of interested Governments;

12. Recommends that statistics and other information on women be an integral part of all relevant major statistical and public information programmes of the United Nations system, including those of the United Nations Office at Vienna and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat;

13. Recommends that the services of an inter-regional adviser be made available, through the regular programme of technical co-operation, to assist, on request, national machineries or their equivalents in carrying out effectively their review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and in preparing the reports called for in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

14. Decides that the questionnaire to be prepared by the Secretary-General to collect information for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies should contain a specific section on national machinery or its equivalent;

15. Recommends that Governments make every effort to support women's non-governmental organizations working to improve the status of women in accordance with the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

16. Calls upon Governments to ensure the effective participation of women and women's non-governmental organizations in decision-making at all levels in order to bring about a lasting improvement in the welfare of societies.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/30
26 May 1988 Meeting 15 Adopted without vote
Approved by Second Committee (E/1988/90) without vote, 13 May (meeting 9); draft by Commission on women (E/1988/15/Rev.1); agenda item 11.

Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (IN STRAW) held its eighth session at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, from 8 to 12 February 1988. The Board reviewed IN STRAW's 1987 activities and considered IN STRAW training strategies on women in development (WID); new communication technologies as applied to WID; the proposed 1988-1989 IN STRAW programme budget; network building through co-operative arrangements with Governments, United Nations bodies and non-governmental, academic and women's organizations; and fundraising.

In decisions it adopted and brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council, the Board stated its intention to examine IN STRAW publications in depth for future policy guidelines and action. It recommended that prototype curricula and teaching materials be developed. It further recommended that IN STRAW communication facilities and linkages with other United Nations information systems be further upgraded and expanded to academic institutions. The regional commissions were requested to assist IN STRAW in establishing new focal points and to co-operate with existing focal points and correspondents. The Board recommended that IN STRAW and the regional commissions jointly co-ordinate their strategies within the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development for the period 1990-1995 and convene consultations prior to the Board's 1989 session.

IN STRAW activities

Reporting on the Institute's work in 1988, the IN STRAW Director stated that the work programme for the year had included 26 programmes in research and training on women and development in five programmatic clusters: statistics, indicators and data on women; issues relevant for policy design; sectoral issues, focusing on inter-agency co-operation in the areas of drinking-water supply and sanitation and new and renewable sources of energy; training methods for WID; and network building. The Director noted that the close interrelationship between the IN STRAW research, training and information programmes had been further strengthened, thus contributing to the expansion of the 1988 work programme.

Within its programme on statistics, indicators and data on women, IN STRAW organized three
training workshops: two national workshops (Beijing, China, 2-8 June; Athens, Greece, 10-14 October) and a subregional workshop for Central America (San José, Costa Rica, 5-9 December).

In STRAW began, in October 1988, implementation of the statistics component of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) project, funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), on improving African women’s role in informal-sector production and management. IN-STRAW co-operated with ECA and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in implementing a study on the time-use of women and developing statistics and indicators on the situation of women in the ESCWA region.

Under its programme on alternative approaches to women and development, IN-STRAW co-sponsored an international training seminar on women and the economy, focusing on women and development, which was presented during a joint training seminar with UNDP and the United Nations Population Fund (Santo Domingo, 28 November-2 December).

IN-STRAW organized an international consultative meeting on communications for women in development (Rome, Italy, 24-28 October) with financial support from Italy and the Fried rich Domingo, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

REFERENCES
Women and development

Commission action. The Commission on the Status of Women\(^{(1)}\) made a number of recommendations concerning women in development in resolutions it adopted on the system-wide coordination of activities to integrate WID and on rural women and development. Under the priority theme of development, the Commission discussed the problems of rural women, including food, water resources, agricultural technology, rural employment, transportation and environment. It had before it a report of the Secretary-General,\(^{(2)}\) prepared in collaboration with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies whose work covered rural women, which outlined the current situation of rural women, indicated the limitations to improving their conditions and suggested policy measures to overcome those limitations.

UNICEF action. At its 1988 session,\(^{(3)}\) the Executive Board of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) discussed a progress report\(^{(4)}\) on achievements made in implementing UNICEF’s policy on WID, which the Board had adopted in 1987.\(^{(5)}\) The report reviewed the follow-up, implementation and field application of the policy and recommendations for action to strengthen UNICEF’s commitment towards incorporating women into mainstream development activities. Special orientation and training was required to widen the expertise of programme staff in regional and country offices to assist in monitoring and participate in field-work of selected country programmes. Programme officers specializing in WID issues were needed, as was a personal commitment of senior management, for which an accountability system to monitor programme implementation performance was recommended. The report stressed the importance of organizing training workshops to develop field staff perspectives and skills in areas of operational methodology. The Board endorsed the recommendations for action as proposed in the report.\(^{(6)}\)

UNDP action. In a March report with later addendum,\(^{(7)}\) the UNDP Administrator discussed the way in which WID perspectives were reflected in the work of UNDP. He also addressed other issues, such as staff training, including the participation of agencies and government representatives; complementarity with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) (see below); cooperation between the UNDP Division for WID with relevant units of United Nations organizations, agencies, Governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs); and the 1988 work plan.

On 1 July\(^{(8)}\) the UNDP Governing Council, having considered the report of the Administrator, noted an initiative taken by the Division for WID to examine the feasibility of more gender-responsive programming and asked the Administrator to submit a progress report thereon in 1989. The Council encouraged the expansion and diversification of the staff training programme and requested information on its development in 1989. It further requested the Administrator to report in 1989 on the complementarity between the Division for WID, UNIFEM and IN STRAW and on how WID perspectives were reflected in the work of UNDP.

UNEP activities. The Senior Women’s Advisory Group on Sustainable Development of the United Nations Environment Programme contributed to a workshop on women and environment for sustainable development (Bangkok, Thailand), held by the International Council on Social Welfare, Asia and the Pacific.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 26 July 1988, the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of its Second Committee, adopted resolution 1988/29 without vote.

