

PLENARY MEETING, 512.

RESOLUTION 836(IX), as recommended by Third Committee, A/2829, adopted by the Assembly on 14 December by 48 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

"The General Assembly,

"Considering that the obligations of the United Nations to succeeding generations can only be fulfilled by increased efforts on behalf of the children of the world, who are the citizens of tomorrow, and that the world-wide observance of a children's day would contribute to human solidarity and co-operation between nations,

"Believing that the objectives of the Charter can best be realized if they inspire and are shared by the children of the world,

"Recalling the increased interest in the work of and the support given to the United Nations Children's Fund and its acceptance as an integral part of the United Nations, and that various resolutions relating to children adopted by the General Assembly have shown the Organization's concern for children in all parts of the world,

"Considering the increasing attention given by States and peoples to a better observance of the rights of mothers and children, as well as the action of civic, social, professional and cultural institutions, national, international and regional, on behalf of children,

"Expressing its appreciation of the work done by governmental and voluntary organizations for the

children of the world, including the observance in a certain number of countries of a Universal Children's Day,

"Considering that the observance of Universal Children's Day should be used for a concrete and effective expression of the support of Governments for the purposes of UNICEF,

"1. Recommends that, with effect from 1956, a Universal Children's Day shall be instituted by all countries, to be observed as a day of world-wide fraternity and understanding between children and of activity devoted to the promotion of the ideals and objectives of the Charter and the welfare of the children of the world, and to the strengthening and broadening of the efforts made by the United Nations in favour and on behalf of all the children of the world;

"2. Suggests to the Governments of all States that Universal Children's Day be observed on the date and in the way which each considers appropriate;

"3. Also invites the cultural, professional, trade-union, workers' and social welfare organizations for men and women, to support and co-operate actively in the observance of Universal Children's Day;

"4. Requests the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to take steps in accordance with the present resolution and to include in its annual reports a report on progress achieved in accordance with the above recommendations."

CHAPTER XVI

POPULATION AND MIGRATION QUESTIONS

WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE

The World Population Conference was held in Rome from 31 August to 10 September 1954 as a joint project of the United Nations, the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Health Organization. The Conference was attended by more than 450 experts from many parts of the world, including not only the foremost students of population but also leading experts in many related scientific fields.

The purpose of the Conference, as stated by

the Economic and Social Council in authorizing the project in June 1952 (resolution 435 (XIV)) was solely an exchange of views and experience among experts; consequently the Conference adopted no resolutions or recommendations for action. However, the discussions and the numerous scientific papers on which they were based helped to clarify the scientific basis for policy decisions and action programmes with reference to a wide variety of questions connected with population trends. At the same time it was made clear that present knowledge at many points is not sufficient for those purposes and that the United Nations and the collaborating specialized agencies have a substantial stake in the extension of research, particularly on the trends of population in the