Rural women and development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1987/24 and its decision 1987/121, both of 26 May 1987, in which it endorsed the decision of the Commission on the Status of Women to consider problems of rural women as the priority theme under the objective of development at its thirty-second session,

Recognizing that the economic and financial crises that are affecting most of the developing countries have severely affected the socio-economic status of women,

Bearing in mind the enormous burden on women engaged in food production,

Bearing in mind also that the majority of women in developing countries are active in agriculture as farmers in their own right or as wage labourers in commercial agriculture,

Recognizing women’s limited access to and control of agricultural resources, such as land, appropriate agricultural technologies, credit and training,

Recognizing that better health and sanitation are among the goals of development,

Bearing in mind that fetching water for domestic use is a major time-consuming task and primarily the responsibility and concern of women,

Recognizing that education is the basis for improving the status of women,

Aware that the lack of education and training for women in developing countries reduces their socio-economic options, particularly employment opportunities,

1. Urges Governments:

(a) To undertake projects exclusively designed for rural women;
Economic and social questions

(b) To involve women in the design, planning and implementation of such projects;
(c) To design projects to improve access to water supplies and sanitation and to promote the development of agricultural technologies and extension services for women;
2. Urges Governments to provide women with adequate education and training facilities to ensure their access to equal employment opportunities;
3. Appeals to donor countries to increase aid and fellowships to improve the status of women in developing countries;
4. Requests the development agencies of the United Nations system to pay particular attention in their programmes to the general role of women in rural development, especially in the areas of food, water supply, access to credit facilities and appropriate technologies;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to convene a seminar on women and rural development, using the resources available in the Trust Fund for the Preparatory Activities of the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women and drawing on the results of the Interregional Seminar on National Experience Relating to the Improvement of the Situation of Women in Rural Areas, held at Vienna from 17 to 28 September 1984 in preparation for the World Conference.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/29
Approved by Second Committee (E/1988/90) without vote, 18 May (meeting 14); draft by Commission on women (E/1988/15/Rev.1); agenda item 11.

Updating the survey on women in development
Pursuant to a 1986 request of the Economic and Social Council,67 the Secretary-General submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women a report68 containing the first draft of an update of the 1985 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development.69 The first draft elaborated material contained in a 1987 report of the Secretary-General.70

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION
On 26 May 1988, on the recommendation of its Second Committee, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1988/21 without vote.

Updating of the World Survey on the Role
of Women in Development in the light of the deterioration in the status of women in the developing countries

The Economic and Social Council,
Considering that, in compliance with resolution 1986/64 of 23 July 1986, the Secretary-General submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women, at its thirty-second session, a first draft of the updated World Survey on the Role of Women in Development,
Taking into account the fact that the preliminary assessments of that survey and of other studies prepared by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system point to a deterioration in the status of women in developing countries, which is ap-

parent in worsening working conditions, reduction in income, declining or stagnating health services and reduced access to education,
Considering that this deterioration, which is in marked contrast to expectations for an improvement in the status of women, makes it difficult to achieve the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and is becoming an obstacle to the effective implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,
Reaffirming the need to examine in depth the role of women in development, in particular the situation of women in developing countries and the problems hindering their advancement,

1. Recommends that in updating the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development particular emphasis be given to those factors that contribute to the deteriorating status of women in developing countries, namely:

(a) The economic crisis, including the problem of external debt servicing, which has resulted in worsening working conditions, particularly in low-paying employment and in the informal sector of the economy;
(b) The long-term effects of the inability of certain sectors of the economy adequately to absorb female labour;
(c) The decline in women’s income, particularly in agricultural regions;
(d) The gap that evidently exists between the income levels of men and women;
(e) The long-term effects of the decline in the levels of education, nutrition and health that is evident in a large number of developing countries as a result of adjustment policies;

2. Also recommends that when preparing the updated survey, the Secretary-General make a special effort to adopt approaches that strike a balance between traditional viewpoints on adjustment policies and more innovative approaches that take into account the social cost to women of adjustments arising from, among other things, debt servicing;

3. Considers that in the updated survey attention should be devoted to alternative policies for managing the problem of external indebtedness in developing countries, which might in turn help eliminate the current obstacles to the achievement of the objectives of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/21
Approved by Second Committee (E/1988/90) without vote, 18 May (meeting 14); draft by Commission on women (E/1988/15/Rev.1); agenda item 11.

Integration of women in economic development programmes
In March, the ad hoc inter-agency meeting on women13 (see above) recommended the organization of a joint activity with interested organizations to consolidate and simplify existing guidelines and check-lists concerning the issue of WID, and that a review be carried out of existing guidelines for projects on the incorporation of WID, in order to prepare a consolidated set of guidelines for use by field staff. UNDP was to initiate the pro-
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 26 July 1988, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1988/49 without vote.

Economic aspects of women in development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 42/178 of 11 December 1987 and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, particularly paragraphs 120, 137, 142, 147, 282 and 312 thereof,

Having reviewed annex I to the World Economic Survey 1988 on selected indicators of the Socio-economic attainment of women and taking into consideration the useful comments made thereon,

Recognising the essential role of the economic activities of women in both the formal and the informal sectors of the economies of all countries and the positive role of women in promoting growth and development,

Convinced that further analysis of the economic activities of women in developing and developed countries is necessary for the design and implementation of social and economic policies,

Calls upon the Secretary-General to devote a separate section in the World Economic Survey to the economic aspects of the situation of women and their contribution to economic development, taking into account, inter alia, their participation in the evolution of labour markets.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/49
26 July 1988 Meeting 38 Adopted without vote
5-nation draft (E/1988/L.33/Rev.1); agenda item 2.
Sponsors: Bulgaria, Canada, Greece, Nigeria, Poland.
Meeting numbers: ESC 28, 38.

By decision 1988/122 of 26 May, the Council deferred until its second regular session consideration of a four-part draft resolution (see above, under “System-wide co-ordination”).

On 27 July, the Council, on the recommendation of its Third Committee, adopted resolution 1988/60 B without vote.

Intergovernmental co-operation to integrate women effectively in economic development programmes and activities

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 1986/65 of 23 July 1986 and 1987/65 of 8 July 1987,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 42/178 of 11 December 1987,

Emphasising the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in promoting co-operation among intergovernmental bodies to integrate women fully in economic development programmes and activities,

1. Considers that intergovernmental co-operation in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women would be considerably strengthened if each of the United Nations intergovernmental bodies concerned were to include in its agenda an item on activities for the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies within its field of competence, in particular, activities concerned with monitoring, technical co-operation, institutional co-ordination, research and policy analysis, the participation of women in decision-making, and public information, and transmit its report on that agenda item to the Commission on the Status of Women;

2. Decides that the reports requested in Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/65 and decision 1987/182 of 8 July 1987 should first be submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-third session for consideration and then to the Council at its second regular session of 1989;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the measures taken in 1986, 1987 and 1988:
   (a) To ensure coherent implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies by central, regional and sectoral intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations;
   (b) To harmonize the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies with all relevant United Nations intergovernmental decisions and other international strategies and plans and programmes of action;

4. Further requests that the reports referred to in paragraph 2 of the present resolution be consolidated in a single report structured according to the three aspects of co-ordination defined in resolution 1988/60 A;

5. Recommends that, in the light of the importance of the overall co-ordination of United Nations activities, particularly between the units of the Secretariat in New York and Vienna, provision continue to be made for the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs to maintain liaison in New York.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/60 B
27 July 1988 Meeting 39 Adopted without vote
Approved by Third Committee (E/1988/14) without vote.

Medium-term plan for women and development

ACC action. In March, the ad hoc interagency meeting on women (see above) adopted two recommendations on the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development (1990-1995). One recommended that organizations of the United Nations system should continue to incorporate in their planning and policy documents proposals consistent with the plan. The other discussed the preparation by ACC of an initial report on the plan’s implementation.

CPC consideration. In response to a 1987 request of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General submitted to CPC in January 1988 a report proposing a general framework and approach to preparing a cross-organizational programme analysis (COPA) on the advancement of women, to be reviewed by CPC in 1989. The COPA was to be prepared as a monitoring tool for
implementing the system-wide medium-term plan and would also incorporate activities relating to equality and peace.

In May, CPC concluded that the Secretary-General's report provided a useful basis for the Council, which would develop the main objectives of equality, development and peace and encompass the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies of equality-related priority themes of employment, health and education.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 26 May 1988, the Economic and Social Council, by decision 1988/121, decided to defer until its second regular session consideration of a draft resolution, recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women, concerning the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women.

On 27 July, on the recommendation of its Third Committee, the Council adopted resolution 1988/59 without vote.

System-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women: equality, development and peace

The Economic and Social Council

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

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

Referring to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

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

Bearing in mind paragraphs 311, 338 and 339 of the Forward-looking Strategies, outlining measures to improve system-wide co-ordination of activities for the advancement of women in the implementation of the Strategies,


Affirming its determination to give adequate attention to all the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

1. Urges all United Nations bodies, including the regional commissions, and the specialized agencies that have not yet done so to develop and implement comprehensive policies for the advancement of women and to incorporate them in their organization's medium-term plans, statements of objectives, programmes and other major policy statements;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and within existing financial resources, to initiate the formulation of a system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, directed towards the objectives of equality, development and peace, for the period 1996-2001, taking into account the priorities recommended by the Economic and Social Council, the provisions of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the views and decisions of the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, on the content of the plan, as well as experience in developing the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development for the period 1990-1995;

3. Recommends all United Nations bodies, including the regional commissions, and the specialized agencies to take Commission on the Status of Women resolutions 1987/1 and 1987/2 into account in the implementation of the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1989, through the Commission on the Status of Women.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/59

27 July 1988 Meeting 39 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (E/1988/114) without vote, 19 July (meeting 10): draft by Commission on women (E/1988/C.3/L.1); agenda item 17.

Technical co-operation

In his annual report on United Nations technical co-operation, the Secretary-General described WID activities, particularly those of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD). Training was emphasized, with another module added to the computer training package demonstrating the impact of changes in the role and status of women on the economy. DTCD maintained close collaboration with INSTRAW in training, which was also provided through community development projects. DTCD provided seed money to finance a programme on water use and conservation, which included the training of trainers and the purchase of teaching materials and equipment to build a demonstration village sanitary installation. Fellowships awarded to women in the area of population rose from 36 in 1987 to 58 in 1988. Under the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa, the percentage of women from Namibia and South Africa receiving scholarships was 54 per cent and 44 per cent, respectively.

An interregional seminar (Mali) focused on the involvement of women in drawing up and managing water resources programmes. In other projects, special components were designed to improve
traditional technologies and acquaint women with ways of benefiting from ongoing development programmes.

The DTCD Task Force on Women focused on the need to involve primary users-community women in rural areas-at the planning stage as well as during other phases of a project cycle.

UN Development Fund for Women

The Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women met twice in 1988, in New York, from 5 to 11 April and from 6 to 12 September. (21) It approved the Fund's 1988-1989 work plan, which featured the implementation of two regional plans-the African Investment Plan, including the development of activities in the northern African States, and the Participatory Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean-and the development and implementation of the Asia and Pacific Development Strategy, including preparation of a strategy for programming in Western Asia. The work plan also included the replenishment of two facilities, one for monitoring and evaluation and the other for mainstream programming initiatives.

In April, (22) the UNDP Administrator submitted to the Governing Council (see below) his annual report on the operations, management and budget of the Fund in 1987. The report gave an overview of the management of UNIFEM, highlighting operational activities, and provided information on its financial status.

In a report on the 1988 activities of the Fund, (23) the Administrator stated that activities carried out with organizations of the United Nations included a mission to the Pacific, mounted with the support of the UNDP office in Suva, Fiji. The mission proposed a project for incorporating women in national and project development planning and a strategy for executing it. In Mexico, collaboration between UNDP, UNIFEM and ILO resulted in a proposal aimed at enhancing women's participation in an ongoing UNDP/ILO/government project. In Argentina, a mission resulted in the provision of financial assistance by UNIFEM for activities to enhance women's participation in and benefits from a $20 million credit project of the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the Inter-American Development Bank. In Guatemala, UNIFEM assisted in the formulation of credit programmes to help women producers who were often overlooked in large-scale credit schemes. UNIFEM collaborated with the World Bank in two joint missions.

Activities with intergovernmental organizations included support for a regional conference of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference on women and food technology (Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, May 1988) and preparation of a plan for co-operation between UNIFEM and the Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture (San Jose, Costa Rica).

The Fund's work with government and national organizations focused on assistance to Zambia in designing a strategy to incorporate the issue of WID into the country's five-year development plan and recommendations to strengthen the Ministry of Community Development, Culture, Youth and Sports in the United Republic of Tanzania. In the Philippines, UNIFEM supported the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women in preparing a development plan for women. In Guatemala, UNIFEM, in collaboration with national women's organizations, helped to plan a national workshop on women, in preparation for a subregional conference hosted by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (September).

As to project support for developing innovative and experimental activities benefiting women, UNIFEM reviewed some 124 proposals, of which 38 were recommended for funding for a total of $4.9 million. Two specialty areas in which UNIFEM was pioneering approaches dealt with women and food cycle technologies and credit support systems.

At the November 1988 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, 32 countries pledged $4.7 million to UNIFEM general resources for 1989. Total pledges were expected to reach $7 million, a 23 per cent increase over the previous year.

In October, (24) the Secretary-General transmitted the UNDP Administrator's report on 1987 UNIFEM activities to the General Assembly.

UNDP Council action. On 17 February 1988, (25) the UNDP Governing Council, taking note of a report on UNIFEM (26) containing proposals for changing from full to partial funding, approved that change on the understanding that financial and administrative issues arising from it would be referred to the Council's Budgetary and Finance Committee at its 1988 regular session. At that session (Geneva, 6 June-1 July), (26) the Committee recommended that the Council approve the implementation of the partial funding system, effective 1988; decide that UNIFEM should establish and maintain, on a fully funded basis, an operational reserve of 45 per cent of outstanding recommended project approvals and unspent allocations; and request the Administrator to submit a report on the implementation of the system in 1990.

On 1 July 1988, (27) the Council took note of the Administrator's report on the operations, management and budget of UNIFEM in 1987 (22) and its February decision, (24) and adopted
the recommendations of the Budgetary and Finance Committee.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December 1988, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, adopted resolution 43/102 without vote.

United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its decisions set forth in resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984,

Emphasizing the catalytic role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in the United Nations development co-operation system, with the goal of ensuring the appropriate involvement of women in mainstream development activities at the pre-investment stages, and supporting activities directly benefiting women in line with national and regional priorities;

Recognizing that the Fund’s dynamism lies in its flexibility and the complementarity of its innovative and catalytic priority roles;

Recognizing the initiatives of the Fund to assist national machineries on women, planning and other relevant ministries and intergovernmental organizations to integrate the concerns of women and to ensure their involvement in development programmes at all levels;

Noting the Fund’s regional priority frameworks and its increased co-operation with regional and national development banks and larger funds, through which critical resources have been leveraged for women in development activities,

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General, containing the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;

2. Notes the Fund’s continued co-operation with units throughout the United Nations system concerned with women and development, and with the planning and sectoral ministries and the national machineries on women in development of developing countries;

3. Stresses the importance of the continuous strengthening of the technical and financial capacities of the Fund to enable it to preserve and augment its flexibility and the complementarity of its innovative and catalytic priority roles;

4. Reaffirms the dual priorities of the Fund to serve as a catalyst in respect of mainstream development activities, as often as possible at pre-investment stages, and to support innovative and experimental activities in line with national and regional priorities, and recognizes the forceful interrelationship between the two approaches;

5. Expresses its appreciation to Governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals that have pledged and contributed to the Fund;

6. Notes with concern that the Fund’s resources have been insufficient to enable it to respond adequately to the increasing number of requests received;

7. Commends national committees on the Fund and non-governmental organizations for their initiatives in the development of education and public awareness programmes and resource mobilization on behalf of the Fund;

8. Invites Governments, non-governmental organizations and others to consider making substantial contributions to the Fund;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the Fund submitted pursuant to Assembly resolution 39/125.

General Assembly resolution 43/102

8 December 1988 Meeting 75 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/43/83) without vote, 11 November (meeting 40), 5-nation draft (A/C.3/43/L.26), orally revised; agenda item 95. Sponsors: Colombia, German Democratic Republic, India, Kenya, Norway. Meeting numbers: GA 43rd session: 3rd Committee 15, 23-30, 36, 40; plenary 75.

REFERENCES


PUBLICATION

Improving Statistics and Indicators on Women Using Household Surveys (ST/ESA/STAT/ST/C.1/68), Sales No. E.88.XVII.11.

Status of women

Commission on the Status of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women, at its thirty-second session (Vienna, 14-23 March 1988),[5] recommended 17 draft resolutions and two decisions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council. The resolutions dealt with: women and children under apartheid; women and children in Namibia; Palestinian women; women and peace in Central America; discrimination against women; violence against women; international peace and co-operation; rural women and development; the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women; improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system (see Part six, Chapter II); programmatic planning and activities to advance the status of women; system-wide co-ordination of activities to advance the status of women and to integrate with: the Commission’s 1990 session; updating the world survey on women and development; a reporting system to monitor, review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies; enlargement of the Commission; and national machin-
every for the advancement of women. The decisions dealt with the provisional agenda for the Commission’s 1989 session and the mandate of the office of the Co-ordinator for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

By decision 1988/122 of 26 May 1988, the Economic and Social Council deferred until its second regular session consideration of a four-part draft resolution (see above, under “System-wide co-ordination”).

On 27 July, on the recommendation of its Third Committee, the Council adopted resolution 1988/60 A without vote.

Co-ordinating role of the Commission on the Status of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Convinced that it must play a more forceful and dynamic role in reviewing and co-ordinating all activities of the United Nations system relevant to women’s issues,

Referring to the reports of the Secretary-General and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on co-ordination matters pertaining to the status of women,

Considers that the central substantive co-ordinating role of the Commission on the Status of Women in advancing the status of women and integrating women in development has three distinct aspects:

(a) Intergovernmental co-operation, which relates to action taken by the United Nations central, regional and sectoral intergovernmental bodies to achieve a coherent and complementary approach to implementing the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women within the United Nations;

(b) Inter-agency co-ordination, which relates to measures taken by organizations of the United Nations system to co-ordinate the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies;

(c) Legislative linkage, which relates to action taken by the Commission on the Status of Women to link the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies to all relevant United Nations intergovernmental decisions and other international strategies and plans and programmes of action.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/60 A

Adopted without vote

Approved by Second Committee (E/1988/90/Add.1) without vote, 23 May (meeting 21); draft by Vice-Chairman (E/1988/C.2/L.12), based on informal consultations on draft by Commission on women (E/1988/15/Rev.1); agenda item 11.

In May 1988, on the recommendation of its Second Committee, the Council adopted decision 1988/125 without vote.

Enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women

At its 16th plenary meeting, on 27 May 1988, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 1987/23 of 26 May 1987, in which it accepted, in principle, the enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women and decided that the Commission at its thirty-second session should consider proposals to that end and submit them to the Council at its first regular session of 1988, noting that the membership of the United Nations had increased from 120 Member States in 1966 to 159 Member States and that the Commission should hold in 1990 a session of extended duration to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, decided:

(a) To take action on draft resolution XIII, entitled “Enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women”, contained in the report of the Commission, and the amendments proposed thereto, at its first regular session of 1989;

(b) To invite the Commission to offer its views on the question of its enlargement, in the light of the foregoing considerations and the discussions held during the first regular session of the Council of 1988;

(c) To urge that, in the mean time, consultations should be held with a view to assisting the Council in its consideration of the issue.


Economic and Social Council decision 1988/125

Adopted without vote

In December 1988, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly adopted decision 43/425 without vote.

Role of women in society

At its 75th plenary meeting, on 8 December 1988, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, having reaffirmed its profound conviction that all Governments, international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should pay due attention in their activities to the importance of the role of women in society in all its interrelated aspects—such as mothers, as participants in political, economic, social and cultural development and as participants in public life—and recalling its resolutions 39/123 of 14 December 1984, 40/101 of 13 December 1985, 41/110 of 4 December 1986 and 42/64 of 30 November 1987, decided to recommend that the Commission on the Status of Women, during the consideration at its next sessions of the priority themes under the heading “Equality”, including “Equality in economic and social participation” at its thirty-third session, should consider the provisions of the Assembly resolutions on the role of women in society, with a view to...
formulating recommendations for appropriate action by concerned United Nations organs and bodies, Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

General Assembly decision 43/425

Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/43/813) without vote, 11 November (meeting 40); 15-nation draft (A/C.3/43/L.25); agenda item 95.

sponsors: Argentina, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Byelorussian SSR, Cameroun, Cuba, German Democratic Republic, Kenya, Mongolia, Panama, Rwanda, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Meeting numbers. GA 43rd session: 3rd Committee 15, 23-30, 36, 40; plebiscite 75.

Women and peace

The Commission had before it a report of the Secretary-General on access to information and education for peace, one of the areas under the priority theme of peace selected by the Economic and Social Council in 1987. The Secretary-General discussed women’s access to information and education for peace and the role of women in education for peace, including family and early childhood development, formal education, society and decision-making processes. He also described the role of the United Nations in promoting the participation of women in education for peace. He concluded that women needed full access to information and education, as well as knowledge of the techniques for the non-violent resolution of conflicts. Special classes, courses and training seminars could encourage women to develop their interests in peace. The Secretary-General suggested a number of issues for further research on the role of women in the education of societies for life in peace and activities to increase women’s participation in education for peace.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 26 May 1988, on the recommendation of its Second Committee, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1988/28 without vote.

Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation

The Economic and Social Council,
Reaffirming the interrelationship of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,
Expressing the need for equal participation of women in all efforts to strengthen and maintain international peace and security and to promote international co-operation, disarmament, the process of detente and respect for the principles of the Charter of the United Nations,
Referring to General Assembly resolution 37/63 of 3 December 1982, by which the Assembly proclaimed the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation,
Recalling that the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, in adopting the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women for the period up to the year 2000, emphasized that the main principles and directions for women’s activities aimed at strengthening peace, formulated in the Declaration, should be put into practice,
Taking note of General Assembly resolution 42/61 of 30 November 1987, in which the Assembly invited the Commission on the Status of Women to give adequate attention to all the priority themes under the headings of equality, development and peace in recognition of the complexity of all the subject areas addressed in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and in other policy documents, including the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation,
Stressing that access to information, education for peace and the eradication of violence against women within the family and society are important for the implementation of the Declaration,
Welcoming the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-range and Shorter-range Missiles, signed in Washington, D.C., on 8 December 1987, as an important step in promoting international peace and co-operation and a contribution to the creation of favourable conditions for the attainment of the objectives of the United Nations Declaration for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,
Noting that the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament will provide manifold opportunities to support the participation of women in all activities related to peace, disarmament and security at the national, regional and international levels,
Wishing to encourage the active participation of women in promoting international peace, security and co-operation and the elimination of violence against women within the family and society,
1. Urges the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to give adequate attention to the implementation of the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation and to the elimination of violence against women within the family and society;
2. Appeals to all Governments to take practical institutional, educational and organizational measures to facilitate the participation of women on an equal footing with men in activities related to peace, disarmament negotiations and the resolution of conflicts, and to inform the Secretary-General of the activities that they have undertaken at all levels to implement the Declaration;
3. Invites Member States to use the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament as an occasion to support the full participation of women in the establishment of conditions conducive to the maintenance of peace and to the elimination of inequality, poverty and violence against women within the family and society;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its third special session devoted to disarmament on programmes and activities undertaken by the United Nations system relating to women and peace, in particular those activities relating to the implementation of the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;
5. Also requests the Secretary-General to take adequate steps to ensure that publicity is given to the Declaration.
WOMEN

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/28
26 May 1988 Meeting 15 Adopted without vote
Approved by Second Committee (E/1988/90) without vote, 13 May (meeting 9); draft by Commission on women (E/1988/15/Rev.1); agenda item 11.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December 1988, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly adopted resolution 43/104 without vote.

Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation

The General Assembly,

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

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

Reaffirming its resolution 37/63 of 3 December 1982, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation,

Recalling that the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, in adopting the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women for the period up to the year 2000, emphasized that the main principles and directions formulated in the Declaration for women’s activities aimed at strengthening peace should be put into practice,

Convinced that increased efforts are required to eliminate still existing forms of discrimination against women in every field of human endeavour,

Conscious of the need to implement the provisions of the Declaration,

1. Pledges its determination to encourage the full participation of women in the economic, social, cultural, civil and political affairs of society and in the endeavour to promote international peace and co-operation;

2. Appeals to all Governments to give publicity to the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation and to take practical institutional, educational and organizational measures to facilitate the participation of women on an equal footing with men in the decision-making process, including that related to peace, disarmament negotiations and the resolution of conflicts;

3. Invites all Governments, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/28 of 26 May 1988, to inform the Secretary-General of their activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Declaration;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to take adequate steps to ensure that publicity is given to the Declaration;

5. Invites the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations University and other bodies within the United Nations system to undertake activities that will further involve women in the process aimed at strengthening international peace and co-operation;

6. Decides to consider the further implementation of the Declaration at its forty-fourth session under the item entitled “Forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000”.

General Assembly resolution 43/104
8 December 1988 Meeting 75 Adopted without vote
Approved by Third Committee (A/43/813) without vote, 11 November (meeting 40); 20-nation draft (AIC/34/L.29), orally amended by Sweden; agenda item 95.

Sponsors: Angola, Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Iraq, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Libya, Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Poland, Romania, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian SSR, USSR, Viet Nam.

Meeting numbers. GA 43rd session: 3rd Committee 15, 23-30, 36, 40; plenary 75.

Women and peace in Central America

On 26 May 1988, the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of its Second Committee, adopted resolution 1988/20 without vote.

Women and peace in Central America

The Economic and Social Council,

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

Recalling also that the World Conference also recognized that the situation of violence and destabilization in Central America hindered the fulfilment of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, which were essential to the advancement of women,

Taking note of the agreement on “Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America”, signed at the Esquipulas II summit meeting, at Guatemala City, on 7 August 1987, by the Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua,

Recognising the valuable contribution of the Contadora Group and its Support Group to the process of bringing peace to Central America,

Convinced of the exceptional importance to the peoples of Central America, particularly the women, of achieving peace, reconciliation, development and social justice in the region, as well as ensuring their economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights,

Considering that the General Assembly, in its resolution 42/1 of 7 October 1987, requested the Secretary-General to promote a special plan of co-operation for Central America,

Eager to encourage the active participation of women in the promotion of peace and development in Central America,

1. Expresses its gratification at the strong desire for peace manifested by the Presidents of the Central American countries in their signing of the agreement on “Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America”.

2. Calls upon the Presidents of the Central American countries to continue their joint efforts to achieve peace in Central America, particularly the efforts aimed at establishing the Central American Parliament, in order to guarantee propitious conditions for the attain-
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ment in the region of the objectives of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, and requests the international community to support those efforts;

3. Urges all States to support the peace efforts, fully respecting the principles of the self-determination of peoples and of non-intervention;

4. Also urges the international community to ensure that programmes of technical, economic and financial co-operation for the region take account of the particular needs and interests of Central American women;

5. Recommends to the Secretary-General that the special plan of co-operation for Central America should include specific activities in support of the advancement of women in the region;

6. Exhorts the Governments of the Central American countries and of the countries of the Contadora Group and its Support Group to encourage and guarantee the full participation of women at all levels in the search for peace, pluralism, democracy and comprehensive development in the Central American region;

7. Urges national and international governmental and non-governmental women’s organizations to participate in and support actively the process of peace and development in Central America.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/20
26 May 1988 Meeting 15 Adopted without vote
Approved by Second Committee (E/1988/90) without vote, 13 May (meeting 9); draft by Commission on women (E/1988/15/Rev.1); agenda item 11.

Palestinian women

Pursuant to a 1986 request of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General submitted to the Commission a report on the situation of Palestinian women living within and outside the occupied Arab territories, based mainly on information received from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. The Secretary-General stated that the difficult living conditions of Palestinian women indicated the need for special attention and assistance. The assistance being provided to the Palestinian people by the United Nations and international organizations was, however, considered to be inadequate.

The Secretary-General suggested that the needs of the Palestinian women should be ascertained through special missions, and programmes of assistance should be designed to go beyond the delivery of services.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 26 May 1988, the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of its Second Committee, adopted resolution 1988/25 by recorded vote.

Situation of Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Referring to the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of Palestinian women living within and outside the occupied Arab territories,

Mindful of the humanitarian principles and provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in particular paragraph 260 thereof,

Noting with deep concern the escalating Israeli oppression and ill-treatment of the Palestinian people, including women and children in the occupied Palestinian territories,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the situation of Palestinian women and children inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territories to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-third session;

2. Strongly condemns the application of an “iron-fist” policy by Israel, the occupying Power, against Palestinian women and their families in the occupied Palestinian territories;

3. Reaffirms that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War is applicable to territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to send a mission composed of experts on the status of women to investigate the situation of Palestinian women and children, in the light of the recent tragic developments in the occupied Palestinian territories;

5. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to monitor the implementation of the provisions of paragraph 260 of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women concerning assistance to Palestinian women inside and outside the occupied territories;

6. Reaffirms that Palestinian women, as part of a nation whose people are prevented from exercising their basic human and political rights, cannot participate in the attainment of the objectives of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, namely equality, development and peace, without the realization of their inalienable right to return to their homes, their right to self-determination and their right to establish an independent State in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/25
26 May 1988 Meeting 15 39-1-13 (recorded vote)
Approved by Second Committee (E/1988/90) by recorded vote (33-1-13); 13 May (meeting 9); draft by Commission on women (E/1988/15/Rev.1); agenda item 11.

Recorded vote in Council as follows:

In favour: Bolivia, Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, China, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, India, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, USSR, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against: United States.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom, Zaïre.

Women and children under apartheid

In accordance with a 1986 request of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General submitted to the Commission a report on political and social developments concerning the situation of women living under apartheid in South Africa and in Namibia. He also reviewed as-
sistance to South African and Namibian refugees. The Secretary-General stated that black people, particularly black women, in South Africa and Namibia continued to suffer under apartheid, unable to change conditions affecting their daily lives, such as free movement and access to education, employment and other basic services. Their situation deserved full international assistance from Governments and NGOs. Although a considerable effort had been made to provide assistance, it was not sufficient to meet the growing needs.

The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 1988/23, urged Member States and United Nations organizations to give effect to the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies that dealt with women and children under apartheid. By resolution 1988/24, it called on women to support and assist all bodies struggling to end colonialism in Namibia.

(For details on women and children living under apartheid, see PART TWO, Chapter I. For information on the question of Namibia, see PART FOUR, Chapter III.)

Violence against women

The Commission had before it a report of the Secretary-General on efforts to eradicate violence against women within the family and society, one of the areas under the priority theme of peace selected by the Economic and Social Council in 1987. The Secretary-General reviewed international concern on the issue, discussed the nature of violence against women within the family and society and surveyed efforts to eradicate violence against women at the national, regional and international levels. He made a series of recommendations to eradicate violence against women, among them, increasing public awareness; making the issue a priority in relevant United Nations agencies and bodies and other international and regional organizations; reviewing and reformulating educational curricula to emphasize gender equality, partnership, tolerance, mutual respect, self-reliance and self-esteem; and organizing seminars to help women speak out about the problem.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 26 May 1988, on the recommendation of its Second Committee, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1988/27 without vote.

Efforts to eradicate violence against women within the family and society

The Economic and Social Council, Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in which it was stated that violence against women was a major obstacle to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Cognizant of the fact that violence against women exists in various forms in everyday life in all kinds of societies and that concerted and continuous efforts are required for its eradication,

Recalling also the relevant recommendations of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, the relevant observations of the Seventh Congress and Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/4 of 24 May 1984 on violence in the family, as well as section IV of Council resolution 1986/10 of 21 May 1986 and General Assembly resolution 40/36 of 29 November 1985 on domestic violence,

Recalling further the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on efforts to eradicate violence against women within the family and society and the views of the Commission on the Status of Women expressed during its thirty-second session,

Noting and fully appreciating the efforts being undertaken by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and researchers throughout the world,

Mindful of the need to continue and accelerate both short-term and long-term efforts already under way to eradicate the problem of violence against women,

1. Calls upon Member States to take the necessary steps to give effect to the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General;
2. Also calls upon concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and researchers to continue to consolidate their efforts and establish close collaboration with the relevant units and organizations of the United Nations system in the eradication of violence against women within the family and society;
3. Invites organizations and institutions dealing with the various aspects of the problem of violence against women within the family and society in such fields as social welfare, criminal justice, education, health and shelter, as well as research, to establish an international network for co-operation to facilitate complementarity of action;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to pursue the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report and, in this regard, to ensure close collaboration between the Branch for the Advancement of Women and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and research institutions concerned;
5. Also requests the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its tenth session the relevant recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on Violence in the Family with Special Emphasis on its Effects on Women, held at Vienna from 8 to 12 December 1986, so that the Committee may review them and provide guidance on their implementation;
6. Further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that adequate documentation on the issue of violence against women within the family and society is prepared for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.
Violence against detained women

In accordance with a 1986 request of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General submitted to the Commission a report based on replies from Governments to his request for their views on physical violence against detained women specific to their sex. Replies were received from 41 Governments and dealt with legislative and other measures to prevent such violence.

REFERENCES


Elimination of discrimination against women

Convention on discrimination against women

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), established under the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1) held its seventh session in New York from 16 February to 4 March 1988. (2)

The Committee considered 11 initial reports of States parties (Argentina, Australia, Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Mali, New Zealand, Nigeria, Senegal, Uruguay) and two second periodic reports (Hungary, Sweden) on legislative, juridical, administrative and other measures they had adopted to give effect to the Convention.

CEDAW adopted a general recommendation stating that States parties should make more use of temporary special measures, such as positive action, preferential treatment or quota systems, to advance women's integration into education, the economy, politics and employment. It also recommended that States parties establish or strengthen effective national machinery, institutions and procedures to advise on the impact on women of government policies, monitor the situation of women comprehensively and help formulate new policies and effectively carry out strategies and measures to eliminate discrimination; take steps to ensure the dissemination of the Convention, their reports under article 18 and CEDAW reports in the language of the States concerned; and include in their reports action taken in respect of the recommendation. On the subject of resources, CEDAW recommended to States parties that they take measures to ensure that adequate resources and services were available to it. A fourth recommendation stated that States parties should take further direct measures in accordance with article 4 of the Convention to ensure the full implementation of article 8 and to ensure to women on equal terms with men and without any discrimination the opportunities to represent their Government at the international level and to participate in the work of international organizations.

CEDAW also suggested that the Economic and Social Council request the General Assembly to approve eight additional meetings of the Committee in 1989 and provide it with the necessary resources (see below).

Meeting of the States Parties. At their fourth meeting (New York, 7 and 8 March 1988), the States parties to the Convention elected 11 members of CEDAW to replace those whose terms were to expire in April 1988 (see APPENDIX III).

The States parties took note of reports submitted in 1986 and 1987 on reservations to the Convention and of views expressed thereon by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. They endorsed an Assembly request of 1987 that the Secretary-General provide a compilation of relevant statistics from official United Nations sources to assist CEDAW in considering periodic reports. They requested the Secretary-General to make available, within existing resources, adequate and appropriate staff to assist CEDAW and to take due account, when preparing the 1990-1991 programme budget, of the Convention's article 17, paragraph 9, by providing the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of the Committee.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION


Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The Economic and Social Council, Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979, by which the Assembly adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Taking note of General Assembly resolutions 42/60 of 30 November 1987 and 42/105 of 7 December 1987 and recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/3 of 26 May 1987, Recalling in particular the decisions of the Fourth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Having considered the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its Sev-
On 26 May, the Council, on the recommendation of its Second Committee, adopted resolution 1988/26 without vote.

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

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 42/60 of 30 November 1987 and 42/105 of 7 December 1987 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/18 of 26 May 1987,

Taking note of the decisions of the Fourth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Taking note of resolution 32/1 of 16 March 1988 adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women in response to the request contained in Economic and Social Council decision 1987/112 of 6 February 1987,

Recalling the emphasis placed by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, on ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

1. Welcomes the ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by an increasing number of Member States;

2. Urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

3. Emphasizes the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention;

4. Takes note of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its seventh session;

5. Reaffirms the decision of the General Assembly, in paragraph 9 of resolution 42/60, that no action should be taken on decision 4 adopted by the Committee at its sixth session;

6. Urges States parties to the Convention to make all possible efforts to submit their initial reports on the implementation of the Convention, as well as their second and subsequent periodic reports, in accordance with article 18 of the Convention and the guidelines of the Committee;

7. Notes with satisfaction the efforts made by the Committee to rationalize its procedures and expedite the consideration of periodic reports, and encourages the Committee to continue those efforts;

8. Notes with deep concern the problems encountered by the Committee as a result of the lack of resources, including technical and substantive support, and the backlog of reports awaiting examination;

9. Requests the Secretary-General, in preparing the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, to take due account of article 17, paragraph 9, of the Convention by providing the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee, in order to enable it to carry out its mandate as efficiently as other human rights treaty bodies;

10. Recommends that the General Assembly at its forty-third session consider the request made by the Committee for additional meetings, on an exceptional basis, in order to advance consideration of reports already submitted to the Committee;

11. Also requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources and drawing, in particular, on funds available to the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to provide for, facilitate and encourage public information activities relating to the Committee and the Convention, giving priority to the dissemination of the Convention in the official languages of the United Nations;

12. Further requests the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Committee to the Commission on the Status of Women for information.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/48

27 May 1988 Meeting 16 Adopted without vote

Sponsors: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Rwanda, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia.

Meeting numbers. ESC 12, 13, 16.
and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women in those countries;

10. Recognizes also that all States Members of the United Nations should take into account all relevant documents when developing strategies to monitor and evaluate progress in the advancement of women and when formulating policies and programmes concerning women at the national, regional and international levels;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to disseminate information on the Convention and its implementation, with a view to promoting additional ratifications of or accessions to the Convention;

12. Recommends that the Chairman of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Chairman of the Commission on the Status of Women each attend meetings of the other body;

13. Recommends that the meetings of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women be scheduled, whenever possible, to allow for the timely transmission of the results of its work for information to the Commission on the Status of Women during the same year as the Committee's session.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/26
26 May 1988 Meeting 15 Adopted without vote

Approved by Second Committee (E/1988/90) without vote, 18 May (meeting 14); draft by Commission on women (E/1988/15/Rev.1), amended by Australia (E/1988/C.2/L.5) end further orally amended; agenda item 11.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, adopted resolution 43/100 without vote.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

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

Recalling its resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979, by which it adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Recognizing its previous resolutions on the Convention, in particular resolution 42/60 of 30 November 1987, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1988/26 of 26 May 1988 and 1988/48 of 27 May 1988,

Taking note of the decisions taken on 7 and 8 March 1988 at the Fourth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,

Aware of the important contribution that the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women can make to eliminating all forms of discrimination against women and to achieving legal and de facto equality between women and men,

Noting the emphasis placed by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace on ratification of and accession to the Convention,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its seventh session,

Noting that the Committee agreed, in examining reports, to take due account of the different cultural and socioeconomic systems of States parties to the Convention,

1. Takes note with concern of the declining rate of ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by Member States;

2. Urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

3. Emphasizes the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention;

4. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention and requests him to submit annually to the General Assembly a report on the status of the Convention;

5. Takes note of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its seventh session;

6. Urges States parties to make all possible efforts to submit their initial reports on the implementation of the Convention in accordance with article 18 thereof and with the guidelines of the Committee;

7. Takes note of the general recommendations adopted by the Committee pursuant to its discussion at its seventh session on ways and means of implementing article 21 of the Convention;

8. Taker note with concern of the account by the Committee of the present constraints within which it operates and of the problems it has encountered as a result of its lack of resources;

9. Welcomes the efforts made by the Committee to rationalize its procedures and expedite the consideration of periodic reports and to develop procedures and guidelines for the consideration of second reports, and strongly encourages the Committee to continue its endeavours to those ends;

10. Decides to keep under review the Committee's request for additional meeting time;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to make available within existing resources the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance by the Committee of its functions;

12. Reaffirms that, to this end, the resources of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat should be reinforced through various means, including redeployment, without prejudice to the current allocation of resources to the United Nations Office at Vienna;

13. Also requests the Secretary-General, in preparing the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, to take due account of article 17, paragraph 9, of the Convention in providing the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance by the Committee of its functions in order to enable it to carry out its mandate as efficiently as other human rights treaty bodies;

14. Requests the Committee to continue to take into account considerations of cost and effectiveness, as well as other relevant matters, when determining where it will meet;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Committee with an assessment of the costs of holding
meetings at the United Nations Office at Vienna and at United Nations Headquarters in New York based on full servicing of the Committee, including attendance by relevant professional staff from the Division for the Advancement of Women, legal staff expert in human rights treaty implementation and adequate secretarial staff, and to transmit this information to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1989;

16. Requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources and drawing, in particular, on funds available to the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to provide, facilitate and encourage public information activities relating to the Committee and the Convention, giving priority to the dissemination of the Convention in the official languages of the United Nations;

17. Also requests the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Committee to the Commission on the Status of Women for information;

18. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and to transmit the report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fourth session.

General Assembly resolution 43/100

8 December 1988 Meeting 75 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/43/812) without vote, 11 November (meeting 40); 30-nation draft (A/C.3/43/L.27/Rev.1); agenda item 94.

Ratifications, accessions and signatures

As at 31 December 1988, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women had received 95 signatures and 95 accessions or ratifications. During the year, the Convention was signed and ratified by Sierra Leone.\(^{(7)}\)

The Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly his annual report on the status of the Convention,\(^{(8)}\) containing information on signatures, ratifications and accessions as at 31 August 1988 and on reservations made from 1 September 1987 to 31 August 1988.

REFERENCES